

the Positive Voice

WOMEN'S HEALTH Boulder Valley Women's Health Center

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CARE, COMPASSION, COMMUNITY: OUR UPDATED MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

Early in 2019, as our Board and staff undertook a strategic planning process to prepare for a dynamic future, we revisited our Mission/Vision/Values statements in order to make sure that they were aligned with both where we are now and where we'd like to go as an organization. Every person working at the clinic was able to give their input and feedback, and this resulted in clear, concise, accurate, and memorable revised Mission/Vision/Values statements that will serve as guideposts for Women's Health for many years to come.

MISSION

As a local, independent provider, our mission is to offer accessible, evidence-based, and compassionate health care, including abortion, family planning, gynecology, gender-affirming services, community education, and sexual health support.

VISION

Women's Health envisions an informed community of people empowered to make health-related choices that support vibrant, full lives.

VALUES

Care

We provide medically accurate information and individualized, evidence-based care to our community, regardless of a patient's race, ethnicity, income, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, immigration status, or language.

Compassion

We demonstrate compassion in everything we do. We are committed to maintaining a respectful, kind, caring, inclusive, and safe environment for our patients and our staff.

Community

As a local provider, we contribute to the vitality of our community by removing barriers to access; offering patient care through the lens of the social determinants of health; and continually supporting reproductive justice.

THE DECADE CHALLENGE: WOMEN'S HEALTH EDITION

You've probably seen the popular social media 'Decade Challenge,' where people post photos of themselves from 2009 and 2019. As we move into the 2020's, we thought it might be fun to revisit the past decade at Women's Health. Here are the highlights!

2009

YOUTH TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

Our Youth Services program became active on social media, developed an interactive Q&A feature on the Teen Clinic website, and started an anonymous text message line (only the second in the country!) so that teens could ask their sexual health questions confidentially and receive medically accurate answers.

2010-2011

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Positioned ourselves for implementation of the Affordable Care Act by switching to Electronic Medical Records and embarking on a \$1.5 million capital campaign that resulted in the full renovation of the Boulder clinic and improvements to the Longmont clinic. Now, both facilities have paid off their mortgages and operate debt free.



Before

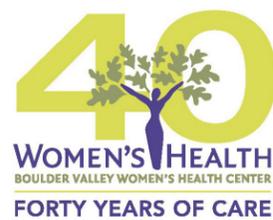
After

2012

TRANSGENDER CARE

Stepped forward to become the first nonprofit provider of hormonal transition therapy to the transgender community in Boulder County, including fees that allow individuals to pay according to their income.

2013



40th ANNIVERSARY

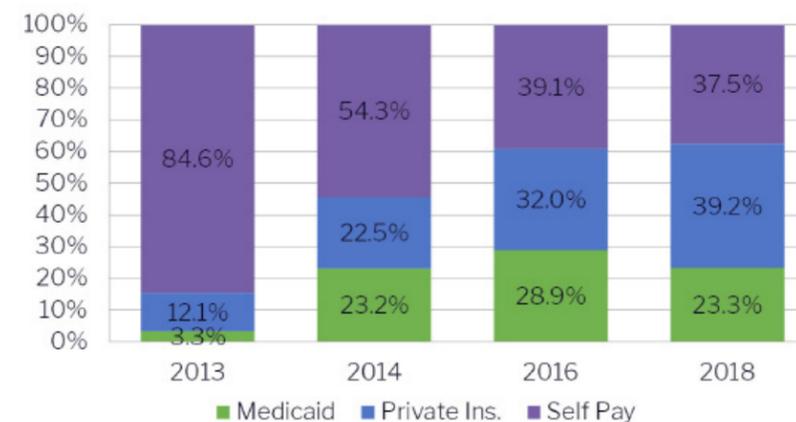
Celebrated our 40th Anniversary as Boulder County's locally-founded, locally-run provider of reproductive and sexual healthcare services.

2009-2014

COLORADO FAMILY PLANNING INITIATIVE

Served as the first medical provider in the state and the only provider in Boulder County to participate in the Colorado Family Planning Initiative, a five-year, statewide, privately-funded program which provided Long-acting Reversible Contraception (LARC), such as IUDs or implants, to low-income adults and teens at low or no cost. **This groundbreaking program resulted in a 59% reduction in the teen birth rate statewide.** Women's Health served as the pilot project for the program beginning in 2007, before it went statewide in 2009.

2014-2018



HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE/ACA

Partnered with Boulder County to locate a bilingual Medicaid Enrollment Specialist on-site at our Boulder and Longmont clinics. Educated our patients on their eligibility for Medicaid or a subsidized health insurance plan thanks to the Affordable Care Act, which was fully implemented in Jan. 2014. In 2013, nearly 85% of our patients were uninsured, but by the end of the year, that had decreased to 50%. By 2018, only 37.5% of our patients did not have or use insurance.

2019

TITLE X

Withdrew from the federal Title X family planning program rather than comply with the Trump Administration's onerous and unethical Gag Rule. Gave up significant amounts of Title X federal funding and secured alternate funding from the State, all without ever compromising patient care or the organization's status as an abortion provider.



2009

2019

SUSAN'S RETIREMENT

Bid farewell to our longtime Executive Director, Susan Buchanan, whose 20-year tenure at Women's Health (18 as E.D. and two years on the Board of Directors), qualifies her for a two-decade challenge! Best wishes, Susan!

FULL AGENDA FOR THIS YEAR'S SHAPERs by Casey Andrews, Education & Outreach

With just seven students from five different high schools, what this year's SHAPERs lack in numbers, they make up for in creativity, enthusiasm, and ambition.

As members of our Sexual Health Awareness & Peer Education program (SHAPE), high schoolers learn about sexual health and educate their peers, including traveling to local middle schools to help lead presentations on STIs and contraception.

This fall, SHAPERs have also had the opportunity to lead a meeting focused around the topic of their choice. So far, we've seen three presentations on gender theory, porn, and gender in film. And if that wasn't enough, over the past few weeks, SHAPERs have been collecting donations for a menstrual product drive to benefit Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN).

After the holiday break, we're gearing up for an exciting 2020. We'll start the new term by wrapping up our SHAPER-led presentations, and also have a couple of great events on our horizon, including a retreat in January and Reproductive Justice Lobby Day at the Colorado State Capitol in February.

Throughout March and April, we'll have a variety of community activists speak at our meetings about topics such as sex work, LGBTQ+ activism, healthy boundaries in relationships, and how to mobilize women and marginalized communities to enact social change.



SHAPERs pose with a Christmas tree made of condoms.



Susan Buchanan (top right), at a retirement party held in her honor on Dec. 18 at the Dairy Center. Pictured with Susan are those who were instrumental in the founding and early years of our clinic. Top row: Dr. Warren Hern and Linda Weber. Seated: Dr. Sherburne Macfarlan.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE!

There's still time to make your 2019 year-end donation to Women's Health!

Donate today by visiting boulderwomenshealth.org/donate.

Thank you for your unwavering support for Women's Health and the people we serve!