

# the Positive Voice

**WOMEN'S HEALTH**  
Boulder Valley Women's  
Health Center

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[teenclinic.org](http://teenclinic.org)

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The Positive Voice is  
published three times a year  
by Women's Health.

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## SUPREME COURT LOOKS AT FAKE HEALTH CENTERS

**C**hoices Pregnancy Clinic, Her Choice Women's Clinic, Choices Women's Medical Center, First Choice Women's Medical Center, RealOptions Pregnancy Medical Clinics, Women's Options Center.



Untrained individuals at fake women's health centers pose as medical professionals to deceive women and lie about medical facts to convince them not to have an abortion.

**END THE LIES.**

[ENDTHELIES.COM](http://ENDTHELIES.COM)

Can you spot which of these are real reproductive healthcare providers and which are fake health centers, often unlicensed with no medical staff and a religious agenda, whose aim is to stop people from accessing abortion care?

The actual abortion providers are Her Choice Women's Clinic, Choices Women's Medical Center, and the Women's Options Center. The rest are fake women's health centers, sometimes called "crisis pregnancy centers" or CPCs. CPCs misrepresent themselves using deceptive names and misleading websites, and lure women in with free ultrasounds and pregnancy tests. They regularly use deceitful advertising to attract people searching for abortion care, and these campaigns are so successful that CPCs often show up in abortion clinic searches on Google. Once inside these centers, women are shamed for wanting an abortion, given false information about their gestational stage, or wrongly told that abortion will cause breast cancer, infertility and depression.

As a truth in advertising measure, some states and municipalities have passed laws requiring CPCs to post signs disclosing the true nature of their facility. Under California's FACT Act, unlicensed facilities must disclose that they are unlicensed and do not have a medical professional providing or supervising services. If the facility is licensed, they must post a notice that free or low-cost prenatal care, contraception, and abortion care is available through the state.

The National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA), representing CPCs, sued the state in 2016. They believe the FACT Act is an infringement on their freedom of speech by requiring them to promote services which they morally oppose. Although they twice lost this argument in the lower courts, the U.S. Supreme Court has taken up the case. Oral arguments were heard in *NIFLA v. Becerra* on March 20. The Court's ruling will determine whether women have the right to honesty and fact-based information when seeking reproductive healthcare. A decision in the case is expected in June. ❖

# CONNECTING PATIENTS TO BREAST HEALTH SERVICES



**Blair Bacon, Women's Health Patient Advocate**

**D** ID YOU KNOW that Women's Health has a Breast Health Program that connects patients in need to free mammograms and other diagnostic screenings?

After providing the initial clinical exam, Women's Health connects patients who are uninsured and/or low income to free or discounted mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies, surgical consults, and more.

Our Patient Advocates stay with our patients every step of the way to make sure they are getting the

care that they need. They coordinate referrals, transportation, and funding for those who need it. For many, there is nothing more frightening than the possibility of cancer—and not being able to afford the proper testing and treatment only compounds that fear.

One patient, Jennifer, came to Women's Health after being told by another doctor that she would need a biopsy to rule out breast cancer. Jennifer could afford to pay for imaging out-of-pocket, but couldn't afford a biopsy. Since her husband was self-employed and their income fluctuated, they made too much for Medicaid but could not afford the cost of private insurance. Jennifer was able to get her biopsy thanks to Women's Health, and when she found out she had breast cancer, she was able to get the treatment she needed quickly and safely.

Every year, we see dozens of women like Jennifer at Women's Health, and thanks to our Breast Health Program, we are able to get them the life-saving care they need.❖

## MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



**Karen Lenser, Health Education and Fitness Teacher, Peak to Peak Charter School**

"I believe it is a right, not a privilege, for all people to have access to medically accurate and safe reproductive education. In my classroom, I strive to break down stereotypes and barriers and be inclusive for all students. We only have one life and one body, so making overall informed decisions based on integrity, dignity and respect is what I have been trying to provide as an educator of teens and adults for over 20 years."



**Hollie Rogin, Marketing Strategist and Partner, Posit Partners**

"As Boulder County continues to

grow and, hopefully, diversify, providing respectful, quality health care for all – including those who encounter significant barriers – is extremely important for a vibrant community. It's up to local organizations to mitigate the effects of the current national administration as much as possible, and I hope to be able to assist in that effort."



**Gus Spheeris, JD and LLM, Attorney and Business/ NonProfit Development Adviser**

"Women's Health has been in the forefront of many important health care issues affecting not only women, but the broader community of people in Boulder County unable to find safe and supportive providers.

At a time when the right to choose the most appropriate health care solution for any individual is at risk, Women's Health seems never to step back from its mission and values to serve those in need."

## LOBBYING FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE AT THE STATE CAPITOL



Ten SHAPers and their adult mentors attend Lobby Day.



Our Longmont/East Boulder County delegation meets with State Sen. Matt Jones in the State Capitol.

On March 7, Women’s Health and our partners in the Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice Coalition made our presence known at the State Capitol during our annual Lobby Day.

Women’s Health was well represented at the statewide event. Three Board members, six staff, and a record number of our SHAPE high school peer educators (10!) plus their mentors, attended. (See below for more on SHAPE.)

Lobby Day attendees were welcomed by legislators who encouraged us to stay active in the political process. We then received training in how to lobby and briefings from lobbyists on bills of concern. After organizing into our legislative districts, we met with our elected officials or their aides. All those at the event were particularly impressed with our SHAPers, who were energized around current issues and knowledgeable and poised when speaking to their legislators.

While four anti-abortion bills had been introduced earlier in the session, all had been killed in committee by the time of Lobby Day. Instead, we spoke to legislators in support of **HB1001, Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI)**, in favor of reauthorization of the **Colorado Civil Rights Division (CCRD)**, and urged legislators to oppose **HB1206**, the so-called **Live and Let Live Act**, a license to discriminate against LGBTQ persons under the guise of religious freedom. ❖

## SHAPE SPRING RETREAT

Members of **SHAPE** (Sexual Health Awareness & Peer Education) recently held their Spring retreat, which takes place later in the year to help SHAPers delve deeper into previously discussed topics and themes. At the retreat, SHAPers took a tour of the clinic, had a scavenger hunt to learn more about the clinic and what we do, and discussed how to be an active and effective ally to people in their communities. Women’s Health counselor Carmen Cool also gave a great talk on body positivity. ❖



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**Donate online at**  
[boulderwomenshealth.org](http://boulderwomenshealth.org)



This publication was made possible, in part, with funds from a Title X grant to the Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment from the Dept. of Health and Human Services, Office of Population Affairs.

## Special Events

### LOCAL COALITION CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Photo by Paul Paiva of CoCreativeJourneys.com

**Communications Director Lisa Radelet represents Women's Health at an International Women's Day event hosted by the Women's Collaborative of Boulder County.**

**W**omen's Health and our partners in the Women's Collaborative of Boulder County came together on March 8 to celebrate the achievements of local women and the organizations that work on their behalf.

The theme of the event was "Press for Progress" and honored Boulder's three women County Commissioners, who shared stories and insights about their work together.

Our partners in the Women's Collaborative include Zonta Foothills and Zonta Club of Boulder County, Boulder Business and Professional Women, UN Association–Boulder, Cities for CEDAW, League of Women Voters, AAUW, and TimeBank. ❖

## Save the Date!

**April 12**

**CHAMPIONS OF CHOICE  
Annual Luncheon at the  
Flagstaff House**

featuring Jessica Mason Pieklo, legal correspondent for Rewire.News.

**September 15**

**CONDOM COUTURE:  
A Cosmic Shift**

**at the Boulder JCC**

Our unique and creative runway show featuring fashions made of condoms!

*More info on our website under  
Get Involved/Special Events.*