

Notes from the Field

Advocacy updates from the Planned Parenthood Central Coast Action Fund

Meet PPCCAF Board Chair, Danielle De Smeth (she/her)



With a rich background in litigation, Danielle De Smeth is a well-rounded attorney who has represented clients through jury verdict in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties for the last decade. Her areas of practice include constitutional rights, sexual assault and Title IX cases, education law, catastrophic injury, environmental litigation, employment discrimination, and criminal defense. Danielle was raised in Ventura and loves the Central Coast. As a local of the area, she is passionate about working to better her community through numerous volunteer and leadership activities. Danielle is in her second term of service on the Action Fund board and is, in her words, "Constantly impressed by the talented staff and leadership of our Planned Parenthood affiliate. They work tirelessly to effectively champion a person's right to safe, legal abortion and for everyone's access to quality, affordable health care."



March 3rd Primary
VOTER GUIDE
at www.ppccaf.org

Save the Date



September 12, 2020

Canvassing for Joan Hartmann

On Sunday, February 9, a group of PPCCAF volunteers canvassed for Joan Hartmann's reelection as Third District County Supervisor. Volunteers took to the streets of Goleta to talk with voters about Joan Hartmann's dedication to protecting reproductive health care and her continued support of Planned Parenthood. Together we knocked over 600 doors! Thank you, Supervisor Hartmann, for championing reproductive rights!



Roe v. Wade Panel

On Sunday, January 26, PPCCAF participated in the Ventura County Rights Network's annual Roe v. Wade event, Rising up for Roe, at Ventura's Temple Beth Torah. The event featured a panel of experts who led a discussion on the politically-driven nationwide erosion of reproductive rights and the impact on reproductive justice as it relates to law, health care, education, politics, and religion. Over one hundred Ventura supporters attended this powerful event.



Panelists included Jenna Tosh, Ph.D.: PPCCAF President & CEO, Aditi Fruitwala: Staff Attorney for the LGBTQ, Gender, and Reproductive Justice Project of ACLU Southern California, Pamela Lopez: Founder & Producer of the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Community Forum, and Assemblymember Monique Limón.

Rock & Roe

Sixty supporters attended this year's Rock & Roe celebration to commemorate the 47th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Guests arrived in 70's attire and helped bring the theme to life at The Bobcat Room & Wildcat Lounge, where DJ Darla Bea kept the dance floor groovy.



Thank you to our sponsors and all who came to celebrate the right to reproductive freedom! Together we'll fight to ensure that California continues to expand reproductive health care access for all!

We're excited to report that the event raised nearly \$6,000 for PPCCAF's electoral and advocacy work. This funding will be crucial in the Action Fund's advocacy work throughout election season.



Women's March 2020



Ventura

Our Central Coast community showed up on January 18th! Thousands marched in four cities across the Central Coast for justice, reproductive rights, immigrant rights, and equality for all! PPCCAF President & CEO Jenna Tosh, Ph.D. energized the crowd at the Santa Barbara Women's March alongside UCSB Planned Parenthood Generation Action President Tejoni Johnson. Both Jenna and Tejoni highlighted the importance of youth leadership within the reproductive rights movement.

PPCCAF and PPCCC proudly sponsored marches in Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo.

Jenna Tosh attends State of the Union Address



On February 4, Planned Parenthood California Central Coast President & CEO Jenna Tosh, Ph.D. (she/her) attended the State of the Union address as Congressman Salud Carbajal's guest. "The room was tense, and intensely divided," Jenna said, "and the President continued his divisive, misleading attacks on health care. He called for a bill to deny health care to undocumented immigrants. At one point, he called for a ban on abortion later in pregnancy." She described the event as "an exhilarating but challenging night, and a reminder of why we fight and what's at stake." Congressman Carbajal was a phenomenal host and together they were able to reinforce that reproductive health care is health care, and health care is a human right in interviews with several local and national media outlets.

SAVE THE DATE

Planned Parenthood®

CAPITOL DAY

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

JOIN US IN THE FIGHT TO
EXPAND,
NOT BAN, ACCESS TO CARE
IN CALIFORNIA

Take Action!



Capitol Day

Participate in Capitol Day on May 5th! Attend meetings with our elected officials, meet other PPCCAF supporters, and experience politics up close and personal.

Volunteer

Can't make Capitol Day but still want to get involved? Fill out the PPCCAF volunteer application at www.ppccentralcoast.org. Once you've been trained, you will receive updates on PPCCAF volunteer opportunities, too!

Get Social

Want to stay informed about PPCCAF's work with real-time updates? Follow @ppccaf on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



Spotlights:

Volunteer: Ben Vargas (he/him)



Ben is president of the Planned Parenthood Generation Action chapter at Cal Poly SLO. In addition to the on-campus advocacy work that he and the club do regularly, Ben also volunteers as a Patient Greeter at the SLO health center and at PPCCAF's booth at the SLO Farmers Market.

Farmers Market. When asked about his favorite part of volunteering with Planned Parenthood, Ben said, "I love connecting with people to eliminate barriers. I love using my ability to speak Spanish to eliminate the language barrier when it comes to accessing reproductive health care, and using my knowledge about reproductive health to help inform students and community members about their options and the services Planned Parenthood offers." Thanks for all you do, Ben!

Intern: Tejoni Johnson (she/her)



Tejoni is president of the Planned Parenthood Generation Action (PPGA) chapter at UCSB and PPCCAF's current Intern. As someone who believes strongly in Planned Parenthood's mission and who plans to have a career in the health care field, Tejoni sought out an internship to gain experience advocating for health care. In addition to the outreach and advocacy work she and PPGA do on campus, Tejoni has helped with rallies, hosted Democratic Debate watch parties, and developed a love for canvassing: "Being an intern has helped me branch out in my advocacy efforts. Before becoming an intern at PPCCAF, I had never canvassed before. The idea of going door to door and speaking with people I had never met really intimidated me. As an intern, I've helped with healthy neighborhood canvassing where we canvass neighborhoods near the health center and inform the community of the services Planned Parenthood health centers offer. I've also helped with political canvassing, talking with voters about candidates who support reproductive rights. Through canvassing, I was able to connect with community members and help provide our community with valuable health care resources. Canvassing has now become one of my favorite advocacy efforts!"

Meet PPAC's new CEO & President, Jodi Hicks (she/her)



Jodi Hicks became Planned Parenthood Affiliates of CA new CEO & President in September 2019. A longtime health care advocate and lobbyist, she has worked with numerous health care organizations. Hicks previously served as a lobbyist for PPAC and board member for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte. During her time as acting CEO & President at PPAC, Hicks proved her ability to effectively lead the organization, helping to finalize the historic \$100 million included in the CA state budget for sexual and reproductive health care. She was also instrumental in leading legislative priority strategies to secure funding for security measures for health care centers that provide abortions and expand access to birth control through telehealth. Welcome, Jodi Hicks!

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