



POWER SURGE

REIGNITING THE PRO-CHOICE MOVEMENT

2011
ANNUAL
REPORT



FAMILY PLANNING ADVOCATES OF NEW YORK STATE

VISION

A New York where everyone enjoys access to comprehensive sexual health care and education.

MISSION

To advance public policies and education that protect reproductive rights, improve sexual health, and secure reproductive justice for all communities.

Cover photo: Planned Parenthood of Western New York's young activists exemplify the work Family Planning Advocates of New York State (FPA) and its members undertook this year in response to the outrageous attacks on women's health care and on Planned Parenthood, in particular. In Albany, in cities around the state and in Washington, DC, FPA was a leader in the successful fight to maintain state and federal funding for women's health care services, including the restoration of \$300 million in federal Title X funding that was zeroed out in the House of Representatives' spending bill early this year.

CHALLENGES, SUCCESSES MADE FPA STRONGER

MESSAGE FROM FAMILY PLANNING ADVOCATES BOARD CHAIR AND PRESIDENT AND CEO



Margery Whiteman, Board Chair



M. Tracey Brooks, President and CEO

We are extremely proud of the strength and endurance of Family Planning Advocates of New York State (FPA) this year. We were called upon to protect access to reproductive health care in New York State in new ways—through health care reform implementation and Medicaid redesign, for example. Further, we joined supporters from around the nation in standing up against attacks on women's health care at the national level—more severe attacks than the nation has seen in decades.

Innovation in funding. This report highlights FPA's extensive legislative and regulatory work that safeguarded core family planning funding while maximizing Medicaid reimbursement—a challenging feat at a time when significant cuts were being made to New York's health care delivery system, the Medicaid system was being redesigned, and Medicaid's reimbursement method was being overhauled. These accomplishments this year on behalf of family planning providers were particularly meaningful in light of the state's fiscal crisis and the rampant anti-choice attacks nationally.

FPA has a big say. FPA's strong relationships with Gov. Cuomo's staff, legislative leaders and regulators afforded us opportunities to inform important decisions that impact our members. We advanced the interests of the reproductive health community on the Governor's Health Care Transition Team which recommended Dr. Nirav R. Shah as the new Health Commissioner. Dr. Shah's record of innovation in delivering cost-effective, efficient health care, coupled with his strong

commitment to public health, led to the team's recommendation. Additionally, for the second year in a row, FPA served on the Governor's Health Care Reform Advisory Council, and we gave extensive input to the Medicaid Redesign Team.

This report also outlines our immediate partnership with New York's newly formed Bi-Partisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus and its efforts to ensure that attacks on women's health care never gain traction in our state. You will learn about advances made by FPA's Concerned Clergy for Choice and Diverse Communities Health Initiative to remove religious, cultural and linguistic barriers that impede access to reproductive health care services in New York and beyond.

Strong health care makes strong communities. Whether we were meeting with the state Department of Health regarding access to health care on a sliding scale; petitioning the nation's Secretary of Health and Human Services for insurance coverage of birth control without co-pays or deductibles; or fighting back attempts to defund Planned Parenthood, our goal remained the same: ensuring that our family planning provider members maintain strong and sustainable health centers.

We extend our deepest gratitude to FPA's members, donors, activists, coalition partners, legislative supporters and others who helped us this year. Your commitment brought us closer to achieving FPA's vision of a New York where everyone enjoys access to comprehensive sexual health care and education.

NEW YORK'S FAMILY PLANNING FUNDING REMAINS STRONG

104,761
Number of New Yorkers who signed the online petition against Congressional attacks on women's health care.

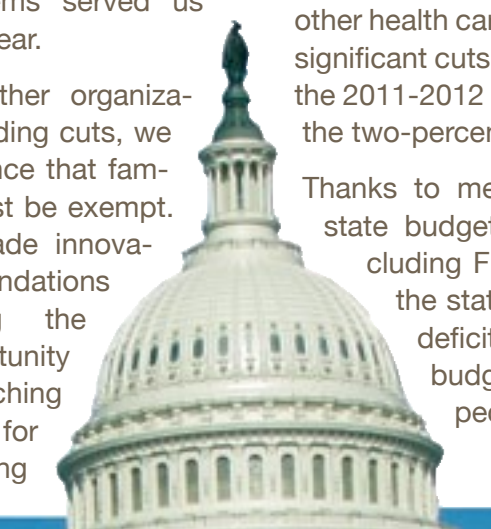
FPA has earned a reputation as the first organization to partner with state leaders on the importance of spending cuts in all areas during this continuing fiscal crisis. For the third year in a row, leaders were forced to make billions of dollars in reductions. Our willingness to be part of the solution to the state's financial problems served us well again this year.

Unlike many other organizations facing funding cuts, we did not pronounce that family planning must be exempt. Instead, we made innovative recommendations for expanding the state's opportunity to receive matching federal funds for family planning

services in order to mitigate the impact of funding decreases on health centers.

By partnering with the state in arriving at this inventive solution, cuts to family planning funding did not go beyond the global two-percent reduction in Medicaid reimbursement. In contrast (and unfortunately) every other health care sector experienced significant cuts to its state funding in the 2011-2012 budget, in addition to the two-percent drop.

Thanks to meaningful changes in state budget work this year, including FPA's novel approach, the state faces a \$2.3 billion deficit in the 2012-2013 budget rather than the expected \$15 billion gap.



Thousands of advocates for Planned Parenthood and women's health care—adults and youth alike—gathered in Washington, DC and other cities nationwide throughout the early spring and summer to stand up against attacks on women's health care.



Sen. Liz Krueger, at podium, flanked by members of the new Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus at an Albany press conference in May, detailed the group's objectives, including passage of the Reproductive Health Act.

BIPARTISAN PRO-CHOICE LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS FORMS IN NEW YORK STATE

The formation of the Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus was a celebrated event at the Capitol this year. Through membership in the Caucus, an increased number of lawmakers have affirmatively identified themselves pro-choice, some of whom had not previously done so in a public way.

National attacks on reproductive health and rights led a small, vocal group of pro-choice legislators to spearhead the creation of the Caucus, urging Democrat and Republican lawmakers who support reproductive health and rights to join the group. Its goal is to support legislation that protects New Yorkers from attempts to reduce access to reproductive health care in the face of such efforts in Congress and other statehouses.

FPA worked closely with the Caucus on a number of fronts during the legislative session. Through participation in Caucus events, FPA informed lawmakers and

staff about timely reproductive health and rights matters and educated them about issues of concern.

At the first Caucus press conference in May, members publicly restated their priority to codify *Roe v. Wade* in New York State law through passage of the Reproductive Health Act, legislation that FPA has actively advocated for since 2007.

Also this year, members of the Caucus joined FPA and coalition partners in actively opposing an abortion-provider defunding bill introduced by Assemblyman Steve Katz this spring. The bill would have prohibited Planned Parenthood, private physicians and hospitals from receiving any state funding if their services include abortion care. Thousands of calls and emails from outraged FPA activists ultimately led Katz to request that the bill be withdrawn from the Assembly Health Committee Agenda just hours before a vote was to take place.

7,344
Number of New Yorkers who rallied in support of women's health care.



NEW PUBLIC POLICY AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS DEPT. TACKLES EMERGING ISSUES

FPA's newly established Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs Department was created this year to more adeptly respond to the growing regulatory and policy needs of our membership in this age of health care reform implementation. Department staff provides daily technical assistance to members on issues around state contracts and grants, as well as coding and billing practices under the new Ambulatory Payment Group methodology (APGs). With input from FPA's family planning members, staff also developed tools and resources to support health centers as they confront the evolving health care environment. Key accomplishments include:

Preserved Core Family Planning Funding

In response to Gov. Cuomo's call for cost savings and efficiencies in the Medicaid system, FPA set to work with membership, identifying proposals that would simultaneously meet the goals of the Medicaid Re-design Team and strengthen the family planning provider network. FPA successfully negotiated proposals that spared cuts to core family planning funding and developed a new, enhanced APG for contraceptive management, which resulted in an increased reimbursement rate.

Engaged in Health Care Reform Implementation

Following a health care reform implementation meeting with FPA members and national experts, FPA issued a comprehensive white paper on the issue in June. Key state officials and state and national coalition partners received the white paper—*Protecting and Expanding Reproductive Health Care Services in New York through the Implementation of Federal Health Reform*. It garnered the immediate attention of Gov. Cuomo's staff who requested a meeting to discuss FPA's recommendations aimed at protecting and enhancing access to reproductive health care in our state through health care reform. It was clear from this meeting that FPA and its membership will play an active role in informing the state's work in reform implementation.

Enhanced Communication with Membership

With significant changes to New York's health care delivery system on the horizon, FPA increased regular communication with membership this year through: bi-weekly business e-newsletters, bi-annual meetings of family planning providers and key state officials, and membership-wide calls to address member questions and concerns regarding state policies and FPA's advocacy on behalf of family planning providers.

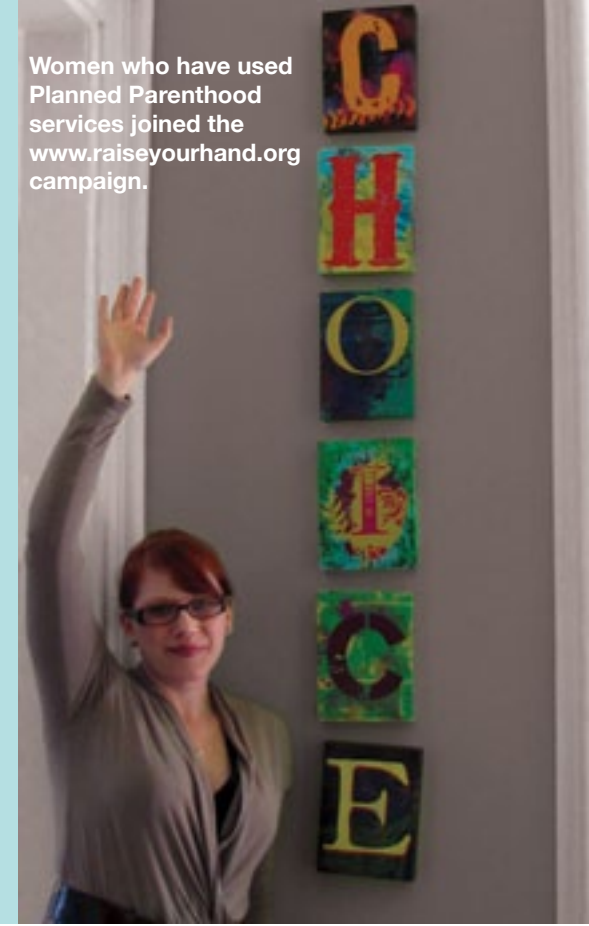
TENS OF THOUSANDS MORE JOIN THE RANKS OF NEW YORK'S PRO-CHOICE ACTIVISTS

FPA's "pink power" surged and our ranks swelled further in response to the outrageous attacks on women's health care. An additional **53,000** New Yorkers became active in the pro-choice movement this year, emailing and calling Congress, and rallying throughout the state and Washington, DC. FPA responded to this exponential growth in sup-

port by regularly communicating with supporters about the ongoing threat to reproductive health and rights.

Nationwide, the number of active, pro-choice supporters who newly committed to standing up for women's health care increased by an impressive **1.2 million**.

Women who have used Planned Parenthood services joined the www.raiseyourhand.org campaign.



HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE LEGISLATION PRIORITIZED

FPA strongly advocated for a crucial piece of legislation this year to establish the state's Health Benefit Exchange, as called for in the Affordable Care Act. We met with key legislators, sponsors and the Governor's staff on the urgency of passing this legislation in order to accomplish the monumental task of building this new marketplace for health insurance coverage. If the Exchange is not developed in a timely manner, the state risks losing out on millions of dollars in federal funding and losing control of the Exchange to the federal government.

The Exchange-enacting legislation was agreed to by the Governor, the Assembly and the Senate. It passed the Assembly; however, the Senate failed to vote on the legislation before gaveling out for the summer, despite hundreds of calls and emails from FPA activists and others in the health care community urging action.

113
Percentage increase in family health insurance premiums from 2001-2011.



During the Diverse Communities Health Initiative Day of Action, NYS Sen. Velmanette Montgomery met with advocates (l-r) Sarah Blust of Public Health Solutions, Nicole Grafilo of NARAL and Maliha Chagtai of FPA.

WORK TO BATTLE HEALTH DISPARITIES ADVANCES

More than **34,274** women joined Planned Parenthood's national 1 in 5 campaign, signing an online statement that they are part of the one in five women who have received health care services from Planned Parenthood at some point in their lives.

The Education Fund of Family Planning Advocates Diverse Communities Health Initiative (DCHI) took a three-pronged approach to raising the cultural competence and language accessibility of family planning health care providers this year. This will enable health centers to attract and appropriately serve more members of diverse communities.

DCHI entered phase two of a three-year study entitled *Understanding and Improving Family Planning Services through Language Assistance*—funded by the National Institutes of Health and conducted collaboratively with the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society. Working closely with our health center members around the state, we gathered information for the study that will ultimately produce the first language access model in

the nation. This model will enable family planning health centers to accurately measure the health outcomes of their language assistance programs.

Our successful Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) training again attracted participants from New York State and around the region. Family planning providers and other health and human services agencies gained two days of detailed education on how to meet federal CLAS standards for serving diverse communities; the training placed particular emphasis on achieving goals in the face of strained health center finances and health care reform implementation that will bring newly insured patients through their doors.

In the state legislative arena, DCHI took up the fight to pass legislation to cut down on the incidence of medication mistakes with limited English proficient patients. The prescription-labeling bill requires prescribers to indicate on a prescription if a patient is limited English proficient and, if so, the patient's preferred language. Further, we continued to lobby for Medicaid reimbursement for family planning health centers and other providers who extend language interpretation and translation services to their patients.

CLERGY CARRY PRO-CHOICE, FAITH-BASED MESSAGES NATIONALLY

Concerned Clergy for Choice (CCC), also a project of The Education Fund of Family Planning Advocates, has earned recognition as a national leader in faith-based reproductive rights advocacy. CCC's strategy of one-on-one clergy consultations, media training, and teleconference educational programs served as a national model for developing and sustaining increased clergy support for our issues.

Nationally, CCC conducted a broad spectrum of capacity-building activities to amplify the clergy voice in opposition to the anti-choice faith groups who work with members of Congress to advance their extreme ideological agenda. This included training participants at the Planned Parenthood Federation of America's (PPFA) Organizing and Policy summit and collaborating with the lead-

ership of PPFA's National Clergy Advisory Board.

Concerned Clergy for Choice (CCC) continued its important work this year to mentor and mobilize the diverse, multi-faith network of 1,000 religious leaders around New York State.

During the month of April, New York clergy gathered at the state Capitol to support lawmakers in resisting attacks on access to reproductive health care that had gained momentum nationally. Clergy members also traveled to Washington, DC to rally with Planned Parenthood, participate in personal meetings with members of Congress, and contribute their moral authority to the debate around defunding women's health care. We invite you to follow CCC's vital work on Facebook.

4,882
Number of calls New Yorkers made to Congress to oppose attacks on women's health care.

Clergy support for comprehensive reproductive health care grew stronger this year in the face of assaults on women's health care in Congress and in a growing number of statehouses around the nation. Attending a rally for women's health in Washington, DC in April were (l-r) Lutheran minister, The Rev. Kim Cottingham; Unitarian Universalist minister, The Rev. Joel Miller; Rabbi Dennis Ross, director of Concerned Clergy for Choice.



FPA ONLINE BOASTS RESOURCES AND EXPERTISE

To better keep members, advocates and lawmakers well-informed and engaged, FPA launched a new website this year. The clear, purposeful design makes it easy to learn about our issues and programs, whether visitors to the site are already familiar with our work or are just getting to know FPA.

Our streamlined site invites the visitor to follow important legislation and campaigns, keep up on reproductive health care news, and take action and donate to support our advocacy. The home page features a live Twitter feed called That's Outrageous, highlighting some of the most outrageous statements, legislation and other efforts to curtail access to comprehensive reproductive health care around the nation. Experience FPA's new website for yourself at www.familyplanningadvocates.org.

53,000

Number of New Yorkers added to FPA's activists group in 2011.

1.2 million

Number of supporters across the U.S. who joined Planned Parenthood's activists group in 2011.





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