

Celebrating 100 Years: 2023 Annual Report







Table of Contents

Reflecting on 100 Years	4
Enhancing Patient Care	6
With Health in Mind	8
Rising STARS	10
Building off a Legacy	11
Defying Hyde	14
Equity Collective	16
2023 Financials	18

100 Years
Generations of Care 



Reflecting on 100 Years: Generations of Care

Celebrating our centennial anniversary in 2023 provides us with an opportunity to reflect back on our work of the last one hundred years and to think about what we hope to accomplish in the next one hundred. Whatever lies ahead, one thing is certain: **PPSNE will be here and we will continue to provide care to everyone who needs it, no matter what.** All of this work is possible because of the shared dedication and commitment of our incredible supporters like you.

Since 1923, we have proudly served the people of our region. In our earliest days, our founders were focused on increasing access to birth control. Today, we are proud to offer not only contraceptives, but a full range of essential and life-saving sexual and reproductive health care, including preventive care, gender-affirming care, and abortion, as well as critical education and advocacy across the region. In this report, you will find examples of our innovative approaches to improving patient care and making care more accessible for all who need it. We are also proud to share how we are expanding our educational services and working to foster a culture of equity and belonging within our organization.

Throughout our history, generations of patients, advocates, providers, staff, volunteers, and supporters like you have made it possible for PPSNE to continue making a positive impact in our communities. We were thrilled to welcome new leaders this year, whom you will meet in this report, into strategic roles that increase our capabilities to advance our mission. Further, we have invested in critical efforts to develop and deepen the knowledge and skills of our staff members related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, recognizing the essential connection between our organizational climate and our ability to strive for our vision of achieving health equity in our two states. In these pages you will also hear from alumni of our STARS peer education program about the lasting impact of their STARS experiences.

We are moving confidently into our second century thanks to you and your unwavering commitment to our patients. You have helped us make a difference in the lives of tens of thousands of people and your ongoing support will be crucial to our future as we continue the fight to secure basic human rights for all; including the right to access contraception, to decide if, when, and how to start a family, and to live life fully and authentically, affirmed in our identities.

Looking back on this first full year of operating since the fall of Roe, we are more inspired by our mission than ever. We are committed to permanently securing our legal rights, but also to a future where all people can access the care that they need, particularly those who have historically been left behind. A future where everyone – regardless of their race, gender, income level, immigration status, disability, or geography – can get the care they need, when and where they need it.

Thank you for being a part of our powerful movement to protect and expand reproductive freedom for all people. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

In gratitude,



Amanda Skinner
President & CEO



Katherine Kraschel
Board Chair



Enhancing Patient Care: A Year of Expansion and Impact

Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE) continues to forge paths that prioritize addressing critical disparities in health care access. We were excited to welcome a new medical director to the team this year and, under her leadership, to expand and deepen the work of our care navigation program

Dr. Ayiti Maharaj-Best joined PPSNE as our new medical director in February of 2023. Dr. Best provides oversight to our clinical services alongside Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Nancy Stanwood. As a Family Physician, with a broad range of expertise, her hiring marked a strategic move towards enhancing patient care and expanding services.

Dr. Best played a critical role in the creation of the Gender Affirming Care Navigator position and the development of the Abortion Care Navigator role. Her leadership has not only steered the organization through operational changes but also helped us bolster our patient-first approach, ensuring that each individual receives personalized and compassionate care.

The challenges presented by the changing landscape of abortion care, compounded by external factors like the fall of *Roe*, led to the addition of an Abortion Care Navigator, dedicated to guiding patients through the complexities of accessing abortion care. The Abortion Care Navigator partners with patients to navigate financial, logistical and legal barriers to ensure each patient's unique needs are met in a timely and compassionate manner.

We also hired our first Gender Affirming Care Navigator to bolster our efforts to make gender affirming care (GAC) more accessible, despite an increasingly hostile national climate. The GAC Navigator helps guide patients through the insurance and



pharmacy barriers, legal name and gender marker changes, and referrals to gender-affirming surgeons and other specialists. The navigator not only elevates the quality and efficacy of the patient experience at PPSNE, but also contributes to the scalability of our GAC program, which is currently PPSNE's fastest growing service line.

The Gender Affirming Care Navigator is an essential addition to advancing our commitment to provide affirming and accessible care, no matter what.

The future of care at PPSNE, made possible through your generous support, holds the promise of continued expansion and impact, ensuring that each patient receives the personalized support they deserve.

PPSNE continues to navigate the complexities of the COVID-19 pandemic and a post-Roe world. Our strategic decisions, exemplified by the addition of specialized care navigators, showcase our resilience as an organization and our commitment to providing the highest quality of care.

This year, our dedicated Care Navigation Team ushered nearly 4,000 patients through their care journey.



Dr. Ayiti Maharaj-Best
Medical Director, PPSNE

With Health in Mind: Expanding Education Services

In response to the growing mental health crisis among young people, PPSNE has collaborated with experts to develop a comprehensive mental health curriculum called *With Health in Mind*.

Our Education and Training team has carefully infused the mental health education lessons with our unique perspectives and insights, emphasizing interactivity and steering away from traditional lecture-based methods. The curriculum aims to engage participants in different ways, including small group activities, individual reflections, and inclusive video content. The lessons can be delivered virtually or in-person, reflecting the evolving nature of education.

With Health in Mind aligns seamlessly with our existing sex education programs, with a shared focus on promoting healthy relationships, communication skills, and setting boundaries. By incorporating mental health education into our repertoire, we acknowledge the intricate relationship between mental well-being and sexual health. The curriculum tackles relevant issues such as cyberbullying, social media boundaries, and the impact of mental health on relationships.

Our entire Education and Training team also underwent youth mental health first aid training. This certification program, provided by Family Services of Rhode Island, equips participants to help young people facing mental health issues. While not a substitute for professional support, the training teaches participants how to identify warning signs, offer initial support, and guide young people toward appropriate resources. The training covers a spectrum of mental health challenges, from anxiety and depression to substance misuse.

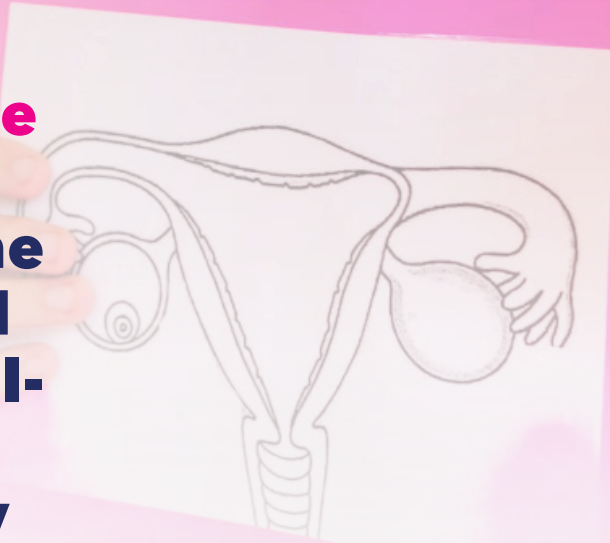
This initiative not only enhances our team's ability to support youth but has also helped foster a strong partnership with Family Services of Rhode Island.

By embracing innovation, interactivity, and inclusivity, we aim to empower the next generation with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the complexities of mental health. We strive to make a lasting impact on the well-being of the youth we serve through partnerships, ongoing evaluations, and a holistic approach to education.

While *With Health in Mind* was initially designed for high school students, our goal is to cater to a broader age range, spanning from 12 to 18 years old. We plan to pilot the curriculum in 2024.

Innovations like this are only possible with the generous support of donors like you.

Thanks to your support we are able to provide the people of Connecticut and Rhode Island with the skills, resources, and support to make well-informed decisions about their sexuality and sexual health.



Education Pioneer:

Dr. Bennie Fleming

Sharing a centennial birth year with PPSNE, Dr. Fleming's remarkable career is marked by a tireless dedication to creating opportunities and breaking barriers. After serving as a nurse during World War II, she went on to hold pivotal roles in the Providence community, breaking ground as the first Black nurse to teach at Rhode Island College. Amidst her time as an educator she recognized the challenges of teen pregnancy on students inspiring her to establish a peer educator program at Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island, that would later be known as STARS.



Rising STARS:

Where are they now?

STARS (Students Teaching About Responsible Sexuality) is our high school peer education program. STARS educate their friends, peers, family, and community about sexual and reproductive health and rights and connect people to Planned Parenthood services. We checked in with two of our former STARS to see what they're up to now and how the program helped them along the way.

Liana Cunningham (2003-2005)

Current Occupation: Senior Director of Education and Training at PPSNE

"I got my start with PPSNE, then Planned Parenthood of Connecticut, as a member of STARS. Initially, I joined to fill the gap in my high school sex education and quickly discovered that STARS went beyond that. Being a STAR taught me leadership, public speaking, and educational skills that helped me find my passion for sex education. When I eventually came into a role as a professional educator, I was well-prepared from day one, thanks to my experience in the STARS program."

Since the program's inception in **2001**,

we have had over

1,000 active STARS

across **Connecticut and Rhode Island.**

Chloe Murphy (2014-2017)

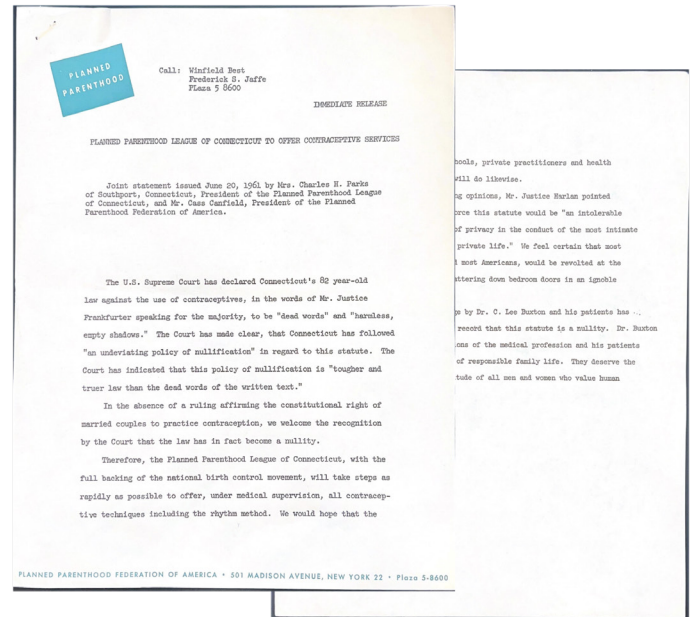
Current Occupation: Library Worker

"The STARS program not only gave me the opportunity to learn about reproductive health and individual well-being alongside my peers, but I was also able to gain valuable professional development. Through STARS I felt empowered to practice sovereignty over my reproductive health and gained the confidence to continue on in the community education space. I have now worked with students in Connecticut, Philadelphia, and Sao Paulo and am now enjoying a position at my local library! Overall, this program really set me up for success. Being a STAR was also just so fun!"



Building off a Legacy: Estelle Griswold

During the legendary *Griswold vs. Connecticut* Supreme Court case, Planned Parenthood League of Connecticut and Planned Parenthood Federation of America released a joint press release announcing plans to move forward with contraceptive care (pictured right). Today, as Connecticut continues to lead the nation in the fight for reproductive freedom, we honor Estelle Griswold's legacy of making birth control more accessible by continuing to break down barriers for people to access the sexual and reproductive health care they need.



In 2023, we passed policies in Connecticut that allow pharmacists to prescribe hormonal contraceptives and allow emergency contraception (EC or morning-after pill) to be sold in vending machines making birth control more accessible. We enacted stronger protections for health care providers guaranteed by the Reproductive Freedom Defense Act passed in 2022, strengthened privacy and confidentiality protections for patients, and passed legislation ensuring access to reproductive and gender-affirming care for students on public colleges and universities and young people, 15 and under, enrolled in HUSKY. All of these victories that further broaden the accessibility of birth control and reproductive health care build upon the legacy established by Estelle Griswold all those years ago.



**Thanks to your
generous support
our advocacy work
ensures a future where
reproductive freedom
is secured for all
people in Connecticut
and Rhode Island.**





Defying Hyde:

Broadening Abortion Coverage in Rhode Island

We have been working tirelessly in Rhode Island to ensure that access to abortion and broader reproductive health care remains not only legal but widely accessible. In 2023 Rhode Island passed the Equality in Abortion Coverage Act (EACA), expanding abortion coverage under the state's Medicaid program and lifting bans on abortion coverage for state employees and their dependents.

This historic win for reproductive rights adds Rhode Island to the list of states that have defied the dangerous, discriminatory policy brought forward by the Hyde Amendment. The Hyde Amendment is a federal law that was first enacted in 1976. Named after its sponsor, Representative Henry Hyde, the amendment restricts the use of federal funds to pay for abortions, making it more challenging for people with low-income to access abortion care.

The passage of the EACA, the codification of key provisions of the Affordable Care Act, and the other victories this session are a testament to the ongoing support of reproductive freedom by Rhode Island's elected officials,

and another example of how **when we fight, we win**. However, the fight for reproductive autonomy is far from over. It requires continued mobilization, advocacy, and the recognition that reproductive rights are human rights.

We have increased our capacity to support critical advocacy and organizing work in Rhode Island this year by hiring Senior Director, External Affairs Vimala Phongsavanh. Vimala joined the PPSNE team in January 2023 and has quickly become a regular presence at the Rhode Island State House.

She has made it a priority to deepen our existing relationships with other activists doing cross-movement work to advance reproductive freedom in the Ocean State. Vimala helps to lead the Rhode Island Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, which amplifies the voice and reach of multiple organizations and community partners working together to pass legislation to protect reproductive health care and expand health care access for all.

Vimala also oversees our efforts to engage in more grassroots activism, including with organizations serving the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities of Rhode Island. Under Vimala's leadership, we look forward to expanding opportunities for future advocates to join our fight for reproductive freedom.

**The EACA grants
nearly **90,000**
reproductive-aged
Rhode Islanders access
to abortion coverage.**



***"I'm so excited to be back
doing state policy, advocacy,
and organizing work here in
Rhode Island. For me, fighting
for reproductive freedom isn't
just a personal journey, but a
shared endeavor for the
well-being of everyone
who calls Rhode Island home."***

- Vimala Phongsavanh



Equity Collective:

Building a Foundation for System-Wide Change

The Equity Collective workshop series is one of our newest initiatives in our commitment to fostering diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEI&B) within our organization. This comprehensive nine-month program brought together a dedicated cohort of eight staff members from various departments, creating a space for deep exploration, skill-building, and meaningful dialogue.

The series featured two-hour sessions held monthly, where participants delved into an array of tools and frameworks designed to enhance their understanding of DEI&B. Through engaging and sometimes difficult discussions, role play, and practical applications, the cohort explored their roles in social change, examined cultural dynamics, studied mindsets of change, and grappled with patterns of power, privilege, and oppression.

Our theory of change is rooted in the belief that by equipping staff across departments with foundational concepts and practical skills, we can catalyze system-wide transformation. The goal is to empower a cohort of individuals capable of disseminating these frameworks

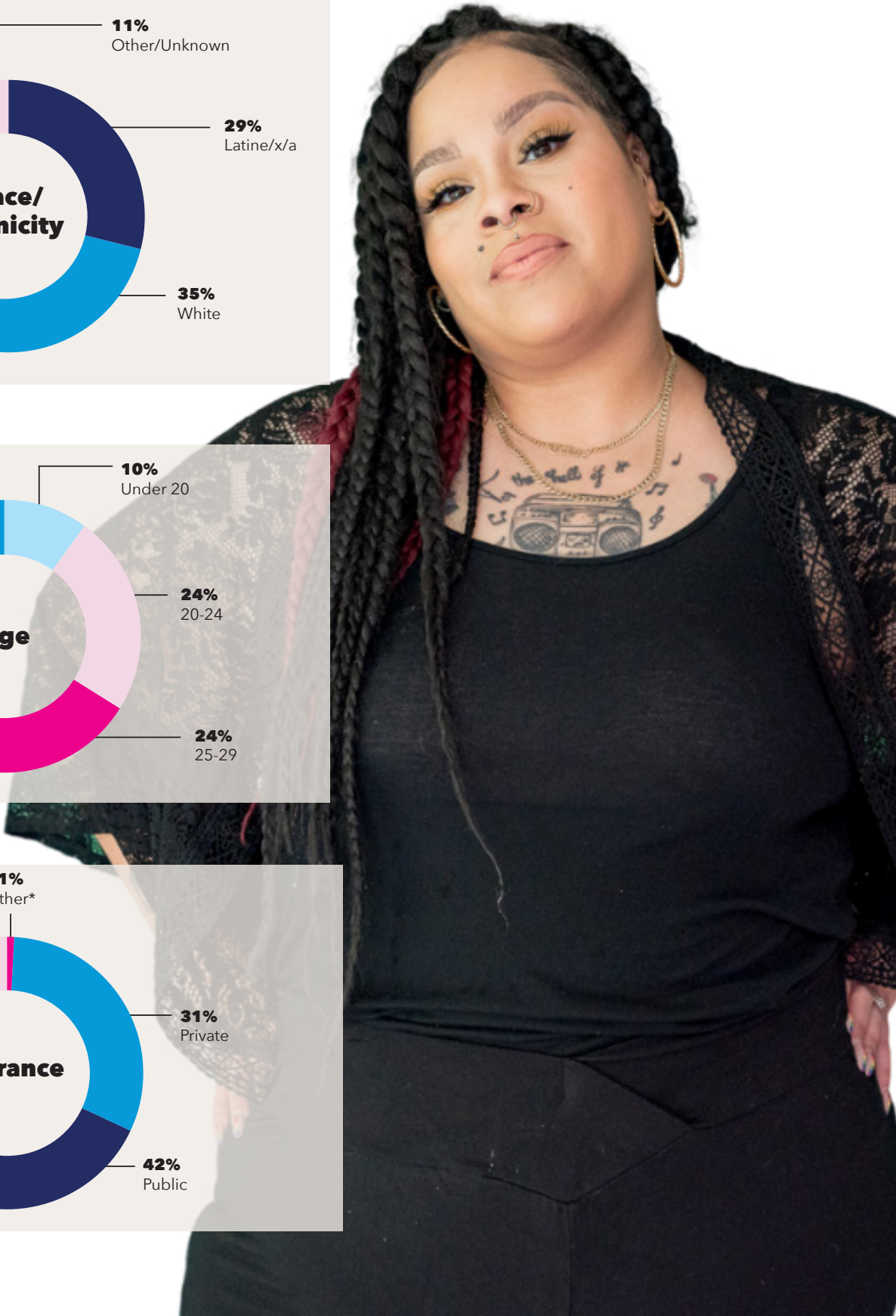
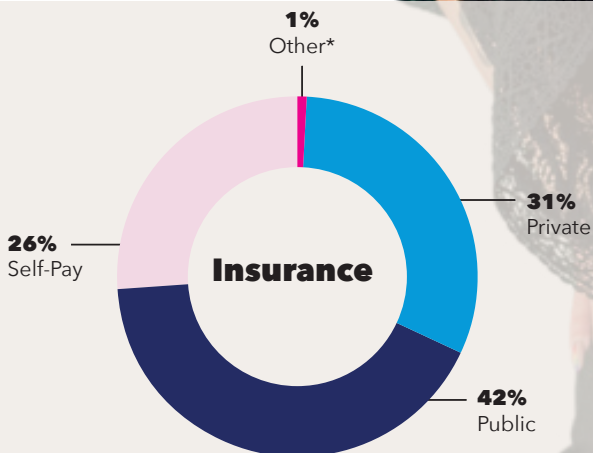
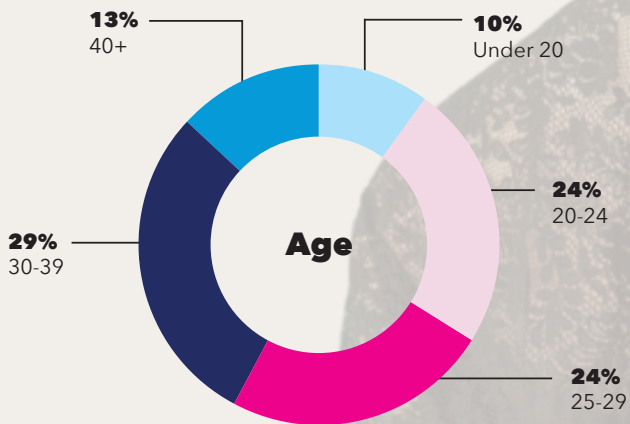
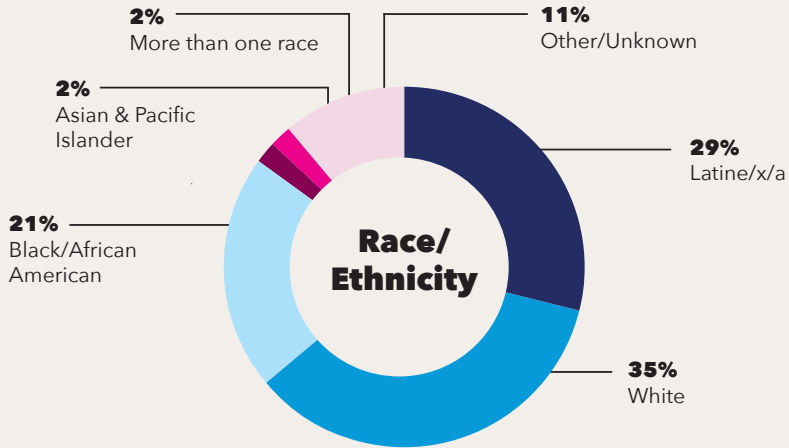
and skills throughout the organization. This approach ensures that the principles of equity and belonging are integrated organically into all teams and foster a culture of inclusion.

The Equity Collective workshop series is not just a training program; it is a strategic initiative designed to embed DEI&B principles into the fabric of our organization.

The Equity Collective is part of a series of DEI&B interventions PPSNE has undertaken in FY 23 to foster a more inclusive and equitable workplace, one where every member feels a sense of belonging. All of our DEI&B work contributes to the collective success of our mission and helps make PPSNE an inclusive space for not only our staff, but for all who come through our doors.

“Being a part of the equity collective has given me an incredibly useful set of skills that allow me to show up in many work settings in ways I could not before.”
-PPSNE Staff Member

Patient Demographics



Financials

REVENUE	FY 2023	FY 2022
Private Patient Fees	\$2,467,543	\$3,455,385
Third Party Insurers	\$18,824,389	\$21,474,635
Contributions	\$9,644,902	\$8,802,564
Government Grants	\$5,093,809	\$5,145,348
Other*	\$5,111,351	\$5,504,690
Investment Return for Current Operations	\$1,250,004	\$900,000

Total	\$42,391,998	\$45,282,622
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EXPENSES	FY 2023	FY 2022
Medical services	\$31,200,091	\$30,048,844
Administration	\$7,194,033	\$6,160,378
Education	\$903,646	\$718,205
Public affairs	\$1,213,137	\$667,405
Fundraising	\$1,600,035	\$1,365,946

Total	\$42,110,942	\$38,960,778
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Net Surplus from operations	\$281,056	\$6,321,844
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**includes \$4.1 million of Covid relief funding in FY22 and \$3.6M in ERTC funding in FY23*



NET ASSETS

FY 2023

FY 2022

Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	\$ -	\$181,462
Capital Campaign and Planned Giving	\$1,574,792	\$17,369,275
Return On Investments and Trusts	\$2,266,981	(\$5,462,997)
Change in Net Assets	\$4,122,829	\$18,046,660
Beginning Net Assets	\$75,376,680	\$57,330,020
Ending Net Assets	\$79,499,509	\$75,376,680
Long Term Assets	\$27,565,406	\$25,339,090
Current Assets	\$55,590,521	\$52,297,097
Liabilities	\$3,656,418	\$2,259,507

Net Assets

\$79,499,509

\$75,376,680

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Connie Malavé Branyan, Vice Chair

Meghan Lowney, Secretary

Sheila Mossman, Treasurer

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President & CEO

Christopher Bellis, MFA
Interim Chief Development Officer

Willa Marth, MAT
Chief Equity and Learning Officer

Yazzy Moya, MBA
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Public Policy, Advocacy & Organizing

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Julia McDowell

John Morton, M.D.

Glori Norwitt

Lisa Vura-Weis

Alison Williams



Generations of supporters like you have made it possible for PPSNE to advance our mission and make a positive impact in our communities. Together, we will continue to deliver on our promise of providing care, no matter what for the next 100 years and beyond.

Thank you.

Celebrating **100** Years 

Cheers to so much more in **2024!**







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