



NEVADA COUNTY  
**Citizens**  
 EDUCATED CHOICES *for* LIFE  
**Choice**

► *Message from the President* ►

In this issue of *Voices* we're highlighting our Outreach Educators – Sarah Molaro and Kristen Darling.

They are the “face” of Citizens for Choice in western Nevada County and are the trusted voices of reason overcoming the misinformation from the proponents of abstinence-only and crisis pregnancy centers. We know that teens talk to each other about their reproductive and contraception needs – that’s why we are so proud of the effective work of Sarah and Kristen who give factual information and talk honestly and openly about informed decision making, safer sex, and other sensitive topics.

We Board members are another “face” of Citizens for Choice as we communicate, advertise, and reach out to you, our members and potential members. Women’s Health Specialists partner with us at The Clinic! to provide a safety net for many of western Nevada County’s teens who come into The Clinic! seeking medical attention for contraception, a pregnancy test, or testing for STDs. They turn to The Clinic! and our partners, WHS, to provide convenient and complete reproductive health services. We are meeting dual challenges – serving more teens and women and men of reproductive age, and continuing to fight for investment in health care programs, and reform in the state and federal legislatures.

The third “face” of Citizens for Choice is you – our members, advocates, proponents, and advertisers. For twenty years you, your friends, neighbors, and colleagues have continued to express your personal commitment to the work of Citizens for Choice. Each time you

contribute, or tell a friend about Citizens for Choice, you are an antidote to the misleading anti-choice messages.

If there was ever a time to support your Nevada County prochoice group and The Clinic! this is it. Your consistent financial support is more important than ever. It strengthens our ability to meet our goal to find the resources to protect and ensure a woman’s right to choose, and to keep birth control, family planning advice, and testing accessible to men, women and youth of reproductive age. This is especially critical since the closing of the Teen Clinic at the Nevada County Department of Public Health. Additionally, we are working to ensure that our high schools’ sex education classes include medically accurate information as California state law requires. We must be strong and proactive at this time of cut backs in so many health and human services programs.

Anti-choice activists may feel emboldened by the murder of Dr. Tiller and when both the President and Congressional majority are prochoice, abortion-rights opponents often become more active. With your help we can raise our voice and be the choice of clients looking for the best resources for reproductive health services.

Please save Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 for the Citizens for Choice 20th Anniversary celebration at the Miner’s Foundry in Nevada City. Because of members and supporters like you, we know it will be a truly memorable event.

I am, another Grandmother for Choice,  
*Sharon O’Hara*

►► *Public Policy* ►►

**Nevada County Supervisors Vote to Cut Funding for Teen Clinic**  
*by Elaine Sierra*

On May 26, 2009, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Department of Health and Human Services Agency to balance departmental funding by eliminating the teen reproductive health clinic in Grass Valley, effective July 1. At the required public hearing, witnesses including public health expert

*continued on page 3*

**July 2009**  
 Volume 13 Issue 3

**2009 Board**

*President*  
 Sharon O’Hara

*Vice President*  
 Ingrid Elsef

*Secretary*  
 Nancy Eubanks

*Treasurer*  
 Charlotte Cammon

Judith McCarrick  
 Linda McManus  
 Suzanne Smith  
 Ilene Zolt

**Public Policy**  
 Elaine Sierra  
 Cecelia Royal

**Contact us**

P.O. Box 3525  
 Grass Valley, CA 95945

[www.citizensforchoice.org](http://www.citizensforchoice.org)  
[info@citizensforchoice.org](mailto:info@citizensforchoice.org)

MySpace:  
<http://www.myspace.com/nevcochoice>

*Editor:* Linda McManus  
[lindamc@its.caltech.edu](mailto:lindamc@its.caltech.edu)

**The Clinic!**

120 Richardson St,  
 Suite D, Grass Valley

Monday 10:30—5  
 Wednesday 1 – 6  
 No appointment  
 necessary!

530.274.3331  
 This number will be  
 answered during  
 clinic hours; at all other  
 times messages will be  
 retrieved at least weekly..

## ►► *Public Policy* ►►

### **Women's Foundation Also Working for Women's Rights** *by Elaine Sierra*

The Women's Foundation of California has long been known for its philanthropy aimed at improving the lives of women and girls, primarily through its support of progressive grassroots organizations like our own Citizens for Choice. But, did you know that it advocates for women-focused public policies on its own?

Partnering with numerous charitable organizations throughout California, The Women's Foundation promotes improvements in the areas of social justice, environmental justice, reproductive health and rights, and civil rights. Under the leadership of its current CEO, Judy Patrick, the Foundation has trained representatives from among its grant partners in public policy advocacy, through its annual Women's Policy Institute. The author was selected to participate on behalf of Citizens for Choice for the 2005-06 year, to enhance our own ability to advocate for equitable reproductive health and rights policies.

The Foundation has been active this year in urging that legislators and the governor place a high priority on women's health and welfare needs in deciding how to deal with California's ongoing budget crisis. For an example, see [http://www.womensfoundca.org/site/c.aqKGLROAIrH/b.982279/k.3F9E/Top\\_Stories.htm](http://www.womensfoundca.org/site/c.aqKGLROAIrH/b.982279/k.3F9E/Top_Stories.htm). For general information about the Foundation, go to its website, [www.womensfound.org](http://www.womensfound.org).

Let us acknowledge the contributions that the Foundation continues to make to ensure that policy makers in our state address the concerns of advocates for women. And, let's be proud to be counted as part of its community of grant partners, all working toward the betterment of women.

### ►► **California State Budget: with Cuts and Loans, a Budget Deal is Made** *by Cece Royal*

Relying in part on funding from the State, The Clinic! has a vested interest in the solvency of the California State budget. The State's budget deficit and the impasse it created are finally ending. This morning (7/21/09) the Governor and leaders of the legislature announced an agreement to a budget deal fashioned through cuts to education and State services, funding shifts, and loans from Wall Street. A floor vote is expected July 23 (Thursday).

If you have been paying attention at all, you know that California, once considered a model of economic success is now a model for how a system can fail. How to fail? (1) hold the budget hostage to a minority by requiring a 2/3 vote to pass any increase in taxes, and (2) place initiatives on the ballot that voters pass but for which no funds exist. Combine this situation with recession-based drops in property/sales tax revenue, and you end up with a broken, paralyzed system. No longer able to pay its bills, the State now issues IOUs to its vendors and creditors. In reaction to this fiscal distress, Wall Street has downgraded California's bond rating as reported on CNN, July 7: "California has the lowest bond rating of any state, and therefore must pay higher interest rates than its peers when it issues debt. Whatever agreement officials come to will likely rely heavily on borrowing to balance the budget for the current fiscal year."

California is not alone in experiencing a budget deficit. Forty-seven states are experiencing budget shortfalls. Sixteen have hiked taxes; seventeen are considering hikes. But

*continued on next page*

**Citizens for Choice thanks the following donors who generously gave between 4/15/09 and 7/22/09**

#### **Choice Circle**

Linda McManus  
& Bill Bridges

#### **Sustainer**

Steve & Nancy Eubanks  
Charles Lindquist  
Jan & Julia Nelson

#### **Advocate**

Roger Baker  
Janice & Rod Bedayn  
Patsy Davison Bibelheimer  
Olivia Diaz  
& Ernest Malamud  
Laurel & Gerald Knapp  
June Knight  
Linda & Carl Marschall  
Cheryl & John Morris  
Chris & Bill Newsom  
Sheila & Tim O'Connor  
Darlene & Roy Paulsen  
George & Zaida Petievich  
Roberto Riley  
Paul & Donna G. Russell  
Ruth Schwartz  
Harry & Karen Wyeth

#### **Supporter**

Vince Alcantar  
Marty Austin  
Jeanine M. Barrington  
Marion & Claire Becker  
Gerri V. Bergen  
Carol Brodsky  
John & Caroline Burnside  
Rudy & Jeannie Darling  
George & J.L. Dunstan  
Ingrid Elsei  
Gwen Eymann  
Mara Faust  
Glenn & Joan Frazier  
Larry Friedler, M.D.  
Maiya Gralia  
Otto & Shirley Haueisen  
N. Lovice Hinsdale  
Linda B. Horwitz  
Richard Johnson, M.D.  
Cary & Karen Korobkin  
Roy & Dorothy Leighton  
Marion Linden  
Wiley Martin

& Joyce McKay

*continued on page 5*

California is one among 37 states that see cutting services as the only solution to consider. The Clinic! as a public service is likely to experience cuts in funding and delayed reimbursements from MediCal.

Ironically, cuts to services like those offered by The Clinic! result in an increase in long-term, permanent costs to society as a whole. Donations you make now to The Clinic! impact us all, allowing a vital service to continue to function for those women/families in need. We will see in the months ahead how the State grapples with cuts to services and how The Clinic! fares throughout. We will keep you posted.

***Ironically, cuts to services  
like those offered by The Clinic! result in an increase  
in long-term, permanent costs to society***

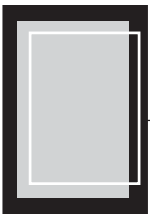
*Teen Clinic continued from page 1*

Alexa Curtis, Elaine Sierra on behalf of Citizens for Choice and Women's Health Specialists, concerned mothers of teens, community members and teens unanimously voiced opinions about the importance of the services the teen clinic provides to teens in the county. Over 475 teens used clinic services in 2008, and 444 have used them so far this year. Alexa Curtis's testimony was an especially passionate call to retain the clinic, castigating the county for failing to prioritize to meet the needs of its most vulnerable populations over the years, and repeatedly cutting funding for health and human services for women and teens. Hannah Limov, who helped form the peer health group at the Nevada Union campus, also warned that closing the teen clinic would eliminate critical outreach efforts. Elaine Sierra referred supervisors to the packet of detailed information prepared by Susan Rogers and submitted in advance, for factual support on the need for the clinic's specialized services, the unique reproductive health needs of teens, and the cost effectiveness of such programs. All agreed that the teen clinic is the only facility offering comprehensive services tailored to teens and that adolescents are an especially vulnerable population.

DHHS head Jeffrey Brown advised the supervisors that the elimination of the clinic would result in cost savings of \$184,000 this budget year. Presenting the department's fiscal situation as dire, Brown indicated that the department was expected to have a shortfall of \$762,000 for the 2008-09 fiscal year, growing to \$1 million for 2009-10 without corrective actions. A primary cause he cited for county budget problems is decreased funding from the state, noting

also that most HHS expenditures, such as for indigent medical care and communicable diseases, are mandatory, while teen clinic services are not. According to Brown, the department's aim was to live within its means while maintaining core public health services, suggesting that other providers – Miners Family Health, Chapa-De, and the WHS clinic (i.e. The Clinic!) — could adequately serve the teen population. He indicated that the department has been working with the schools to ensure some school-based services will continue. Yet, he admitted that school districts are not providing the school-based health education programs that they should be because of their own lack of funding, and are looking at alternative providers. He also noted that the recently initiated Peer Advocates for Health program at Nevada Union High School would be changed, apparently to have less of a reproductive health focus.

Since the teen clinic closing, the new Director of Public Health, Dr. Karen Millman, has clarified that the Peer Advocates program is actually planned for expansion, with a broader focus that will include reproductive health, as well as other health-related peer education. The new effort is made possible by a federal grant of about \$1 million a year recently awarded to the school district. Dr. Millman also expressed optimism that Miners Family Health Center's new teen-oriented clinic will help serve teens that formerly used the teen clinic. The new clinic will be open two-and-one-half days a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm, with a private entrance. Opened in June, it will expand its hours into Thursday evenings once school starts.



## ▶▶▶▶▶ *Outreach*

**The Outreach Team** by Linda McManus

*Outreach (owt-reech): to reach further than, to surpass. Outreach program: a program run to help people in a community.*

Have you wondered what exactly our Outreach Team does? Most of you may be aware that we have two part-time Outreach Educators on contract but may not know who they are or exactly what they do. And just this year the Citizens for Choice Board gained a new member whose background melded nicely with those of the already-established Outreach workers, and who agreed to become the Outreach Coordinator.

That Outreach Coordinator is Ilene Zolt whose healthcare experience includes working for community-based organizations in San Francisco and the East Bay in HIV/AIDS outreach, and as a disease intervention specialist for the city and county, San Francisco Department of Public Health, in TB and STI control; and who is a California certified HIV/AIDS counselor and a Public Health trained phlebotomist. She works closely with Outreach Educators Sarah Molaro and Kristen Darling and is the interface between the team and the Citizens for Choice Board.

As for Sarah and Kristen, in only 16 hours a week they pack in a lot of work; a lot of indispensable work that helps our community, especially young women and men, in understanding reproduction, their bodies and their emotions. Their enthusiasm, experience, and education makes up their worth. Perhaps you heard their interview on June 20 on KVMR? Although short, they gave a good description of what they do. We hope to have more interviews on KVMR, including a call-in interview.

Although only in their 20s (Sarah is 28 and Kristen is 25), they have been involved in reproductive justice since they were in high school; they have been educated in STIs (sexually transmitted infections) and birth control methods; and are experienced in meeting and teaching the public. Both are graduates of Nevada Union High School where they first became involved in reproductive issues. They have always worked closely with teens, working at the Teen Clinic and also with TeenSMART (established through the state to reduce the risk of teen pregnancy and STIs), including some

counseling and assessment around reproductive health and relationships.

Sarah has an AA in Liberal Studies with an emphasis in Health Education, and twelve years of experience in the field. Both she and Kristen were in the Peer Advocate program in high school (a team of students who have been trained to conduct reproductive

health and outreach) that started the pilot program; today Sarah now runs that program through Nevada County's Health Department.

Besides being involved in the Peer Advocate pilot program as a Peer Advocate and HIV counselor, Kristen has had training with a nurse practitioner, and has a BA in Sociology from Mills College. During college she worked on the ACCESS reproductive health hotline in Oakland and is also a trained volunteer Crisis Counselor for DVSAC (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition), and does case management for people living with HIV/AIDS through Nevada County Public Health.

They help the community in a variety of ways, all of which are important:



*Kristen and Sarah, the Outreach Educators*

**Street Outreach:** every weekend and some Thursdays they start in Grass Valley, then wend their way to Nevada City, visiting bars, parks, liquor stores, and youth hangouts, carrying informational baskets containing condoms, lubricants, and sexual educational materials. They answer questions – and gratefully accept donations for Citizens for Choice.

In their experience, the teens that they meet are fairly shy and are very impressionable so it is extremely important that the information the teens get is free from bias and is medically accurate. Outreach absolutely does not use scare tactics, they are very careful to give unbiased information. They have rarely been hassled but do occasionally hear sexual jokes (probably bravado!) and their reaction, either joking back or a quiet remark of “That’s distasteful,” depending on the situation, takes care of the problem. Mostly the kids are very responsive and very thankful, and some will pull them aside to ask private questions about birth control or STIs. And they’re happy to hear about The Clinic! The Team considers this a bit of education, a little at a time.

They hope (as do we!) that, time and budget permitting, they can also reach out to people living in Washington (at one time, they did go there), North San Juan, and Penn Valley.

**Informational baskets:** Almost 25 local businesses display informational baskets that are filled with condoms and lubricants, STI facts, and general information on sex education. The baskets also contain Citizens for Choice brochures, and flyers about The Clinic! We urge you to support these businesses – a list of the businesses can be found on our website, <http://www.citizensforchoice.org/programs.html> and on the sidebar to the right.



**Future Work:** Because the Teen Clinic closed in July, the gap left in the community has grown into an abyss. One that's too great for Sarah and Kristen to fill without more hours and more Outreach workers, and one that Citizens for Choice would like to fill but can't because of our own budget constraints. Miners Community Health Clinic will be taking some of the clients, but it's unlikely that they will have an Outreach program.

We are working on implementing a Sexual Education Center one or two days a week at the Richardson Street site,

on off-clinic days. Teens, adults, parents – anyone would be welcome to visit to obtain reproductive and sexual health information, have their questions answered, attend presentations, and join in open discussions.

**Tablings:** Sarah and Kristen will often “table” events, that is, staff a table at a local event such as markets, street fairs, and special events in Grass Valley and Nevada City. At these events, they'll have an informational basket (identical as those in the local business), Citizens for Choice brochures and booklets, and brochures about STIs, birth control, and abstinence. They are advocates of open communication and will have information for parents on ways to approach the subject of sex with their children so that education can start at home. They will be glad to answer questions that you have about Citizens for Choice, The Clinic!, birth control methods, and HIV and STIs.

**Presentations:** Sarah and Kristen, together or separately, are available for presentations about birth control methods (including abstinence), STI facts, HIV/AIDS, and self-image. As one example, they have presented at Common Goals, a substance abuse counseling service located in Nevada City.

In addition, Sarah and Kristen have a lot of ideas for the future:

- More presentations, to school groups and clubs, to seniors (yes, due in part to Viagra and Cialis, there has been a rise in the number of STIs in retirement homes), to private groups of parents or teens, etc.
- A greater emphasis placed on STI awareness such as more advertisements during April, the STI awareness month
- Radio interviews or perhaps a radio show
- Doubling the amount of informational baskets at local shops and businesses
- A thrift store

We at Citizens for Choice are lucky to have them working for us, and we'll continue to strive to better utilize their talents and to reach further in helping the people in our community.

### Supporters

*continued from page 2*

- Beverly & Ron Mathis  
 Helen McDonald  
 Deborah L. Morawski  
 Richard  
 & Patricia Pennock  
 Deborah Pinto  
 & Alan Rosenbloom  
 Joy & Larry Ransdell  
 Joan Rogers-Toensing  
 & Bill Toensing  
 Mary Hall Ross  
 Myrsa R. Schrijver  
 Gretchen Serrata  
 Elaine Sierra  
 & Frank Ribeiro  
 Edi & Al Silverman  
 Audrey Ohlson Smith  
 Susan A. Snider  
 Carolyn & Bob Standley  
 Carol & Kenneth Tonge  
 Robin Wallace  
 Kate Winningham

### Friend

- Carolyn W. Mumm  
 Lucile Schuler  
 Anita Wald-Tuttle

### Baskets!

The following businesses have graciously allowed us space in their store to display our informational baskets:

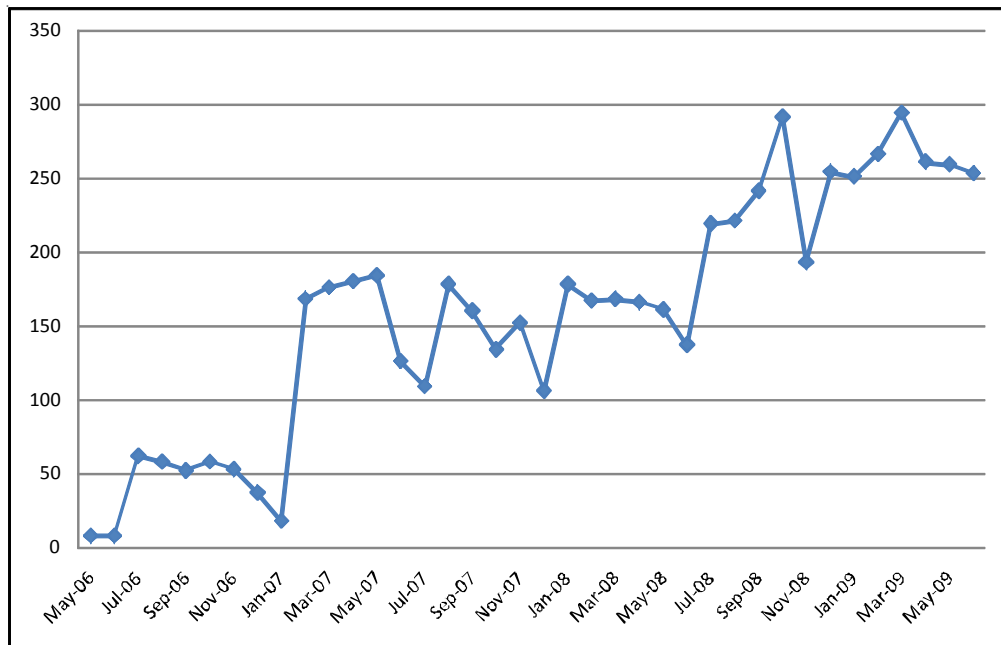
- After the Gold Rush Records  
 Behind Closed Doors  
 The Blue Jean Store  
 The Bottle Shop  
 BriarPatch  
 Classic Tattoo  
 Common Goals  
 Diamond Tattoo  
 DVSAC  
 Foggy Mountain Music  
 Good Times Skate Shop  
 Maternity Health Center  
 Mekka Cafe  
 Nito's Hats and T-shirts  
 Sacred Bee  
 Sierra College Health Center  
 Teez Me  
 The Clinic!  
 Tribal Weaver  
 WIC (Women, Infants & Children Services)



## ▶▶▶▶ Outreach

### The Clinic! by Linda McManus

While month-to-month client visits to our reproductive healthcare clinic fluctuate (there are definite dips during January, one of the coldest months), the number has been steadily increasing since its opening in May 2006. There have now been over 6000 client visits, and this while only being open one day a week in the first year, and only two days a week thereafter. The monthly average from July 2008 to July 2009 is 250.



**What does The Clinic! Offer?** The Clinic!, a partnership between Women's Health Specialists of California (WHS, who staff the clinic) and Citizens for Choice (who pay for the rent, utilities, and equipment) offers reproductive services for everyone, both women and men. All primary care concerns not falling under the reproductive umbrella are referred to other clinics or groups.

Being the child-bearing gender, the field of family planning has more to offer women than men. Currently there is no male contraceptive pill on the market, nor is there a male test (like the pap smear) or vaccine for HPV.

The services include:

- Sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing for women and men, of Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, herpes (if the client has a lesion at the time), HPV, HIV, Syphilis, and vaginitis for women
- STI treatment of the above infections, except for Syphilis and HIV, which treatments are specialized and are referred to an outside agency as recommended by the CDC
- Birth control, many kinds, including [The Pill](#), [IUD](#), [Depo Provera](#), [Nuvaring](#), [the Patch](#), [Cervical Cap](#), [Diaphragm](#), Vaginal Film, [Condoms](#), and [Contraceptive Foam](#)
- Pregnancy testing – the results are given the same day
- Pap smear and pelvic
- Breast exams and Mammogram referrals
- Abortion referrals. WHS offers both medical and surgical abortions at their other facilities, and coordinates rides to the appointments through ACCESS, <http://www.whrc-access.org/>. They offer referrals for any abortion beyond their scope
- Adoption referrals. WHS operates Adoption Choices of Northern California <http://www.womenshealthspecialists.org/default.asp?cf=adoption/aboutus>, a program designed to give birth mothers control of their adoption process.

# The Clinic!

- Pre-natal information
- Health information and education counseling, including options counseling for pregnant women; options counseling for birth control; self-help information; and health information counseling for HIV/AIDS and all forms of STIs. WHS does not provide mental health counseling or positive HIV/AIDS counseling and refers to an appropriate licensed therapist or County program. Self-esteem issues can be the tip of the iceberg of a mental health issue and so are also referred to an appropriate agency. *Many women have visited a WHS clinic thinking that they needed some sort of mental health counseling, but after consultation with WHS staff realize that what they actually needed was unbiased and medically accurate information from a non-judgmental source.*
- HPV is not currently offered at this time but WHS will make referrals to appropriate providers. The typical cost of a three-shot vaccine is \$120 per shot or \$360 per series, a prohibitive cost for most.

The services that clients most often request are for birth control, annual exams, and STI testing. Less requested is pregnancy testing; abortion referrals are few.

**Service Fees** The majority of clients are eligible for the Family PACT program, a state-run family planning program (see the details later in the article). It is intended to serve women and men who can produce children and so the eligibility depends on that factor. WHS however will work with each woman individually on a care plan so that even if they may not qualify for Family PACT, she may still qualify for free or low cost services after speaking to their Phone Counseling Department. WHS has other funds available, and does have a vast amount of community network resources.

WHS's policies are designed to be as inclusive as possible for women, as women are disproportionately underinsured, uninsured, and underpaid. Many are single heads of households. Many factors are taken into account when determining eligibility and cost. Factors include but are not limited to: financial hardship; lack of permanent employment; seasonal/temporary work status; undocumented status; single head of household; recent lay off; confidentiality issues (i.e., spouse, parent or eligibility worker); lack of transportation; childcare resources; and geographic and language barriers.

In the infrequent case of not qualifying for one of the programs or funds, WHS has a fee schedule which would apply. No one is turned away.

**Family PACT** is the family planning program most used. Within the California Department of Public Health is The Office of Family Planning (OFP) which is charged by the California legislature "to

make available to citizens of the State who are of childbearing age comprehensive medical knowledge, assistance, and services relating to the planning of families.' The purpose of family planning is to provide women and men a means by which they decide for themselves the number, timing, and spacing of their children." <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/ofp/Pages/default.aspx>.

One of the programs implemented (in 1997) is the Family PACT (Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment). Family PACT is California's innovative approach to provide comprehensive family planning services to eligible low income men and women (whose annual income is equal to or less than 200% of the current poverty guideline, which in 2009 was \$10,830 for a family of one). This clinical program increases access to services by expanding the provider network to include medical providers, pharmacies and laboratories. <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/FamilyPact/Pages/default.aspx>

In 2005 the Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy (University of San Francisco) submitted a cost-benefit analysis of the year 2002 to the Office of Family Planning <http://www.familypact.org/resources/documents/Cost%20Benefit%20Final%20Report%20%201-28-05.pdf>, finding that the prevention of an unintended pregnancy results in significant cost-savings to the federal, state, and local governments. The program's total expenditure in 2002 was \$403.8 million; by preventing almost 205,000 unintended pregnancies, the total public sector cost-savings of the pregnancies averted by Family PACT in that year was over \$1.1 billion up to two years after birth, and \$2.2 billion five years after birth (approximately \$8 saved for every \$1 spent).

In 1999, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) approved a Medicaid 1115(b) Waiver Demonstration Project for Family PACT (meaning that certain federal laws have been waived), providing a federal match for the funding of contraceptive services, currently around 75% of the total spent. Under the Bush Administration, the fate of Family PACT was uncertain (the waiver expired in 2004 and was put on a month-to-month extension. See previous newsletters), and although under the Obama Administration the federal government has extended the waiver until September 2009, its fate is still uncertain – it is still on a month-to-month extension <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/FamilyPACTMedi-CalWaiver.aspx>.

**Down the Road...** We are indeed glad that WHS and Citizens for Choice have joined together to offer this service to Nevada County, especially now that the County's Teen Clinic has closed. And we can only hope that the Obama administration will agree that the cost-benefit of Family PACT demands that the waiver be extended for years (typically five) instead of just months.

**Don't miss the October newsletter which will introduce you to the staff at The Clinic!**

▶▶▶▶▶ *Choice Programs & Events!* ▶▶▶▶▶

**September 25** Cooking class with [In the Kitchen!](#) Sign up early, only 30 tickets are available!

**October** Family Sexuality Education Month. We hope to bring back this informational event - panels, discussions, and presentations on how to talk to your children about sex. We also hope to open our Sexual Education Center at the Richardson site!

**November 6** Citizens for Choice turns 20!



*Save the dates!*

**Cooking Class!** On Friday September 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. Wendy Van Wagner of the cooking school in Nevada City, In the Kitchen, will be holding a cooking class for 30 participants. Wendy empahsizes the use of local and organic produce and provides a unique experience in an intimate setting, bringing people together through cooking and breaking bread. Enjoy wine, hors de oeuvres, and good company!



**Champagne and Chocolate!**

On November 6 Citizens for Choice will be celebrating a 20th anniversary. It was 1989 when a group of women from AAUW and BPW joined together to promote reproductive justice in Nevada County. The event will be held in the Miners Foundry in Nevada City from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.