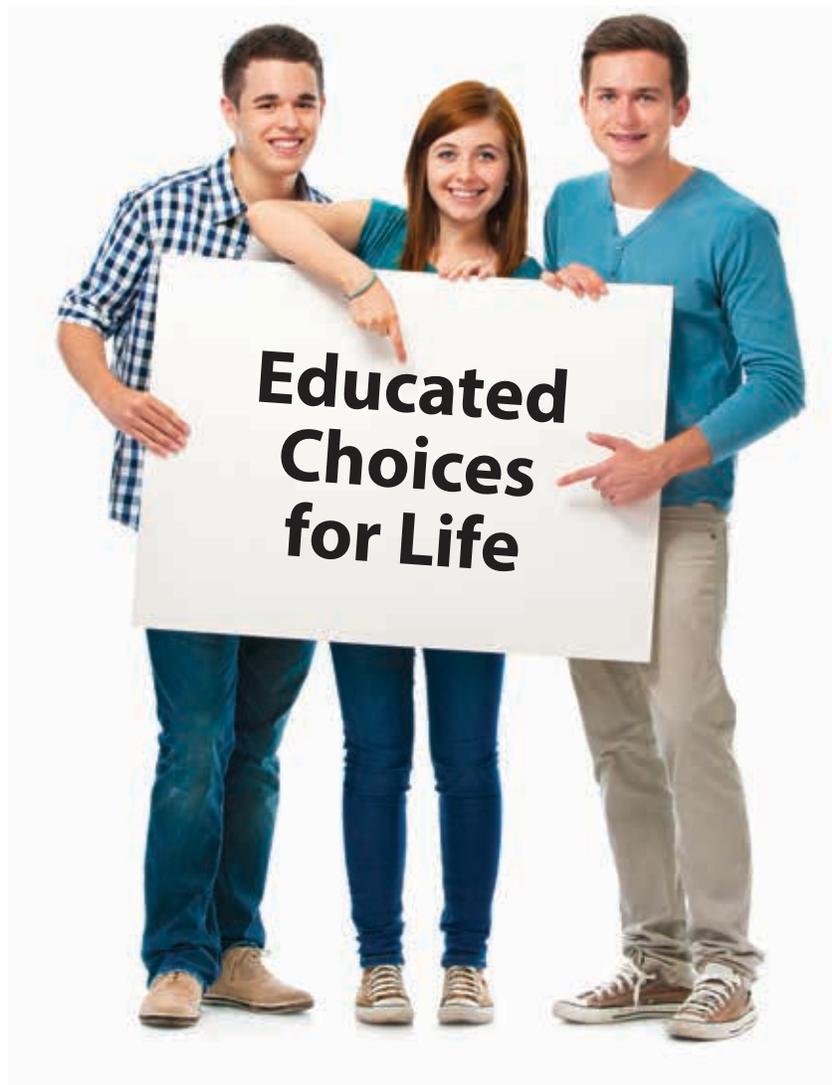




Voices for Choice

SUMMER 2017
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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

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GOOD-BYES AND HELLOS

Good-bye, Charlotte!

Charlotte Cammon, Treasurer from 2009-2017, has been an outstanding treasurer who maintained our books and finances and kept the information easily understood. An incredible detail person, she made sure we filed all our tax forms on time, did all the paperwork for our organization to get our DBA (Doing Business As) designation, and made barcodes for all the equipment and furnishings in The Clinic!

Charlotte and her husband John came to Nevada County from the San Fernando Valley in 1976 to raise their three children in a rural community. Retiring from General Telephone and Washington Mutual Bank gave her time to pursue charitable work. We lucked out!

She is the current treasurer of the Education Fund for Business and Professional Women of Nevada County (who were instrumental in creating Nevada County Citizens for Choice) so this job was a natural.

Both Charlotte and John have been honored as volunteers of the year by Citizens for Choice. Two of Charlotte's major contributions recently have been the refurbishing of The Clinic! office and the updating of our Board of Directors Handbook.

We wish her well in her next venture, but will all miss her very much.



Lynn Wenzel (left) and Charlotte Cammon (right)

...and Hello, Lynn

Even though at the time she had no context in which to express it, Lynn Wenzel became a feminist when she was ten (1954). Her click came when she saw both her parents come home from work at the same time. While her father sat in his chair enjoying a martini, her mother rushed around, cooking dinner, doing the wash, and waiting on her dad. A light went off for her and that was the beginning of reading all she could get her hands on about women and women's lives. When she was 19, she read Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* and her consciousness exploded. Lynn warned her husband-to-be that she would NOT be the same kind of wife as his mother. He braved it anyway, and they're still together after 53 years. Lynn jokes that she went on so many marches in the 1970s and 1980s she knew the location of every public restroom in Washington, D.C. and New Jersey.

Lynn has been a member of the National Organization for Women (NOW) since 1972 and was, respectively, Secretary, Public Relations Chair and Co-President of the 500-member Northern NJ NOW, lobbying for parental leave and helping to organize New Jersey's largest domestic violence organization.

As an invited member of the New Jersey Constitutional Bicentennial Committee's subcommittee on Women and the Constitution, she co-wrote the script for "We the Women," about women's part in American constitutional history. She also taught High School courses on Work and Gender Assumptions and on women's history and women's political action in the United States.

Lynn was Managing Editor of the 65,000-circulation, national and international feminist news magazine, *New Directions for Women*. The Second Edition of her book, *More Than Petticoats: Remarkable New Jersey Women* appeared in September 2016. It covers fourteen women born prior to 1900 who broke through gender and racial barriers to change the world. Her articles, essays and reviews on women's issues have appeared in *Newsweek*, *Newsday*, *On the Issues* and *Ms.*, among many others. She was a book reviewer for *The New York Times*. She currently writes for *The Union* newspaper and is on its Editorial Board.

Since her return to the west coast 22 years ago, Lynn has continued to write extensively on women's history and politics. She has been a member of Business & Professional Women of Nevada County (BPWNC) for 16 years. In October 2005, she was named the 2005 Business & Professional Women of Nevada County Woman of Achievement for her work as a writer and editor. She served as Director of Strategic Planning, 2003-2004, for the Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition of Nevada County and as Vice President, Communications, for Nevada County Citizens for Choice (C4C) from 2004-2006. She served as Co-President of BPWNC for FY 2015-2017, as Co-Editor of the *Slant* for six years, and Committee Chair on Legislative Issues for BPWNC, 2007-2008. Lynn is currently Co-President of the Education Fund for BPWNC and has re-joined the board of C4C. She is currently writing a book on the history of her family in the U.S. since the 1600s.

Want even MORE news?

Visit our website www.citizensforchoice.org for current updates

And news we could not fit in the printed version.



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REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS LEGISLATION

By Elaine Sierra, Public Policy Director

Citizens for Choice advocates on California legislation in order to increase access to reproductive health services, to protect women's right to choose to terminate their pregnancies, and to make reproductive justice a reality for all Californians. This year, we have taken active stances to increase college student access to medication abortion, to remedy employment discrimination related to women's reproductive health choices, and to protect Medi-Cal enrollees' choice of family planning providers.

We are focusing our advocacy on these bills, working collaboratively with our ally organizations of the California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom. We have succeeded in several areas.

One bill would require public universities with student health centers to provide medication abortion for students (AB 320). It would apply to UC and CSU campuses, allowing for safe medication abortion access for students up to 10 weeks of pregnancy. Currently, no such health center provides that service. The bill was amended to exclude community colleges, but would still be a significant expansion of medication abortion access. It is pending in the Education Committee.

The second high priority bill would protect California workers from firing or other adverse employment actions based on reproductive health choices like using birth control or in vitro fertilization, or being pregnant and unmarried (AB 569). Multiple instances of employers discriminating against women in those circumstances, or requiring employees to sign a code of conduct denying their reproductive rights, have been reported. Close to home, financial aid specialist Teri James was fired from San Diego Christian College for becoming pregnant while unmarried. The bill successfully passed in the Assembly on May 31, and is pending in the Senate. The third bill would create a California version of the federal "freedom of choice" requirement for family planning providers, for Medi-Cal managed care enrollees (SB 743). Similarly to a 1986 federal law that is in jeopardy -- given the current hostile environment toward reproductive rights -- the bill allows enrollees to choose their preferred community-based, out-of-network providers, thus preserving the law's protections. The bill was passed in the Senate on May 30, and is pending in the Assembly.

YOUR VOICE!

FOR CHOICE!

Stay Informed!

To keep up on public policy visit:
www.citizensforchoice.org/home/policy-activism/

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). It passed the Senate on May 30, and is in the Assembly. A bill we oppose would exclude or narrow students' electronic communications privacy rights available to other Californians (AB 165). It stalled in the Assembly.

Citizens for Choice will continue its legislative advocacy, and we urge you to join in that effort as these bills progress through both houses, the Assembly and the Senate.

Check our Facebook page and website to keep up with policy and advocacy and to learn how you can help.

Thank all of you for your support!

Elaine Sierra

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:

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

Board of Directors: Some of you have been involved with Citizens for Choice for a while and may want to become more involved through our Board of Directors. We'd love to talk with you.

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

2017 VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS	Sharon O'Hara ~ sharonoh.c4c@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Fran Erickson ~ N/A
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Susan Fivelstad ~ susanf.c4c@gmail.com
OUTREACH COORDINATOR	Debra Worth ~ debra.c4c@gmail.com
BOARD MEMBER	Lynn Wenzel ~ N/A

www.CitizensforChoice.org
www.facebook.com/CitizensforChoiceNevadaCounty

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



A Day in the Life of a Condom Fairy

...an interesting story of what happened when I was on my merry way spreading joy and safe sex...

While I was on vacation, my son-in-law had to go to the post office to pick up a package for me. It was a large package, clearly marked as 5,000 condoms. He said that all work stopped as he came in to pick up the item as all the postal workers wanted to see just who was picking up 5,000 condoms. He told me I really owed him big time: I said, "No, you owe me - I made you a legend and you are welcome!" He refuses to pick up any more packages for me these days.
—Deb Worth

We want to hear from you! Share your story with us.

Citizens for Choice is a member organization of the California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom (CCRF), a statewide reproductive and sexual health, rights, and justice coalition of more than 30 independent organizations. We are partners with Women's Health Specialists for The Clinic!, our reproductive health care clinic in Grass Valley.

Perhaps you had a wonderful experience at The Clinic!, a history of advocating for reproductive rights, or a life altering insight about sex education as a parent. Your story may help others. Contact us at info@citizensforchoice.org.

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

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 | DVSAC (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition) | Foggy Mountain Music | FoxHound Espresso & Coffee Broaster | 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)

Want more news?

Visit us at www.citizensforchoice.org to learn more from this issue about:

- "Give us the ballot" by Ari Berman | Review by Congressman John Lewis
- Implementation and access of the contraceptive coverage equity act and the annual supply of contraceptives law

Want to help?

We Need YOU! To learn more about being a part of the all volunteer board positions we need filled a.s.a.p.! please email: info@citizensforchoice.org

POSITIONS OPEN:

- PRESIDENT
- VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATOR
- CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
- DONOR RELATIONS
- MARKETING COORDINATOR
- VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



DONORS

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

Anonymous
 Marion Becker
 Mary and Charles Brock
 Business & Professional Women of Nevada County
 Carole Hyde Chapman
 Susan and Rod Fivelstad
 Custis Haynes
 Steven and Lisa Kirshbaum
 Beverly and Ron Mathis
 Mariana Nielsen
 John Timmer

eScrip E-scrip Contributions —They Really Help!

This year's contributions for November through February were \$338.34. Thank you!
Contributions may be made to Citizens for Choice through e-scrip at **Safeway, Save-Mart, and SPD Market**. 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. We will acknowledge such sponsorship by listing donors to e-scrip in the Voices Newsletter. Your help will continue to support our work and keep the Clinic open. Thank you!



Another way to help Citizens for Choice

Remember to shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate to Nevada County Citizens for Choice. When you #StartWithaSmile, Amazon donates to Nevada County Citizens for Choice. Shop for great deals at smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0479729

Thank you!

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



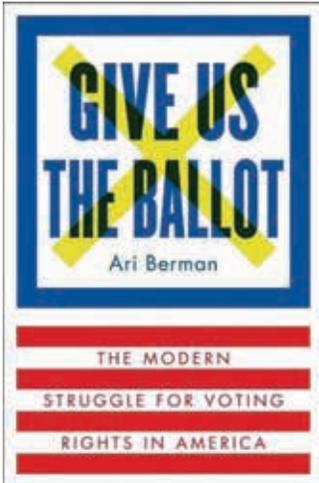
At *The Clinic!* your sexual and reproductive health is *always* your choice.

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

"Give us the ballot" by Ari Berman | Review by Congressman John Lewis



Give Us The Ballot documents the long, hard struggle for the equal right to vote in America. It begins with the crowning achievement of the civil rights movement, the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Berman clarifies beyond any doubt President Lyndon Johnson's commitment to voting rights and skillfully describes the complex political landscape he faced in a Congress populated by legendary opponents of equality such as Sens. James Eastland of Mississippi, then chairman of the Judiciary Committee; Sam Ervin of North Carolina; and Strom Thurmond of South Carolina. This book should become a primer for every American, but especially for congressional lawmakers and staffers, because it so capably describes the intricate interplay between grass-roots activism and the halls of Congress. Berman evenhandedly recounts how the success of the nonviolent Selma march empowered Johnson to act. But he also discusses the role that violence played in the history of the Voting Rights Act. The Ku Klux Klan murder of Viola Liuzzo, a Detroit housewife who assisted in the Selma march, paved the way for passage of the bill; but the Watts riots, which ignited just five days after the law was signed, fueled a cynical, destructive backlash against the legislation. Berman, an investigative reporter for the Nation, teases out the roles of unsung heroes such as Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach and John Doar, the assistant attorney general for civil rights, whose skillful management of Justice Department enforcement determined the new law's pervasive impact for decades to come. Berman helps readers understand the tenuous implementation of a new federal law, when the interactions among federal employees, both presidential political appointees and career public servants, can make or break the work of Congress.

'Give Us the Ballot,' by Ari Berman - The New York Times
<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/30/>

IMPLEMENTATION AND ACCESS OF THE CONTRACEPTIVE COVERAGE EQUITY ACT AND THE ANNUAL SUPPLY OF CONTRACEPTIVES LAW

Essential Access Health proudly co-sponsored the Contraceptive Coverage Equity Act (SB 1053) in 2014 and the Annual Supply of Contraceptives Law (**SB 999**) in 2016.

Thanks to these new laws, women enrolled in Medi-Cal or private/commercial health plans have the right to choose their preferred type of birth control without restrictions or co-pays and receive a 12-month supply of birth control pills, contraceptive patches or vaginal rings at one time. Health plans in most cases cannot refuse to cover a prescribed birth control method, require step therapy or prior authorization, or deny coverage of a year's supply. Now that the laws are in place, the next step is ensuring successful implementation and spreading the word.

Continued on next page...



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IMPLEMENTATION AND SPREADING THE WORD.

1) Help Us Track Denials Through Our Story Collection Portal

Essential Access Health is monitoring the implementation of these two measures and tracking health plan denials. Providers and patients can submit denial stories through our portal: www.essentialaccess.org/denied. Please share this link with your provider partners and community of advocates and stakeholders.

2) Share the Attached Images + Sample Posts Below on Social Media

- IT'S THE LAW: CA health plans must cover 12-month #birthcontrol supply. GOT DENIED? Tell us @ www.essentialaccess.org/denied #mybirthcontrol
- IT'S THE LAW: CA health plans must cover ALL #birthcontrol methods. GOT DENIED? Tell us @ www.essentialaccess.org/denied #mybirthcontrol
- #birthcontrol #pills #patches & #rings are covered by health plans. GOT DENIED? Tell us @ www.essentialaccess.org/denied #mybirthcontrol
- Your Medi-Cal health plan must cover ALL #birthcontrol methods and a 12-month supply of pill, patch & ring. GOT DENIED? Tell us @ www.essentialaccess.org/denied
- Your health insurance must cover ALL #birthcontrol methods and a 12-month supply of pill, patch & ring. GOT DENIED? Tell us @ www.essentialaccess.org/denied
- Can't get your 12-month supply of #birthcontrol? GOT DENIED? Tell us @ www.essentialaccess.org/denied



3) Include Information in Your Next Newsletter

- For Provider-focused Newsletters

Have Your Patients Been Denied their Contraceptive Method of Choice or a 12-Month Supply? Share Your Patient's Story! Thanks to the Contraceptive Coverage Equity Act (SB 1053) and SB 999 – Annual Supply of Contraceptives - women enrolled in Medi-Cal or private/commercial health plans have the right to choose their preferred type of birth control without restrictions or co-pays and receive a 12-month supply of birth control pills, contraceptive patches or vaginal rings at one time. Health plans cannot refuse to cover a prescribed birth control method, require step therapy or prior authorization, or deny coverage of a year's supply. Has your patient been wrongfully denied? We want to know! Essential Access Health is monitoring the implementation of these two laws and tracking health plan denials. Providers and patients can submit denial stories at:

www.essentialaccess.org/denied. For more information regarding SB 1053 and SB 999, visit www.essentialaccess.org.

- For Patient-focused Newsletters

Birth Control Denied? Share Your Story!

If you live in California and have private/commercial health insurance or are covered by a Medi-Cal health plan, you have the right to choose the birth control method that works best for you without restrictions or costs. If your chosen method is the pill, contraceptive patch or vaginal ring, you have the right to get up to a full 12-month supply at once, or as prescribed. If your health plan is not complying with these laws, please share your story at www.essentialaccess.org/denied.

Thank you in advance for helping us make equal and consistent access to birth control a reality for women in California. If you have any questions regarding SB 1053 and SB 999, please feel free to contact me.

Sylvia Castillo
Senior Manager of Government + Community Affairs
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C: 626.587.9646

shaping the future of sexual + reproductive health care™
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