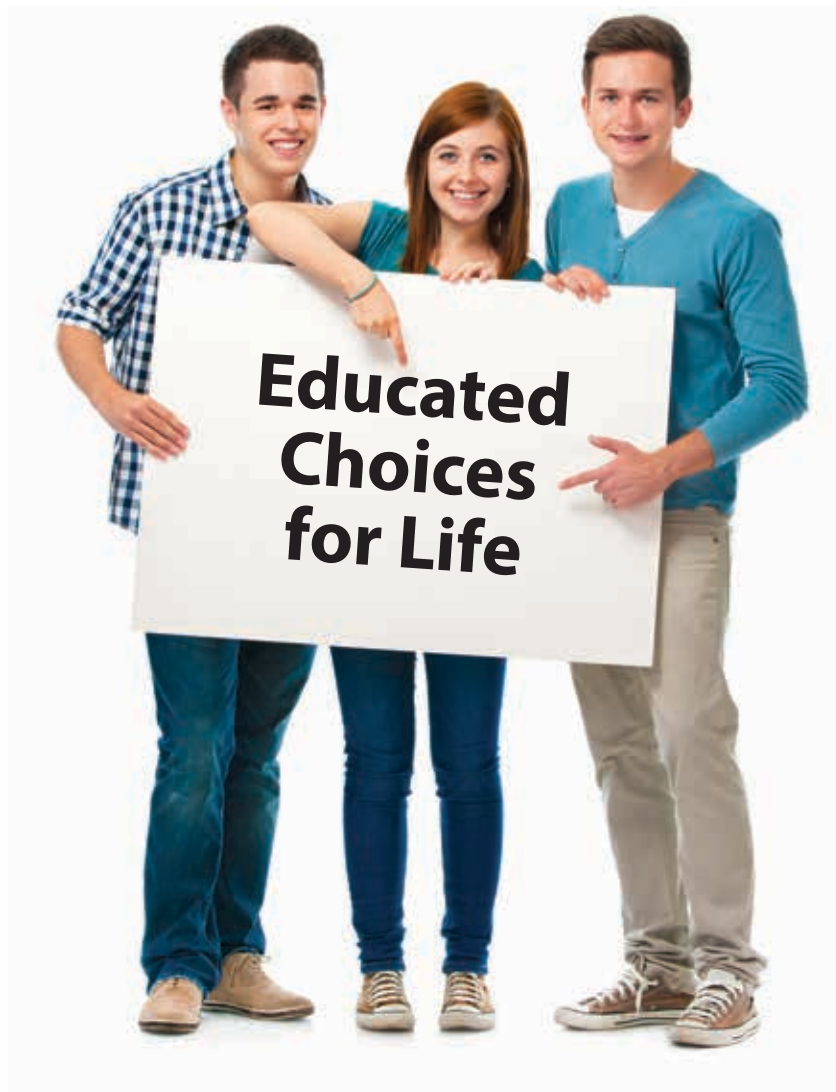




Voices for Choice

SPRING 2017
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Citizens for Choice promotes reproductive justice through education, health care access and advocacy. We exist to inform and enable choice.

Voices for Choice

SPRING 2017 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S LETTER By Kimberly D'Urso President

TOWN HALL MEETING WITH LA MALFA

We sent this article on March 3, after the meeting with Rep. LaMalfa. The Town Hall was attended by 1000 people, according to KCRA, <http://www.krcrtv.com/news/local/northstate/large-and-spirited-crowd-greets-republican-lamalfa-at-grass-valley-town-hall-meeting/402748179> Citizens for Choice is very proud of being a part of the push for this Town Hall. Mr. LaMalfa answered questions just as I thought he would, from a conservative perspective. What disappointed me was his apparent lack of real knowledge on issues and his use of sound bites and simple answers. I expected more leadership and clarity, although I appreciate his willingness to attend the town hall. Shortly after this, he has continued to vote in step with the conservative agenda that devalues women and health care for all (ACA).

—Kimberly D'Urso

CONGRESSMAN DOUG LAMALFA AGREES TO HOLD TOWN HALL MEETINGS IN 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First Town Hall to Be Held in Nevada County in April

GRASS VALLEY – After meeting with a coalition of Nevada County leadership today, 1st Congressional District Representative Doug LaMalfa's office committed to having the congressman host multiple town hall meetings in the district in April. Dates and venues have yet to be decided, but the first town hall will be held in Nevada County, LaMalfa's representatives said.

Today's meeting took place in LaMalfa's Auburn district office. Attending were representatives from The League of Women Voters Western Nevada County (Tracy Pepper); Nevada City Rancheria Tribal Council (Shelly Covert); Nevada County Citizens for Choice (Kimberly D'Urso); Women Indivisible Nevada County (Stephanie Nix);

Mobilize NC (Georgette Aronow); Nevada County Democratic Women's Club (Debra Worth); Business and Professional Women, American Association of University Women, and the California Senior Leaders Alliance (Elaine Sierra, J.D.). Attending on behalf of Congressman LaMalfa were Mark Spannagel, Chief of Staff; Lisa Mara, District 1 Representative; and Erin Marie Ryan, District 1 Representative.

Kimberly D'Urso, president of Nevada County Citizens for Choice, delivered a sampling of the written statements collected from the 9,628 online petition signatures requesting that LaMalfa hold a town hall in Nevada County.

Topics discussed in the meeting included:

1. The importance of transparency in government at federal, state and local levels.
2. Rights of citizens to access and engage with their elected officials.
3. Environmental solutions that protect natural resources and avoid placing people in harm's way.
4. The federal restoration of the Nisenan Tribe and concerns regarding the proposed Centennial Dam and cultural sites that would be destroyed.
5. Safeguarding the Affordable Care Act.
6. Sustaining rural access to quality reproductive health care in Nevada County and preserving Title X funding.

7. New paradigms for difficult discussions, the importance of engagement and active listening.

The meeting lasted three hours. The conversation was respectful and frank. All attendees had ample time to speak, and a positive tone was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Congressman LaMalfa's office acknowledged our urgent town hall request and confirmed that he is looking

forward to town halls in District 1 in April, with Nevada County being his first stop.

Agreement was reached that the Nevada County town hall event will be moderated by the League of Women Voters, with the venue to be arranged by Congressman LaMalfa's office. Tracy Pepper, board member of LOWVNC, asserted that the League, as a non-partisan organization, would moderate the town hall to ensure a civil and organized event offering a productive exchange of information and ideas. The ultimate goal is an event where citizens come to be informed, engaged, and feel heard by their representative.

Stephanie Nix, spokesperson for Indivisible Women Nevada County, presented an innovative and creative format proposal for the town hall. Nix said that IWNC would like to re-imagine the town hall status quo format, resulting in a national "Reframing of Rural America," offering more constructive dialogue and a less-contentious town hall environment.

(This press release appeared March 3, 2017. The Town Hall was very well-attended. Coverage has continued into April.)



Left to Right: Stephanie Nix (Women Indivisible Nevada County), Debra Worth (Nevada County Democratic Women's Club), Shelly Covert (Nevada City Rancheria Tribal Council), Elaine Sierra (Business and Professional Women, American Association of University Women, and The California Senior Leaders Alliance), Kimberly D'Urso (Nevada County Citizens for Choice), Tracy Pepper (The League of Women Voters Western Nevada County), Georgette Aronow (Mobilize NC)

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS LEGISLATION

By Elaine Sierra, Public Policy Director

Citizens for Choice is advocating for or against bills in the California legislature with the goal of increasing access to reproductive health services and protecting choice. Our priority bills include those that address college student access to medication abortion, employment discrimination related to women's reproductive health choices, and Medi-Cal enrollees' choice of family planning providers.

Together with our ally organizations in the California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, we are focusing on advocacy for these bills during Reproductive Freedom Week, April 9-15.

One is SB 320, which would require public higher education institutions with student health centers that receive state funding to provide medication abortion for students. It would apply to UC, CSU and community college campuses, allowing for safe medication abortion access for students up to 10 weeks of pregnancy. Currently, no such health center provides that service.

A second bill is AB 569, which would protect California workers from firing or any other adverse employment actions based on reproductive health choices like using birth control or in vitro fertilization, or being pregnant and unmarried. Instances of employers discriminating against women

in those circumstances have been reported.

The third bill is SB 743, which would create a California version of the federal "freedom of choice" requirement for family planning providers, for Medi-Cal managed care enrollees. That 1986 federal law allows enrollees to choose their preferred community-based, out-of-network providers. However, we believe that the law's protections are at risk, given the current hostile environment at the federal level toward reproductive rights.

Another bill that we support would provide additional funding for Planned Parenthood, Women's Health Specialists and other Family PACT providers of health services, through a special license plate program (SB 309). A bill we oppose would exclude students from electronic communications privacy rights available to other Californians (AB 165).

Citizens for Choice will continue its legislative advocacy on reproductive health, rights and justice in California, as these bills progress through both houses, the Assembly and the Senate.

We urge you to regularly check our Facebook page to keep up with policy and advocacy and to learn how you can help.

Thank all of you for your support!
—Elaine Sierra



A Victory for Digital Privacy: AB 165 Halted in California Assembly

This bill would have stripped digital privacy from six million students and teachers.

Sacramento—Facing staunch coalition opposition, Assembly Member Jim Cooper has pulled AB 165 from consideration by the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee. More than 60 leading civil rights organizations, major technology companies, and school community groups banded together to stop AB 165 and protect the digital privacy of California students and teachers.

Read more at www.aclunc.org/news/victory-digital-privacy-ab-165-halted-california-assembly

—Nicole A. Ozer, Esq.
Technology and Civil Liberties Policy Director, ACLU of California

AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED: Citizens for Choice is looking to expand our Board of Directors and to fill out our committees. We invite you, our supporters, to join us. Consider these options:

Executive Assistant. This contract position is for 10 hours of work per month. The Executive Assistant works with donors, organizes (Fall Fundraiser and other functions), and works with the Board and its organization.

Volunteer: Positions available include donor relations, marketing/PR, outreach coordinator, financial/bookkeeping, Clinic liaison, condom fairies, volunteer coordinator, and sex education presenter (training available). We also have a very active advocacy group.

Are you interested? email us at info@citizensforchoice.org

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P.O. Box 3525, Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-274-3331
phone messages retrieved weekly
email: info@citizensforchoice.org

DONORS

Citizens for Choice thanks the following donors whose generosity was received Spring 2017

Sandra "Marlene" Katz, Ph.D.

(April 6, 1936 - March 10, 2017)



Art and Marlene Katz, Ph.D.

Marlene has been a board member and treasured friend of Citizens for Choice for many years. Marlene was a professor of business, who earned her Ph.D. in Business Administration at Golden Gate University in San Francisco. She was the first woman to complete the university's doctoral business program. She included book reviews and comments on literature for Voices and was a diligent mah jong player. She was very valuable phoning Citizens for Choice donors and expressing her (and our) gratitude. Lisa, one of her daughters, said at her memorial service that Marlene touched many people's lives as evidenced by the number of folks who stopped them when walking in the Bay Area. We honor her and miss her. Marlene is survived by her husband, Arthur Katz, her two daughters, Michelle and Lisa, and a sister, Janet.

Anonymous
Vince Alcantar
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Jackie Wilson

Condom Locations

Asylum Down | Behind Closed Doors Fantasy Boutique | BriarPatch Co-op | Classic Tattoo | Common Goals | Coopers CoRR (Community Recovery Resources) | Crazy Horse Saloon and Grill | DVSAAC (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition) | Foggy Mountain Music | FoxHound Espresso & Coffee Roaster | Gary's Place Saloon | Goodtimes Boardstore | Grateful Ink Tattoo | HAALo | Ink Expressed Tattoo | Dr. E. Lernhardt, MD (PV) | McGees | Mine Shaft Saloon | The Open Book | Sierra Care Pediatrics (GV) | Sierra Care Physicians (PV) | Sierra College Health Services | Sierra Family Medical Clinic (NSJ) | Sierra Mountain Coffee Roasters | Tribal Weaver | Valentina's Organic Bistro and Bakery | WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

eScrip E-scrip Contributions—They Really Help!

Contributions, just at SPD through February 2017, were \$670 dollars based on 3 per cent of your purchases. Contributions may be made to Citizens for Choice through e-scrip at Safeway, Save-Mart, and SPD Markets, and at amazonPrime. Check at your favorite store to see just how to do it. For example, such contributions have been made at SPD by obtaining a key ring card. Your shopping—and we all need to eat!—supports our work and keeps the Clinic! open. Thank you!

Thank you!

You help us provide services at *The Clinic!*, education programs like *Know It & Own It*, and advocacy for us all.

THE
Clinic!

At *The Clinic!* your sexual and reproductive health is *always* your choice.

Mondays 11:00-4:00
Wednesdays 11:00-4:00
530-521-3273 The Clinic!

120 Richardson St. Suite A, Grass Valley, CA 95945

800-714-8151 ~ 24/7
Women's Health Specialists

Indivisible Women Of Nevada County

By Sharon O'Hara, Vice President for Programs

We are INDIVISIBLE!

We are a results-oriented collective of women who are committed to engaging more fully at local, state and national levels to transform our political process. Our group is made up of amazing women volunteering to improve our current political environment.

We come from every walk of life and welcome all women to join us as we move into action together--indivisible.

Initially formed as Nevada County Women United, a group of dedicated women community activists realized the great benefit of aligning with this movement: INDIVISIBLE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR RESISTING THE TRUMP AGENDA <https://www.indivisibleguide.com/web/>

The Indivisible Women Nevada County's Women's Rights Interest Team formed on Jan. 29th followed by meetings on Feb. 19th and on March 4 and 25 at The Clinic!

Headed up by Wendy Wernigg and Kate Wannamaker, the team chose as their mis-

sion statement: "To protect, expand, and advance women's rights as human rights both locally and nationally." They selected these four main topics about which to educate, advocate, and publicize actions and updates:

1. Funding reproductive healthcare/The Title X Family Planning Program
2. Eliminate violence against women
3. Revive the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
4. Intersectional Feminism

At the February 4th meeting, Citizens for Choice's Public Policy Director Elaine Sierra gave a thorough overview of Title X and pending Republican Administration legislation. Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition spokesperson Alison Kirishian provided details of their programs.

More information online at <https://www.indivisiblewomen.org/>



Below are the Interest Teams as of March 31st, 2017.

- Women's Rights
- Education
- Environment
- Equality for All
- Gun Safety
- Healthcare Reform
- LaMalfa Tracking
- Media/Social/Outreach
- Political Reform

The Facebook page is Indivisible Women Nevada County (NC Women United) Indivisible Women—Women's Rights Group

If you are interested in Reproductive Rights and their funding, stopping violence against women, the ERA, Intersectional Feminism, and all of the other issues that affect women directly, please consider joining this IWNC Interest Team!

A Day in the Life of a Condom Fairy

...an interesting story that happened as I was on my merry way spreading joy and safe sex...

A thousand condoms. I just received a thousand condoms. I sit idly putting the round multicolored Condom Fairy stickers on them and bag 40 for each of the stores on my beat. The guys at Good Times Skate Shop greet me with "Hey Condom Fairy, how's it going?" We chat and I'm on my way to Clock Tower Records, Foggy Mountain Music, Behind Closed Doors

and Tribal Weaver. They're always glad to see me and talk about the grateful folks who come in and grab a condom or two - sometimes sheepishly and sometimes with a bold swagger. These store owners are so nice and I love talking with them and seeing how supportive they are to have a condom basket in their store. It's such a happy job and I love getting to know these great merchants. It's great knowing that I can do a small part to promote safer sex.

—Karen L.



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The All-Male Photo Op Isn't a Gaffe. It's a Strategy.

Jill Filipovic MARCH 27, 2017 New York Times

During the great Republican health care debacle, President Trump and Vice President Mike Pence met with the far-right congressional Freedom Caucus to discuss, among other things, stripping out requirements for insurance companies to cover maternity, newborn and pregnancy care. After the meeting, Mr. Pence tweeted a photo of two dozen men sitting around a table. Kellyanne Conway was reportedly in the room, but in the picture the vice president circulated, there was not a woman in sight.

For liberals, the photo seemed like an inadvertent insight into the current Republican psyche: Powerful men plotting to leave vulnerable women up a creek, so ensconced in their misogynistic world they don't even notice the bad optics (not to mention the irony of the "pro-life" party making it harder for women to afford to have babies). Political analysts treated the photo as a gaffe, the kind of rookie mistake we're used to seeing from the Trump White House.

https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/27/opinion/the-all-male-photo-op-isnt-a-gaffe-its-a-strategy.html?ref=opinion&_r=0



Photo credit: The White House

Healthcare Worker Position-At The Clinic!

Women's Health Specialists of Northern California Seeks Clinic Healthworker in Grass Valley, California

We are looking for someone who is passionate about reproductive justice, not just looking for a good job. Our services include abortion care. Women's Health Specialists is looking for dynamic, passionate, pro-choice individuals to become the health workers in the clinic. The goal of Women's Health Specialists is to provide women-oriented health services in a respectful, non-judgmental and comfortable atmosphere. We are a dedicated, hardworking, woman run non-profit organization committed to women's reproductive rights and freedom. Our goal is to empower women through education and services to be able to make the best health care decisions for themselves. We put women's health in women's hands. We provide the training and education necessary to do the job. Women's Health Specialists, founded in 1975, provides reproductive and women's health services in Chico, Redding, and Sacramento.

APPLY TO:

Send resume and a cover letter of interest to Kimberly Edmonds, Regional Clinic Manager, kedmonds@cawhs.org. No calls please. Priority will be given to those individuals who write a letter of interest, what they can offer and why they want to work at WHS. Visit our website at www.cawhs.org.

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