# Planned Parenthood® DONOR DIALOGUE

#### **Donor Spotlight: Brindle Foundation**

When people can plan their families, our communities thrive. This is the belief at the core of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains' (PPRM) 17-year partnership with the Brindle Foundation.

Across New Mexico, the Brindle Foundation is making a lasting impact for our youth by funding community-driven organizations and initiatives, including PPRM's Responsible Sex Education Institute (RSEI), connecting children and their families to the services and tools they need to live happy and healthy lives.



Empowering choice for pregnant people directly correlates with the well-being of babies and their futures; we see these goals as synonymous.

Kevin Schwanfelder **President and Board Chair** 

connections coming together."

"Sharing information about healthy sexuality and reproductive choice clearly leads to betterinformed individuals who are then equipped to make the decisions about their bodies," adds Mary Nell, Brindle's Executive Director. "Regardless of what those decisions are, Brindle appreciates PPRM's approach in centering an individual's voice and needs every step of the way. If the decision is to have a baby, Brindle is invested in helping to figure out ways to make sure that there is a context that supports the birthing person, baby, and family or caregivers. When I think about

Establishing an environment in which all children can thrive is at the center of Brindle's grantmaking philosophy, demonstrated by their focus on a full-spectrum approach to early childhood development.

the partnership between Brindle and PPRM, I see those

"I think one of the foundation's perspectives that I most value is how holistically we are thinking about pregnancy, infants,



and toddlers - really looking closely at the determinants that help an individual have a better life," says Mary Nell. "Investing in housing stability, food security, legal representation, and all of the components of someone's general well-being are very much on our radar."

> Brindle's network of grantees reflects this wideangle lens, including organizations that impact early childhood through advocacy, innovation, and education. The foundation's celebration and encouragement of relationship building amongst its grantees is unique to the traditional grant making space, helping solidify Brindle's philanthropic impact in communities across New Mexico.

"We love seeing partnerships between our grantees and being in conversation and collaboration with the communities they serve" shares Kevin. "We place great importance on how we interact with grantee partners; we so value the work they're doing on the ground, their experience, and deep insight they bring. We're constantly aiming for how best to support and give leverage to each as part of the grand arc of social change. Success is happening and it's inspiring."

Our work would not be possible without the championship of supporters like the Brindle Foundation. Together, we are ensuring that people across New Mexico and the PPRM region have the tools, resources, and health care options to plan their pregnancies in the timing and context that works best for them.



#### **Ever-Changing Landscape at PPRM**

As we inch further into this new year, I want to express my gratitude to all of you, our closest supporters. This past year we faced some of the most difficult challenges in our organization's history, and still you have remained steadfast in your support of our work.

It has been nearly two years since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and 21 states have outright banned or limited access to abortion forcing thousands of patients to travel across state lines to access basic health care.

The number of out-of-state patients receiving care at one of our health centers has tripled since Roe was overturned. With even more states poised to ban abortion in the next year, we know the impact of this crisis will last decades. But thanks to you, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains has remained a sanctuary for care and a beacon of hope for people across the country.

Your support has allowed us to meet the ongoing needs of our patients while exploring long-term solutions for our future.

With your help this past year, we have expanded health center hours across the region, invested in training so more of our clinical staff can provide abortion care, and continued to expand our telehealth services and patient navigation program.

We also worked closely with legislative champions across our region to pass some of the strongest state protections for patients and providers, so that no matter what happens at the federal level, our communities here will be protected.

As we look to the future, we can't afford to let up, even for a moment. The challenges we face extend beyond just access to abortion. Right now, state legislatures across the country are deciding critical issues like whether trans youth and adults can access the health care they need and deserve, the kind of sexual health education our kids receive, and even what books they are allowed to read.

Our work is far from over, but this movement was built to last. We won't let up until every person, regardless of race, zip code, gender identity, or income, can live their lives and craft their families free from shame, fear, or political interference.

I hope that as you look forward to this new year, you feel proud of what you have helped us build. Your investment in our work has made a profound difference in the lives of our patients and staff, and will continue to as we provide care, advocate for change, and stand up for what we all believe in.

I hope you will join us in continuing this work for future generations to come. We're in this fight for the long haul - no matter what.

**Adrienne Mansanares President & CEO** 

## **HEALTH CARE**





#### From the Health Center to the Court Room: Lawsuits Continue to Threaten **Access to Health Care**

While Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains' (PPRM) region continues to be a safe haven for abortion access in the United States, the health care we provide is frequently under attack by anti-abortion groups strategically using the court system to disrupt and prevent patients from accessing fundamental, and often lifesaving, care. New lawsuits with potentially disastrous outcomes are introduced daily across local, state, and federal backdrops. As an advocacy organization and health care provider, we are continuously monitoring the landscape and sharing our expertise to ensure reproductive health care remains available in our region.

Later this summer the Supreme Court will be ruling on a case that will determine the future of medication abortion (MAB) as we currently know it. The anti-abortion plaintiffs in the Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. Food and Drug Administration (AHM v FDA) case claim that the FDA's initial 2000 approval of mifepristone, a common and safe medication used in most current MAB protocols, was unlawful. If these arguments are successful, mifepristone would effectively be removed from the market and become unavailable for use in the United States, impacting an insurmountable number of patients across the country. To put this into perspective, MABs with mifepristone accounted for 76% of PPRM's 22,000 abortion appointments last year.

Since first catching wind of this lawsuit in November of 2022, we've been preparing our teams and operations for a variety of scenarios. Rest assured, no matter the outcome, PPRM is prepared to continue providing safe and effective MAB care for patients visiting our health centers.





## **ADVOCACY & ACTION**

#### Colorado

With the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, it's time to protect Coloradans' access to abortion care, once and for all. PPRM is proud to support a constitutional amendment on the November 2024 ballot to protect abortion in the Colorado Constitution. Right now, in Colorado, teachers, firefighters, other state and local public employees, and people enrolled in state health insurance plans don't have coverage for abortion care, simply because of where they work. This measure is a chance for us to keep the government out of our personal health care decisions.

#### **New Mexico**

In December 2023, New Mexico's Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case that will determine whether local governments have the authority to restrict abortion care, directly conflicting with state laws protecting abortion access. The court was petitioned after four conservative jurisdictions passed local ordinances banning the use of US mail or other carrier services to distribute medication and medical equipment used in abortion care. This case attests that these local ordinances are in direct contradiction to the state's Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Health Care Act, signed into law in March 2023, which prohibits public bodies, including local municipalities, from denying, restricting, or discriminating against an individual's right to use or refuse reproductive health care including abortion and gender-affirming care.



PPRM leaders, including Chief Executive Officer, Adrienne Mansanares, Chief of External Affairs, Sarah Taylor-Nanista, and Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains Action Fund Board Chair, Rebekah Gallegos, joined our movement partners and State Attorney General, Raúl Torrez, to emphasize the gravity of this legal battle. A final ruling is expected in late Spring 2024.

#### **Wyoming**

Right now, Wyoming is locked in an ongoing legal battle to determine the fate of abortion access in the state, including the nation's first explicit ban on the use of medication to end pregnancies. In December 2023, the Teton County District Court heard oral arguments in this landmark case. While we are eagerly awaiting a ruling, it is likely to be appealed to the Wyoming Supreme Court later this year, continuing years of uncertainty and unnecessary obstacles for individuals seeking abortion care across the state. Abortion remains legal in Wyoming for the time being.

While we await the outcomes of these important electoral and legal battles our commitment to care has never been stronger; our doors are open to patients across our region and to those who continue to travel long distances. Together, we will ensure that reproductive health care, including abortion and gender-affirming care, will remain accessible in our region for generations to come.

#### Nevada

Storytelling plays an integral role at Planned Parenthood through engaging our audiences and deepening their understanding of our mission. To get folks started with storytelling, PP Votes Nevada launched a storytelling program (bit.ly/ShareYourStory\_PPVNV) that includes a training series for people who are interested in sharing personal stories about how Planned Parenthood has changed their lives. During the workshops, attendees learn the fundamentals of crafting an inspirational narrative and gain valuable practice in telling their story. This program offers an additional and unique opportunity for supporters to get involved in our advocacy efforts. Everyone who has interacted with Planned Parenthood has a story to tell. Please share yours – it might help someone else.

## **EDUCATION & COMMUNITY**





## **Meeting Communities Where They Are Through Trusted Relationships**

When a program is built with input from the community it's designed for, the impact is greater, and participants feel more engaged. PPRM's Native Community Health Network (NCHN) does just this – meeting Indigenous communities where they are through sexual and reproductive health and outreach. As the only program of its kind in the entire Planned Parenthood network, NCHN has served 11,591 participants, launched online and in-person programming, and expanded to serve an audience beyond PPRM's geographic bounds since its inception in 2019.

NCHN is a community health worker program that meets communities where they already gather and specializes in sexual and reproductive health education, advocacy, outreach, and linkage to essential resources and care. Led by two Diné staff members, Becki Jones, PPRM's Manager of NCHN, and Trevor Goodluck, Community Health Worker, NCHN is growing, with new and exciting partnerships and opportunities. For example, the program has partnered with the New Mexico Department of Health to address emerging health trends, such as the staggering rise in congenital syphilis (when a pregnant person with syphilis passes the infection on to their baby during pregnancy). By expanding prevention activities like education and testing, we are reaching Native communities with critical information in an approach grounded in trust, safety, and community.

Becki shares, "I'm proud to have built this special program to promote health and wellness among American Indian/Alaskan Native populations in the four corners area. The Native Community Health Network serves our communities by providing sexual and reproductive health with accessibility in mind. We hope that we can be an example to other nonprofits and affiliates to serve their Native communities through meaningful action versus only providing land acknowledgments."

At the cornerstone of this program is trust. We've seen how customized outreach and education with trusted community members strengthens partner and family relationships and improves sexual and reproductive health outcomes. NCHN's Talking Circles embody this foundation of trust. The Talking Circles offer safe, nonjudgmental spaces for groups with shared identities to learn about and discuss topics related to sexual and reproductive health while strengthening community relationships. The program's Talking Circles include the Auntie Talking Circle for Indigenous women and/ or Indigenous femme people; QT Talking Circle for Indigenous Queer, Trans, and/or Two-Spirit people; and B.U.D. (Brother, Uncle, Dad) Talking Circle for Indigenous men and/or Indigenous masculine people. Last year, the program engaged 5,204 participants - changing lives through this culturally responsive programming, grounded in community.





## **EVENTS**

## **2023 PHILANTHROPIC RESULTS**



2023 was a great year for events, raising dollars, awareness, and boosting camaraderie among the many PPRM supporters across our four-state region. Here are some photos from these memorable gatherings!







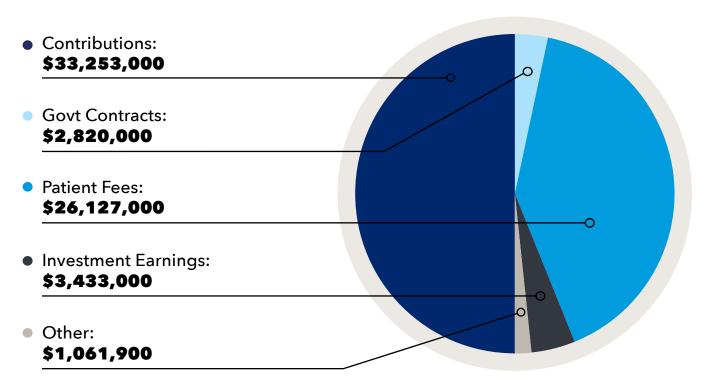


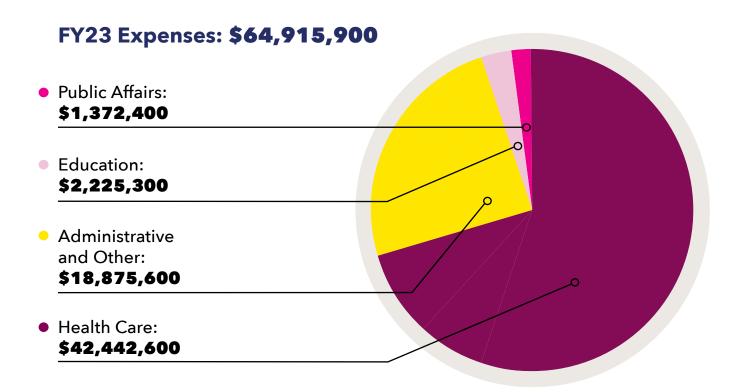




**Every year, dozens of supporters like you host their own fundraisers for PPRM!** Individuals, businesses, organizations, and more love to support our work! If you're interested in learning more about events or how to host a fundraiser of your own, please contact **events.development@pprm.org** or visit **pprm.org/MoreWaysToGive.** 

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### **Planned Giving**

Your investment in Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains matters! Make a gift for the future of PPRM and become a member of our legacy society, *Guardians of Choice*. If you have already included PPRM in your estate plans, please let us know so that we may recognize you as a member. Email <a href="mailto:info.development@pprm.org">info.development@pprm.org</a> to let us know or to learn more.

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