

Thank you for your support!

We believe that providing all options and referrals allows clients to make the best choices for themselves.

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

Help Citizens for Choice continue to *grow!* *You Can...*

- Tell one new person about Citizens for Choice this year.
- Share with us why you are a supporter.
- Consider a first-time financial gift or an increase in your giving this year.
- Follow us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/CitizensforChoiceNevadaCounty/

~ In Memoriam ~

We dedicate the 2016/17 Annual Report to the memory of Board members

~Joan Frazier (1991)~

~John Holland (2004-06)~

~Marlene Katz (2011-2016)~

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

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

In 2016/2017 over 160 individuals supported Citizens for Choice with financial contributions. The eScrip, Smile.Amazon, and the PayPal options on our site have been a consistent source of funds. We are very grateful to our landlord Roger Baker who has kept our rent at the initial 2006 level. We have seen a decrease in the numbers of donors in the past two years and recognize that we must continue our outreach efforts to broaden our base of supporters and explain our mission. Some donations of stock have helped us to increase our prudent reserves.

Please consider being a part of Citizens for Choice! Your views and experiences will be valuable as a volunteer and/or Board member. We are very grateful for your support of our mission!

Email us: info@citizensforchoice.org



2016 Income



Cash	\$17,327.49
eAccounts	\$1,191.76
Stock	\$36,414.59
Paypal	\$4,559.69
Other	\$2,550.00
Total	\$62,043.53

2016 Expenditures



Contract Services	\$2,251.00
Business Expenses	\$4,594.57
Outreach Programs	\$17,274.00
Rent/Utilities	\$3,422.81
WHS	\$1,560.00
Other	\$2,550.00
Total	\$31,652.38

Newsflash:

You can be **prochoice** and a **mother**.

You can be **prochoice** and **support adoption**.

You can be **prochoice** and **never** get an abortion/be against abortion yourself.

Prochoice doesn't automatically mean you love abortions and treat it as your **only** option.

THATS WHY IT'S CALLED PROCHOICE.

You are pro-women getting to choose whatever the hell they want to do with their own bodies!



In May of 2017 our partners and medical services providers Women's Health Specialists (WHS) reorganized and consolidated their clinics. There are now only three WHS facilities with the Chico and Redding clinics offering abortions while Grass Valley continues to refer to Chico those wishing to terminate a pregnancy. At the same time, WHS and Citizens for Choice made changes to our mutual financial support. Women's Health Specialists was no longer able to assist with our rent for *The Clinic!* and we are now covering the travel expenses for staff coming from Chico. There are two local staff members (one of whom is a Nurse Practitioner) It is hoped that a full complement of staff from western Nevada County would eliminate this cost. Because staff had longer days due the travel time from Chico, client hours are now 11 a.m. to 4 p.m; open on Mondays and Wednesdays.

An Overview of 2016/17 Education and Advocacy



EDUCATION

Collaborations:

- Participated in the two year Superintendent of Schools' Comprehensive Sexuality Curriculum & Program Task Force
- Placed editorials and ads in the Parents Resource Guide magazine
- Published our quarterly Voices for Choice newsletter
- Tabled at the Grass Valley Thursday Night Market each summer and at most campus wide events at the GV Sierra College campus.
- Spoke on a panel on access to reproductive healthcare with BPW Nevada County
- Part of the KVMR/YubaNet Town Hall " #After March Meet The Activist" in February, 2017
- Made a Love Your Body Week display at the Center for the Arts in April, 2017
- Presented to 4 classes at Silver Springs H.S. Health Faire
- Spoke to two services at the Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains
- Were featured at the Democratic Women's Club and as part of the Indivisible Women Nevada County's Women's Rights Team.
- Attended PFLAG picnics
- Continued membership in the Center for Non-Profit Leadership, the Greater GV and Nevada City Chambers of Commerce and the GV Downtown Assoc.

Events and Activities:

- Increased our Facebook page followers to more than 500
- Listed with the online Yellow Pages, 211 Connecting Point and MyNevadaCounty.com.
- Maintained more than 30 information and condom baskets throughout western Nevada County
- Our "fairies" donated close to \$800 worth of their time.(30 hours or more monthly total)
- Marched in the 2017 Women's Marches in D.C. and Sacramento
- Contracted with Charlotte Peterson as our part time outreach/education coordinator
- Hosted a clinic tour and popsicle party
- Celebrated Roe v Wade 2017 with a house party

ADVOCACY

- Presented a \$600 donation check to our organization "in honor of" Rep. D. LaMalfa
- In 2016 we joined with the CA Coalition for Reproductive Freedom to lobby for enactment of laws that:
 - increased easy access to a 12-month supply of contraceptives and direct access to reproductive healthcare, without referrals
 - improved the fairness of the criminal justice system treatment of human trafficking victims
 - provided Californian immigrants access to Covered California.
- Saw the repeal of the Maximum Family Grant Rule, which prevented families in the CalWORKS program from receiving additional monetary support for newborns.
- For 2017, our legislative successes included enactment of laws that:
 - protected workers from firing or any other adverse employment actions based on their reproductive health choices, such as using birth control or in vitro fertilization.
 - created a California law, like the federal "freedom of choice" requirement, allows Medicaid managed care enrollees to choose their preferred community-based, out-of-network providers over their managed care providers.

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

We believe that providing all options and referrals allows clients to make the best choices for themselves.

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

During 2016/17 your donations made it possible for *The Clinic!* staff to counsel and distribute birth control 1,378 times. Women's Health Specialists (WHS) handled more than 650 cases of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), 250 female and male annual exams, 162 pregnancy screenings at free or low cost, as well as referrals for mammograms, or HIV/Aids. Chlamydia continues to be the most frequently diagnosed STI in our community. WHS continues to offer a well-respected adoption program.

Since *The Clinic!* opened in 2006, and through 2017, WHS has conducted 22,939 types of services with positive client experiences.



An examination room *The Clinic!* 120 Richardson, Ste A, Grass Valley



One of our successful "friend raisers" was the clinic tour and popsicle party in 2016. We plan to host this again in summer, 2018. The wine tasting fundraiser with Dave Luce of the Alta Sierra Wine Shop at Summer Thymes brought many supporters for an evening of food, wine, and purchases of cases of favorite vintages.

A January 2017 celebration of the Roe vs. Wade anniversary with many community leaders was held at the home of Kimberly D'Urso.



In 2016 and 2017 our Board of Directors underwent a number of changes, welcoming back Lynn and Judy and adding Gary as our Financial Officer.

Treasurer Charlotte Cammon left a lasting legacy as she envisioned and executed all of the details for the refurbishment of the entire interior of *The Clinic!* We recognize and thank the all-volunteer Board members and off Board team, Elaine Sierra, our Public Policy Director, and we are very grateful to Aimee Murray of Beeline Design (beelinedesign.net) who is our Marketing Coordinator.

Members of our Board of Directors who served in 2016 are in bold with those also serving in all or part of 2017 marked with an *. **Charlotte Cammon***, Gary Davis*, **Kimberly D’Urso***, **Francesca Erickson***, **Susan Fivelstad ***, **Marlene Katz***, Judy McCarrick *, **Aimee Murray**, **Sharon O’Hara***, Aaron Rutledge, Lynn Wenzel*, **Debra Worth***

Elaine Sierra is our Public Policy Director. She joined the Board in 2004, was instrumental in securing our site, and served as President. Continuing in 2016 through the present, as the Citizens for Choice representative to the California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom (CCRF) Elaine attended quarterly meetings of CCRF member organizations, and provided information about issues and bills affecting reproductive freedom to our Board and supporters through social media.

A major accomplishment was the visit to Rep. Doug LaMalfa’s Auburn office in March 2017 for which Elaine prepared extensive and up to date materials about reproductive health issues for our congressman. Debra took a page from Planned Parenthood as they encouraged donations in the name of anti-choice VP Pence. She collected \$600 in donations. An oversized check was presented to, but not accepted by, LaMalfa’s staff. Members of Indivisible Women Nevada County, The League of Women Voters, and the Nisenan Tribe accompanied Kimberly D’Urso, Debra Worth, and Elaine Sierra of Citizens for Choice to the presentation.



Kimberly D’Urso and Marlene Katz at the KVMR Town Hall.

*We are passionate about our mission:
To promote reproductive justice through
education, healthcare access, and advocacy.
We exist to inform and enable choice.*



EScrip program with the SPD, Grass Valley.



Presenting C4C donation in Doug LaMalfa’s name



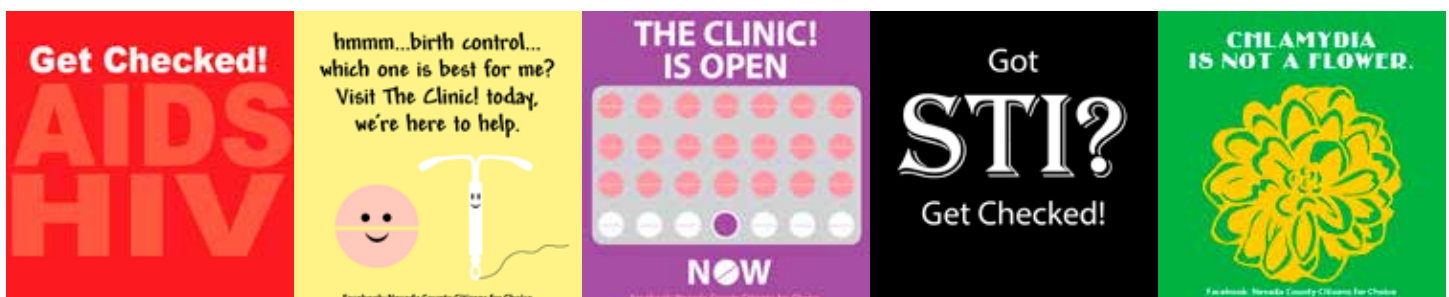
Collaboration was one key way in which Citizens for Choice promoted reproductive justice.

Both Kimberly and Debra found their viewpoints reflected in the discussions and decisions of the Superintendent of Schools Comprehensive Sexuality Curriculum & Program Task Force which resulted in selecting the Positive Prevention curriculum for Nevada County's schools and establishing guidelines for sex education presentations.

With your support behind us we've raised our profile in western Nevada County and will build on future opportunities. We were there for

- a panel on access to reproductive healthcare with BPW Nevada County
- the KVMR/YubaNet Town Hall " #After March Meet The Activist" in February, 2017
- a Love Your Body Week display at the Center for the Arts in April, 2017
- a presentation to 4 classes as part of the Health Faire at Silver Springs High School
- the annual services with our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains; and
- the Democratic Women's Club, and Indivisible Women Nevada County's Women's Rights Team.
- the PFLAG picnics
- the Women's Marches in D.C. (Kimberly) and Sacramento (Debra, Sharon) Jan. 21, 2017
- continued membership in the Center for Non-Profit Leadership, the Greater GV and Nevada City Chambers of Commerce and the GV Downtown Assoc.

The quarterly *Parents Resource Guide* magazine editorials and ads we place give us a wide exposure. *Voices for Choice*, edited by Susan Fivelstad and formatted by Aimee, is our e-newsletter covering public policy and topical subjects. Susan also oversees the annual ad in the NUHS football program. Our Facebook page is now followed by more than 500 people thanks to Aimee's timely and provocative daily posts. We are in the online Yellow Pages in addition to 211 Connecting Point and MyNevadaCounty.com.



Walking our walk and talking our talk—

Our condom distribution is a facet of our mission for which Citizens for Choice is well known. Debra coordinated the five “fairies” and added new sites to the more than 30 already in place. Female condoms and dental dams are now in our baskets throughout western Nevada County. The Nevada City establishments busy in the evenings now have their supplies replenished more often.

*Working about 30 hours a month,
our “fairies” donate close to
\$800 worth of their time
each month.*

We wish to acknowledge Val Gunter who began volunteering in 2006 assisting clients and then took on the most geographically varied route distributing condoms and outreach materials from No.San Juan to Grass Valley locations. Val continues to be our condom fairy extraordinaire. —*We thank you, Val!*

You can find us at the Grass Valley Thursday Night Market each summer and at most campus wide events at the Grass Valley Sierra College campus. Condom lollipops are an attention getter which we use to engage with market goers. We distribute a wide variety of informational pamphlets, the “Youth Health and Privacy Rights” booklet, and great number of our popular trifold pamphlet “It’s Always Good To Have A Back Up Plan” whenever we table.



ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

Elaine Sierra, Public Policy Director

PUBLIC POLICY

Citizens for Choice continued its partnership with the statewide California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom during 2016 and 2017. I attended quarterly meetings of CCRF member organizations, learning about issues and legislation affecting reproductive freedom rights and health in California. Based on this collaboration with CCRF and its members, I developed annual legislative priorities, engaged in advocacy on the bills identified, and advised the board President of their progress through the state legislature, and their final resolution. In addition, I encouraged Citizens for Choice and its members to engage in advocacy using social media, facilitating our participation in specific issue campaigns.



*Delivering FACT petitions to Grass Valley City Council
Judy McCarrick, Lynn Wenzel, Elaine Sierra*

Within our own community, we conducted a local campaign in 2016 to gather signatures for a petition for enforcement of the Reproductive FACT Act, AB 775. That law requires transparency of our local crisis pregnancy center about the limited services it offers, its lack of medical providers and services, and the availability of state and county resources for all reproductive choice options, including abortion. We hand-delivered the petitions to the Grass Valley City Council and County Board of Supervisors offices.

For 2016, our legislative successes included enactment of laws that:

- Increase easy access to a 12-month supply of contraceptives and direct access to reproductive healthcare, without referrals
- Improve the fairness of the criminal justice system treatment of human trafficking victims
- Provide Californian immigrants access to Covered California.

Perhaps our most significant victory that year was a long awaited one: the repeal of the Maximum Family Grant Rule, which prevented families in the CalWORKS program from receiving additional monetary support for newborns.

For 2017, our legislative successes included enactment of laws that:

- protect workers from firing or any other adverse employment actions based on their reproductive health choices, such as using birth control or in vitro fertilization.
- Creates a California law, like the federal "freedom of choice" requirement, allows Medicaid managed care enrollees to choose their preferred community-based, out-of-network providers over their managed care providers.

Expanding student access to medication abortion remains an ongoing priority, under a bill that would require that it be provided on college campuses. We plan to join in the ongoing campaign to secure passage of the legislation in 2018.

We also continued to work with the Sexual Health Education Roundtable, to promote implementation of 2015's mandatory sex education law, the California Healthy Youth Act (AB 329).

In 1989 a coalition of the AAUW, League of Women Voters, and Business and Professional Women founded our organization to support reproductive choice by providing comprehensive, unbiased family planning information and education. In 2001 we became a 501.c.3 and in 2006 opened *The Clinic!* at 120 Richardson, Grass Valley, in partnership with Women's Health Specialists to offer services for free or reduced cost for all who are of reproductive age. We protect a woman's right to

make medical decisions about her own body, in private, in a non-judgmental environment. We are active with the California Coalition for Reproductive Justice and advocate for legislation affecting reproductive health issues and support comprehensive sexuality education in the schools.

Our mission states that Citizens for Choice

promotes reproductive justice through education, health care access, and advocacy. We are grateful for the continuing support of the western Nevada County community since 1989.



Our message in the annual Constitution Day Parade

Looking ahead...

We are a small but mighty all volunteer Board with lots of ideas and only the finite number of hours per day to limit our commitment to reproductive justice! Since our start in 1989 personal reproductive health options in western Nevada County have definitely improved while we are continually thinking of how best to ensure that the gains in place remain so and more residents become aware of *The Clinic!* and our resources.

For example: We're concerned about the implementation of sexuality education which conforms to state guidelines. In spite of the county wide task force's work, each district is responsible for providing the curriculum. Other areas

we have on our "to do" lists are Latina/o and senior citizen outreach and broadening our base of support throughout western Nevada County. We are pleased to have a part time outreach/ education coordinator, Charlotte Peterson, who's working to build connections with our local youth, Sierra College, and the medical community.

We will continue our active participation in the CA Coalition for Reproductive Freedom and disseminate information about legislation to ensure reproductive rights are protected and which complements our mission.

Expanding student access to medication abortion remains an ongoing priority, under SB 320 (Leyva) a

bill that would require that it be provided on college campuses. We plan to join in the ongoing campaign to secure passage of the legislation in 2018.

Please contact us if you are interested in joining our valuable team of Board members. We volunteer our time because we have an abiding interest in equality, reproductive justice and ensuring that the people in our community have access to reproductive health care in a safe, private, and unbiased environment. Your perspective and life experiences will add to the expansion of our outreach and the continued success of *The Clinic!* and Citizens for Choice.

Join us in supporting the mission of Citizens for Choice and the many women, men, and teens who look to our community based organization for unbiased, all options reproductive healthcare access.

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