

= Planned Parenthood =

Planned Parenthood Federation of America ( PPFA ), or Planned Parenthood , is a nonprofit organization that provides reproductive health services in the United States and around the world . A member association of the International Planned Parenthood Federation ( IPPF ) , PPFA has its roots in Brooklyn , New York , where Margaret Sanger opened the first birth control clinic in the U.S. in 1916 . In 1921 , Sanger founded the American Birth Control League , which changed its name to Planned Parenthood in 1942 . Planned Parenthood is made up of 159 medical and non -@-@ medical affiliates , which operate more than 650 health clinics in the United States , and it also partners with organizations in 12 countries globally . The organization directly provides a variety of reproductive health services and sexual education , contributes to research in reproductive technology , and does advocacy work aimed at protecting and expanding reproductive rights .

PPFA is the largest single provider of reproductive health services , including abortion , in the United States . In their 2014 Annual Report , PPFA reported seeing over 2 @.@ 5 million patients in over 4 million clinical visits and performing a total of nearly 9 @.@ 5 million discrete services including 324 @,@ 000 abortions . The organization has a combined annual revenue of US \$ 1 @.@ 3 billion , including roughly US \$ 530 million in government funding such as Medicaid reimbursements . Throughout its history PPFA and its member clinics have variously experienced support , controversy , protests , and violent attacks .

= = History = =

= = = Early history = = =

The origins of Planned Parenthood date to October 16 , 1916 , when Margaret Sanger , her sister Ethel Byrne , and Fania Mindell opened the first birth control clinic in the U.S. in the Brownsville section of the New York borough of Brooklyn . They distributed birth control , birth control advice , and birth control information . All three women were arrested and jailed for violating provisions of the Comstock Act , accused of distributing obscene materials at the clinic . The so @-@ called Brownsville trials brought national attention and support to their cause . Sanger and her co @-@ defendants were convicted on misdemeanor charges , which they appealed through two subsequent appeals courts . While the convictions were not overturned , the judge who issued the final ruling also modified the law to permit physician @-@ prescribed birth control . The women 's campaign led to major changes in the laws governing birth control and sex education in the United States .

In 1921 the clinic was organized into the American Birth Control League , the core of the only national birth control organization in the U.S. until the 1960s . By 1941 it was operating 222 centers and had served 49 @,@ 000 clients . However , some found its title offensive and " against families " , so the League began discussions for a new name . In 1942 the League became known as the Planned Parenthood Federation of America .

Largely relying on a volunteer workforce , by 1960 the Federation had provided family planning counseling in hundreds of communities across the country . Planned Parenthood was one of the founding members of the International Planned Parenthood Federation when it was launched at a conference in Bombay ( now Mumbai ) , India , in 1952 .

= = = After Sanger = = =

Following Margaret Sanger , Alan Frank Guttmacher became president of Planned Parenthood , serving from 1962 until 1974 . During his tenure , the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of the original birth control pill , giving rise to new attitudes towards women 's reproductive freedom . Also during his presidency , Planned Parenthood lobbied the federal government to support reproductive health , culminating with President Richard Nixon 's signing of Title X to provide governmental subsidies for low @-@ income women to access family planning services .

The Center for Family Planning Program Development was also founded as a semi autonomous division during this time . The center became an independent organization and was renamed the Guttmacher Institute in 1977 .

Faye Wattleton became the first African American president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America in 1978 . Wattleton , who was also the youngest president in Planned Parenthood 's history , served in this role until 1992 . During her term , Planned Parenthood grew to become the seventh largest charity in the country , providing services to four million clients each year through its 170 affiliates , whose activities were spread across 50 states .

From 1996 to 2006 , Planned Parenthood was led by Gloria Feldt . Feldt activated the Planned Parenthood Action Fund ( PPAF ) , the organization 's political action committee , launching what was the most far reaching electoral advocacy effort in its history . The PPAF serves as the nonpartisan political advocacy arm of PPFA . It engages in educational and electoral activity , including legislative advocacy , voter education , and grassroots organizing to promote the PPFA mission . Feldt also launched the Responsible Choices Action Agenda , a nationwide campaign to increase services to prevent unwanted pregnancies , improve quality of reproductive care , and ensure access to safe and legal abortions . Another initiative was the commencement of a " Global Partnership Program " , with the aim of building a vibrant activist constituency in support of family planning .

On February 15 , 2006 , Cecile Richards , the daughter of former Texas governor Ann Richards , and formerly the deputy chief of staff to the U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi ( the Democratic Leader in the United States House of Representatives ) , became president of the organization . In 2012 Richards was voted one of Time magazine 's 100 Most Influential People in the World .

= = Margaret Sanger Awards = = =

In 1966 PPFA began awarding the Margaret Sanger Award annually to honor , in their words , " individuals of distinction in recognition of excellence and leadership in furthering reproductive health and reproductive rights " . In the first year , it was awarded to four men , Carl G. Hartman , William H. Draper , Lyndon Baines Johnson , and Martin Luther King , Jr . Later recipients have included John D. Rockefeller III , Katharine Hepburn , Jane Fonda , Hillary Clinton , and Ted Turner .

= = Services = =

The services provided by PPFA affiliates vary by location , with just over half of all Planned Parenthood affiliates in the United States performing abortions . Services provided by PPFA include birth control and long acting reversible contraception ; emergency contraception ; breast and cervical cancer screening ; pregnancy testing and pregnancy options counseling ; testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections ; sex education ; vasectomies ; LGBT services ; and abortion .

In 2013 PPFA reported seeing 2 @. 7 million patients in 4 @. 6 million clinical visits . Roughly 16 % of its clients are teenagers . According to PPFA , in 2014 the organization provided 3 @. 6 million contraceptive services , 4 @. 5 million sexually transmitted infection services , about 1 million cancer related services , over 1 million pregnancy tests and prenatal services , over 324 @, 000 abortion services , and over 100 @, 000 other services , for a total of 9 @. 5 million discrete services . PPFA is well known for providing services to minorities and the poor ; according to PPFA , approximately four out of five of their clients have incomes at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty level .

Given that each patient receives about three services on average , the percent of abortions provided out of the total services provided ? ? ? 3 @. 4 % ? ? ? may not clearly represent the importance of abortion to PPFA . Each year , 12 percent of PPFA 's patients gets an abortion , which is expensive when compared with other services .

= = Facilities = =

PPFA has two national offices in the United States : one in Washington , D.C. , and one in New York . It has three international offices , including a hub office in London , England . It has 68 medical and related affiliates and 101 other affiliates including 34 political action committees . These affiliates together operate more than 700 health centers in all 50 states and the District of Columbia . PPFA owns about US \$ 54 million in property , including real estate . In addition , PPFA spends a little over US \$ 1 million per year for rented space . The largest facility , a US \$ 26 million , 78 @, @ 000 @-@ square @-@ foot ( 7 @, @ 200 @-@ square @-@ metre ) structure , was completed in Houston , Texas , in May 2010 .

= = Worldwide availability = =

PPFA 's international outreach and other activities are performed by Planned Parenthood Global , a division of PPFA , and by the International Planned Parenthood Federation ( IPPF ) which now consists of more than 149 Member Associations working in more than 189 countries . The IPPF is further associated with International Planned Parenthood Federation affiliates in the Caribbean and the Americas and IPPF European Network , as well as other organizations like Family Planning Queensland , Pro Familia ( Germany ) and mouvement français pour le planning familial ( French Movement for Family Planning ) . Offices are located in New York , NY ; Washington , DC ; Miami , FL ; Guatemala City , Guatemala ; Abuja , Nigeria ; and Nairobi , Kenya . The organization 's focus countries are Guatemala , Nicaragua , Costa Rica , Ecuador , Peru , Senegal , Burkina Faso , Nigeria , Sudan , South Sudan , Uganda , Ethiopia , and Kenya . The Bloomberg Philanthropies donated US \$ 50 million for Planned Parenthood Global 's reproductive health and family planning efforts in Tanzania , Nicaragua , Burkina Faso , Senegal and Uganda . Among specific countries and territories serviced by Planned Parenthood Global 's reproductive planning outreach are Brazil , Colombia , El Salvador , French Guiana , Guatemala , Haiti , Honduras , Martinique , Mexico , Panama , Paraguay , Peru , Suriname , Venezuela , Puerto Rico , U.S. Virgin Islands , Dominican Republic , Barbados , Bolivia , Ecuador , Guadeloupe , Saint Martin , Guyana , Cape Verde and Samoa .

= = Funding = =

Planned Parenthood has received federal funding since 1970 , when President Richard Nixon signed into law the Family Planning Services and Population Research Act , amending the Public Health Service Act . Title X of that law provides funding for family planning services , including contraception and family planning information . The law had support from both Republicans and Democrats . Nixon described Title X funding as based on the premise that " no American woman should be denied access to family planning assistance because of her economic condition " .

In the fiscal year ending June 30 , 2014 , total revenue was US \$ 1 @. @ 3 billion : non @-@ government health services revenue was US \$ 305 million , government revenue ( such as Medicaid reimbursements ) was US \$ 528 million , private contributions totaled US \$ 392 million , and US \$ 78 million came from other operating revenue . According to Planned Parenthood , 59 % of the group 's revenue is put towards the provision of health services , while non @-@ medical services such as sex education and public policy work make up another 15 % ; management expenses , fundraising , and international family planning programs account for about 16 % , and 10 % of the revenue in 2013 ? 2014 was not spent .

Planned Parenthood receives over a third of its money in government grants and contracts ( about US \$ 528 million in 2014 ) . By law , federal funding cannot be allocated for abortions ( except in rare cases ) , but some opponents of abortion have argued that allocating money to Planned Parenthood for the provision of other medical services allows other funds to be re @-@ allocated for abortions .

A coalition of national and local pro @-@ life groups have lobbied federal and state governments to stop funding Planned Parenthood . As a result , federal and state legislators have proposed

legislation to reduce funding levels . Eight states ? ? ? Alabama , Arkansas , Indiana , Kansas , Louisiana , New Hampshire , Ohio , and Utah ? ? ? have enacted such proposals . In some cases the courts have overturned such actions , citing conflict with federal or state laws ; in others the federal executive branch has provided funding in lieu of the states . In some states , Planned Parenthood was completely or partially defunded .

In August 2015 , Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal attempted to end Louisiana 's contract with Planned Parenthood to treat Medicaid patients at a time when there was an epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases in Louisiana . Planned Parenthood and three patients sued the state of Louisiana , with the United States Department of Justice siding with Planned Parenthood .

On February 2 , 2016 , the U.S. House failed to override President Obama 's veto of H.R. 3762 which would have prohibited Planned Parenthood from receiving any federal Medicaid funds for one year .

Donors to Planned Parenthood have included the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation , the Buffett Foundation , the Ford Foundation , the Turner Foundation , the Cullmans , and others . The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation 's contributions to the organization have been specifically marked to avoid funding abortions . Some donors , such as the Buffett Foundation , have supported reproductive health that can include abortion services . Pro @-@ life groups have advocated the boycott of donors to Planned Parenthood . Corporate donors include CREDO Mobile .

= = Political advocacy = =

Planned Parenthood is an advocate for the legal and political protection of reproductive rights . This advocacy includes helping to sponsor abortion rights and women 's rights events . The Federation opposes restrictions on women 's reproductive health services , including parental consent laws for minors . To justify this position , Planned Parenthood has cited the case of Becky Bell , who died following an illegal abortion rather than seek parental consent for a legal one . Planned Parenthood also takes the position that laws requiring parental notification before an abortion can be performed on a minor are unconstitutional on privacy grounds .

The organization opposes laws requiring ultrasounds before abortions , stating that their only purpose is to make abortions more difficult to obtain . Planned Parenthood has also opposed initiatives that require waiting periods before abortions , and bans on late @-@ term abortions including intact dilation and extraction , which has been illegal in the U.S. since 2003 . Planned Parenthood supports the wide availability of emergency contraception such as the Plan B pill . It opposes conscience clauses , which allow pharmacists to refuse to dispense drugs against their beliefs . Planned Parenthood has been critical of hospitals that do not provide access to emergency contraception for rape victims . Citing the need for medically accurate information in sex education , Planned Parenthood opposes abstinence @-@ only education in public schools . Instead , Planned Parenthood is a provider of , and endorses , comprehensive sex education , which includes discussion of both abstinence and birth control .

Planned Parenthood 's advocacy activities are executed by the Planned Parenthood Action Fund , which is registered as a 501 ( c ) ( 4 ) charity , and files financial information jointly with PPFA . The committee was founded in 1996 , by then @-@ president Gloria Feldt , for the purpose of maintaining reproductive health rights and supporting political candidates of the same mindset . In the 2012 election cycle , the committee gained prominence based on its effectiveness of spending on candidates . Although the Planned Parenthood Action Fund ( PPAF ) shares some leadership with the Planned Parenthood Federation of America , the president of PPAF , Cecile Richards , testified before Congress in September 2015 that she did not manage the organization . The Planned Parenthood Action Fund has 58 active , separately incorporated chapters in 41 states and maintains national headquarters in New York and Washington , D.C. Planned Parenthood has received grants from the Obama administration to help promote the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act , or ObamaCare .

= = Political spending = =

Planned Parenthood spends money on politics and elections through the Planned Parenthood Action Fund ( its federal political action committee ) , through its Super PAC , and through a variety of related 501 ( c ) ( 4 ) entities . Planned Parenthood endorsed Barack Obama in the 2008 and 2012 presidential elections . In the 2014 election cycle , Planned Parenthood spent US \$ 6 @ , @ 587 @ , @ 100 on contributions to candidates and political parties ( overwhelmingly to Democrats ) and on independent expenditures .

= = Before the U.S. Supreme Court = =

Planned Parenthood regional chapters have been active in the American courts . A number of cases in which Planned Parenthood has been a party have reached the U.S. Supreme Court . Notable among these cases is the 1992 case Planned Parenthood v. Casey , the case that sets forth the current constitutional abortion standard . In this case , " Planned Parenthood " was the Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter , and " Casey " was Robert Casey , the governor of Pennsylvania . The ultimate ruling was split , and Roe v. Wade was narrowed but upheld in an opinion written by Sandra Day O 'Connor , Anthony Kennedy , and David Souter . Harry Blackmun and John Paul Stevens concurred with the main decision in separately written opinions . The Supreme Court struck down spousal consent requirements for married women to obtain abortions , but found no " undue burden " ? an alternative to strict scrutiny , which tests the allowable limitations on rights protected under the Constitution ? from the other statutory requirements . Dissenting were William Rehnquist , Antonin Scalia , Clarence Thomas , and Byron White . Blackmun , Rehnquist , and White were the only justices who voted on the original Roe v. Wade decision in 1973 who were still on the Supreme Court to rule on this case , and their votes on this case were consistent with their votes on the original decision that legalized abortion . Only Blackmun voted to maintain Roe v. Wade in its entirety .

Other related cases include :

Planned Parenthood of Central Missouri v. Danforth ( 1976 ) . Planned Parenthood challenged the constitutionality of a Missouri law encompassing parental consent , spousal consent , clinic bookkeeping and allowed abortion methods . Portions of the challenged law were held to be constitutional , others not .

Planned Parenthood Association of Kansas City v. Ashcroft ( 1983 ) . Planned Parenthood challenged the constitutionality of a Missouri law encompassing parental consent , clinic record keeping , and hospitalization requirements . Most of the challenged law was held to be constitutional .

Planned Parenthood v. ACLA ( 2001 ) . The American Coalition of Life Activists ( ACLA ) released a flier and " Wanted " posters with complete personal information about doctors who performed abortions . A civil jury and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals both found that the materials were indeed " true threats " and not protected speech .

Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood ( 2003 ) . Planned Parenthood sued Attorney General Gonzales for an injunction against the enforcement of the Partial @ - @ Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003 . Planned Parenthood argued the act was unconstitutional because it violated the Fifth Amendment , namely in that it was overly vague , violated women 's constitutional right to have access to abortion , and did not include language for exceptions for the health of the mother . Both the district court and the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit agreed , but that decision was overturned in a 5 ? 4 ruling by the Supreme Court .

Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood of Northern New England ( 2006 ) . Planned Parenthood et al. challenged the constitutionality of a New Hampshire parental notification law related to access to abortion . In Sandra Day O 'Connor 's final decision before retirement , the Supreme Court sent the case back to lower courts with instructions to seek a remedy short of wholesale invalidation of the statute . New Hampshire ended up repealing the statute via the legislative process .

= = Other court cases = =

Some state attorneys general have subpoenaed medical records of patients treated by Planned Parenthood . Planned Parenthood has gone to court to keep from turning over these records , citing medical privacy and concerns about the motivation for seeking the records .

In 2006 , Kansas Attorney General Phill Kline , a Republican , released some sealed patient records obtained from Planned Parenthood to the public . His actions were described as " troubling " by the state Supreme Court , but Planned Parenthood was compelled to turn over the medical records , albeit with more stringent court @-@ mandated privacy safeguards for the patients involved . In 2007 Kline 's successor , Paul J. Morrison , a Democrat , notified the clinic that no criminal charges would be filed after a three @-@ year investigation , as " an objective , unbiased and thorough examination " showed no wrongdoing . Morrison stated that he believed Kline had politicized the attorney general 's office . In 2012 a Kansas district attorney found that that the practices of the Kansas City @-@ area Planned Parenthood clinic were " within accepted practices in the medical community " and dropped all of the remaining criminal charges . In all , the Planned Parenthood clinic had faced 107 criminal charges from Kline and other Kansas prosecutors , all of which were ultimately dismissed .

In 2006 , the Indiana Court of Appeals ruled that Planned Parenthood was not required to turn over its medical records in an investigation of possible child abuse . In 2005 Planned Parenthood Minnesota / North Dakota / South Dakota was fined US \$ 50 @,@ 000 for violating a Minnesota state parental consent law .

In 2012 , a Texas state court judge , Gary Harger , denied Planned Parenthood request for a temporary restraining order against the State of Texas , concluding that the State may exclude otherwise qualified doctors and clinics from receiving state funding if the doctors or clinics advocate for abortion rights .

= = Debate and opposition = =

= = = Margaret Sanger and eugenics = = =

In the 1920s , various theories of eugenics were popular among intellectuals in the United States . ( For example , 75 % of colleges offered courses on eugenics . ) In her campaign to promote birth control , Sanger teamed with eugenics organizations such as the American Eugenics Society , although she argued against many of their positions . Scholars describe Sanger as believing that birth control and sterilization should be voluntary , and not based on race . Sanger advocated for " voluntary motherhood " ? the right to choose when to be pregnant ? for all women , as an important element of women 's rights . As part of her efforts to promote birth control , however , Sanger found common cause with proponents of eugenics , believing that she and they both sought to " assist the race toward the elimination of the unfit " .

Critics of Planned Parenthood often refer to Sanger 's connection with supporters of eugenics to discredit the organization by associating it , and birth control , with the more negative modern view of eugenics . Planned Parenthood has responded to this effort directly in a leaflet acknowledging that Sanger agreed with some of her contemporaries who advocated the voluntary hospitalization or sterilization of people with untreatable , disabling , hereditary conditions , and limits on the immigration of the diseased . The leaflet also states that Planned Parenthood " finds these views objectionable and outmoded " but says that it was compelled to discuss the topic because " anti @-@ family planning activists continue to attack Sanger ... because she is an easier target " than Planned Parenthood .

= = = Abortion = = =

Planned Parenthood has occupied a central position in the abortion debate in the U.S. , and has been among the most prominent targets of the United States pro @-@ life movement for decades .

Some members of Congress , overwhelmingly Republican , have attempted since the 1980s to end federal funding of the organization , nearly leading to a government shutdown over the issue in 2011 . Planned Parenthood has consistently maintained that federal money received by Planned Parenthood is not used to fund abortion services , but pro @-@ life activists have argued that the federal funding frees up other resources that are , in turn , used to provide abortions .

Planned Parenthood is the largest single provider of abortions in the U.S. , but pro @-@ choice advocates have argued that the organization 's family planning services reduce the need for abortions ; in the words of Megan Crepeau of the Chicago Tribune , Planned Parenthood could be " characterized as America 's largest abortion preventer " . Pro @-@ life activists dispute the evidence that greater access to contraceptives reduces abortion frequency .

== == Undercover videos by anti @-@ abortion activists == ==

Periodically , pro @-@ life advocates and activists have tried to demonstrate that Planned Parenthood does not follow applicable state or federal laws . The groups called or visited Planned Parenthood health centers posing as victims of statutory rape , minors who by law need parental notification before abortion , racist donors seeking to earmark donations to reduce the African @-@ American population , or pimps seeking abortions for underage prostitutes . As a result of some of these videos , several Planned Parenthood workers have been disciplined or fired . However , a 2005 review by the Bush administration 's Department of Health and Human Services " yielded no evidence of clinics around the nation failing to comply with laws on reporting child abuse , child molestation , sexual abuse , rape or incest " .

== == Live Action videos == ==

Beginning in 2010 , Live Action has released several series of undercover videos filmed in Planned Parenthood centers . Live Action said one series showed Planned Parenthood employees at many affiliates actively assisting or being complicit in aiding a prostitution ring , advising patients on how to procure sex @-@ selective abortions , and one who said they would immerse a child born alive after a botched abortion in a chemical solution to make it stop moving and breathing . No criminal convictions resulted , but some Planned Parenthood employees and volunteers were fired for not following procedure , and the organization committed to retraining its staff . Additionally , one center was placed on probation .

== == The Center for Medical Progress videos == ==

In 2015 an anti @-@ abortion organization called the Center for Medical Progress ( CMP ) released several videos that had been secretly recorded . The videos showed how members of CMP posed as representatives of a biotechnology company in order to gain access to meetings with abortion providers . Members of CMP have since been indicted by a Texas grand jury on felony charges for tampering with governmental records . On July 26 , 2016 , all charges against the CMP members were thrown out by a Texas judge .

== Violence by anti @-@ abortion activists ==

In the U.S. , abortion providers have been threatened with death , and facilities that provide abortions have been attacked or vandalized . Planned Parenthood clinics have been the target of a number of instances of violence by anti @-@ abortion activists , including bombing , arson , and attacks with chemical weaponry . In 1994 , John Salvi entered a Brookline , Massachusetts Planned Parenthood clinic and opened fire , murdering receptionist Shannon Elizabeth Lowney and wounding three others . He fled to another Planned Parenthood clinic where he murdered Leane Nichols and wounded two others . In 2012 , a Grand Chute , Wisconsin , Planned Parenthood clinic was subject to a bombing perpetrated by an unknown individual . In 2015 , a Planned Parenthood

clinic in Pullman , Washington was heavily damaged by arson .

= = = 2015 shooting = = =

On November 27 , 2015 , a gunman shot and killed two civilians and a police officer during a five @-@ hour gun battle at the Colorado Springs , Colorado clinic . The 57 @-@ year @-@ old gunman surrendered to police and was taken into custody . During his arrest , he gave a " rambling " interview in which , at one point , he said " no more baby parts " , echoing language used in the news media about the clinic following the Center for Medical Progress videos .