













# ANNUAL REPORT 2012







# Letter from the Board President and Executive Director

## 2012 was marked by great strides and continued challenges for reproductive health & rights in the United States.

The Affordable Care Act now guarantees that women have unprecedented access to contraception. But conservative state legislatures had another banner year passing restrictive reproductive health legislation: 42 states and the District of Columbia enacted 122 provisions related to reproductive health and rights, one-third of them—43 provisions in 19 states—restricting access to abortion services. We know that these laws are not intended to protect women, as their authors deceitfully claim. On the contrary, they aim to shut clinic doors and have already done so. Over the past three years, at least 54 abortion providers in 27 states have either closed or stopped offering abortion services.

Promoting best practices in reproductive health care is the heart of the Reproductive Health Access Project's mission. We work directly with clinicians, training them and providing them with the tools and support they need to offer comprehensive contraception and abortion care to their patients. In this highly politicized environment, we have to be strategic in order to achieve our goals.

Early in January 2012, our staff and board mapped out these strategic priorities for 2012:

- Strengthen and deepen the support we provide to clinicians working in underserved areas
- Increase our organization's capacity to do more in more areas of the country, and
- Develop new ways to tell our story and spread our message.

In 2012 we made great progress in raising our organizational profile: We launched a blog and expanded our Twitter and Facebook presence. Our tools, resources and expertise received significant attention in mainstream media, and our medical director, Linda Prine, was honored with the 2012 William K. Rashbaum, MD, Abortion Provider Award by Physicians for Reproductive Health.

RHAP's expanded public platform helped us connect with more supporters and reach more clinicians across the country (and around the world) in 2012 than ever before. Thank to generous gifts from new and existing supporters, we were able to hire more staff and launch new initiatives.

RHAP developed a series of new birth control resources and launched a project to expand access to miscarriage care in primary care. And our Family Medicine Reproductive Health Network, which connects and supports family physicians providing abortion care, grew to more than 420 members across 36 states. This year, our support enabled a family physician to begin offering abortion services in Arkansas, a state with some of the toughest abortion laws in the country.

RHAP has had an amazing year and we are planning even bigger things in 2013. We are proud to share with you this report on our accomplishments in 2012. We can't thank you enough for your support, and look forward to working in partnership in the years to come!

Barbara Kance Ibaum

Barbara Kancelbaum President, Board of Directors



Lisa Maldonado Executive Director

# NEW INITIATIVES EXPANDING ACCESS

# GAPS (Graduate Abortion Provider Support) Fellowship

# The GAPS Fellowship, launched in 2011, provides family physicians in critically underserved areas with intensive support to integrate abortion into their clinical practice.

GAPS Fellows commit to integrating early abortion care into their practices during the Fellowship year in collaboration with RHAP staff and to participating in project-evaluation efforts. Fellows receive:

- Intensive technical assistance to set up appropriate clinical and administrative systems at the clinical site.
- Financial support to help cover specific start-up costs.
- Access to legal counsel.
- Support to attend relevant national and regional conferences.
- Our GAPS Fellows are core members of our Family Medicine Reproductive Health Network.

 $\bigcirc$ 

In September 2012, our first GAPS Fellow began offering medication abortion in her Arkansas family practice.

Up until then, Arkansas had only two abortion care facilities in the state, both of which have to comply with onerous legislation targeting high-volume abortion facilities. In 2012 RHAP launched an initiative to integrate management of early pregnancy loss into primary care.

Our goal is to learn how family physicians are providing miscarriage care and field test some strategies to expand access to this care.

# RHAP is:

**Conducting research** to understand how family physicians trained in abortion are using their skills to provide miscarriage care. We want to learn about barriers that they face and the factors that help them succeed in caring for women.

Advocating to ensure that all family physicians are trained to provide full-spectrum reproductive health care – including contraception, abortion and miscarriage care. We are working to strengthen the current family medicine residency training guidelines.

# Pilot-testing new strategies to integrate

miscarriage care into community health centers, an often overlooked source of reproductive health care. This winter RHAP began working with a community health center in Montana to integrate the comprehensive management of early pregnancy loss into their clinical practice. The lessons we are learning in Montana will guide our work in years to come. Integrating miscarriage management into community health care centers



# creating tools & resources







Just about every day RHAP receives a message from a clinician or learns about an organization that is using our tools and materials. These resources are among the central ways in which RHAP is concretely changing the way reproductive health care is provided.

We have tools and resources covering Contraception, Medication Abortion, Manual Vacuum Aspiration, and Miscarriage Management. Our resources include clinical protocols, patient-education materials, clinical forms, administrative information, and teaching tools.

# Practical

Everything we share on our website was developed through our hands-on work in the field with primary care clinicians.



# Available at No Charge

These materials are available for free by anyone, anywhere. No questions asked, no signing up.

# Trusted

**Evidence-based.** We constantly update our resources to ensure that they are scientifically accurate and reflect the latest research and knowledge in the field.

Pharma-free. We don't accept funding from pharmaceutical companies. We don't promote specific brands of medication or contraception. Our information is unbiased, based on science alone.

Clear and easy to understand. Our patient-education materials are written at low literacy levels and are available in multiple languages. We take care to design them so they are easy to read. All our materials are field tested by the kinds of clinicians who will use them.



In 2012 we released a series of 13 contraception user guides – the perfect handouts for anyone starting or switching birth control. Each birth control user guide is available in English and Spanish, provides information on what to expect, outlines how each method works and is used, answers typical questions, and troubleshoots the most common issues that come up.



# strengthening networks, DEVELOPING LEADERS

RHAP's Family Medicine Reproductive Health Network pulls together more than 420 family physicians in 36 states and Washington, D.C., to work together to integrate abortion into their primary care practices.



Often, the clinicians we work with are the lone prochoice voices in their communities. Their work can be very hard. The Network connects members with like-minded colleagues all across the country who can provide them with clinical guidance and a sympathetic ear.

#### Network members connect via:



#### The Accesslist

#### A vibrant clinical listserv

that serves as the hub of Network communications. Members share information about best clinical practices in abortion and contraceptive care.



National and Regional Network meetings

#### We host Network gatherings at various national primary care and reproductive health meetings and also in areas where we have a

critical mass of members.

In 2012 we hosted Network meetings in Cambridge, Cleveland, New Orleans, New York City, Seattle, and Vancouver.



#### Mentoring relationships

Every year we connect newly graduated family physicians with seasoned clinicians who are committed to offering support and guidance.

So far, we have fostered 145 mentor/mentee relationships.



Network members work together to put the American Academy of Family Physicians on record supporting contraception and abortion care.

We work with RHEDI (the Center for **Reproductive Health Education in Family** Medicine) to put forward these policy initiatives through the American Academy of Family Medicine in 2012.

2012 Policy Initiatives:

End Health Care **Discrimination for Transgender People** 

End Age Restrictions for **Emergency Contraception** (EC) Access

Ensure Comprehensive and Confidential Health Care for Minors and Adults Insured as Dependents

**Remove Barriers to IUD Use** 

Stop State Legislators from **Practicing Medicine Without** a License

11/1		
- m	·	
m		un .
		m
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	~~~
1000	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	999 /
him		2.00
0770		
122		my
	- marine	nha //
111		

# Assessing the Impact of the Family Medicine Reproductive Health Network

We build our Network by systematically reaching out to family medicine residents training in abortion care. The residents tell us about their training and future plans, and we, in turn, share our tools and resources with them and link them to mentors who help them as they start their clinical practices.

# Since 2007 We have added more than 325 newly trained family physicians to our Network and fostered 145 mentor/mentee relationships.

To understand the difference that our work is making, in 2012 we asked all Network members who completed their training 5 years ago to complete a short survey. We wanted to find out how their training and our efforts had affected the care they provide. Here is a summary of what we learned:

21% of the physicians we reached are providing abortion care as part of their regular clinical practice.15% work part-time in secondary jobs where they provide abortion care.

# More than one-third of the physicians provide abortion care.

**70%** of the physicians are treating early pregnancy loss. These clinicians are using their abortion skills to provide miscarriage care—even if they aren't able to provide abortion care.

100% are offering a wide range of contraceptive options, including IUDs, at their primary clinical sites, and100% offer patient-centered options counseling.

**86%** are involved in clinical training. This means that their reproductive health clinical training is being passed on to the next generation of clinicians.

80% of the respondents received help from RHAP and the Family Medicine Reproductive Health Network.
100% had used our website, our patient education materials and clinical protocols, and educational resources like the Contraceptive Pearls.

**30%** reported receiving one-on-one support from RHAP.

# Our work is making a difference.



Every year we work hard to ensure that reproductive health care is well represented at primary care conferences and that a primary care perspective is represented at reproductive health conferences.





The Contraceptive Pearls are a monthly email publication that highlights evidence-based clinical best practices designed to improve or expand access to contraception.

**2012 Topics:** Diabetes and Contraception Use Contraception and the Affordable Care Act Post-Abortion Contraception The Myth of the Required Pelvic Exam Non-Pharmacologic Pain Management Breastfeeding and Birth Control Clinician Question: IUD Insertion in a Single Visit? Birth Control for Less: Low-Cost Contraception Options Estrogen Contraindications



reproductive health care and advocacy fellowship

While contraception is a core component of the family medicine model, most family physicians do not receive adequate training in all family planning methods and very few residency programs offer training in abortion care. The Fellowship in Reproductive Health Care and Advocacy develops leaders who will promote and teach full-spectrum women's reproductive health care.



# 2012 Reproductive Health and Advocacy Fellow: Dr. Lucia McLendon

Originally from South Carolina, Lucia joined us as a fellow upon completing the Beth Israel Residency in Urban Family Practice. As the Reproductive Health and Advocacy Fellow, Lucia spent the year developing her skills as an advocate, educator, and mentor. A strong educator, Lucia coordinated an initiative to ensure that all 17 sites of a large community health center had someone on staff trained in providing IUD and implants.

# Lucia organized two pop-up birth control clinics:

- For the students of Fordham's Law School (who have no access to birth control via their catholic university health center or health insurance)
- For students of John Jay Community College

# 127 students received free birth control counseling.



A FAMILY PHYSICIAN AND A MEDICAL STUDENT LEAD A GROUP CONTRACEPTIVE COUNSELING SESSION WITH STUDENTS FROM JOHN JAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

# SPREADING OUR MESSAGE

The Reproductive Health Access Project is building a movement to transform healthcare in this country so that everyone can access the care they need from the clinicians who know them best. In order to grow the movement, we need to reach out to as many people as possible.

# In 2012 we focused on improving our ability to tell our story and spread our message.

# February 2012: Launched our Valentine's Day Facebook Campaign



**220%** increase in social media presence

## July 2012: Launched our BLOG



RHAP now has a space to share our thoughts on policy initiatives, promote our newest resources, and share stories from the clinicians with whom we work, highlighting the patients they care for, the challenges they face, and the impact of providing contraceptive and abortion care on the communities they serve.

## National Recognition of Our Work



*The New York Times* Interview with Ruth Lesnewski, MD, our education director "Switching Contraceptives Effectively" by Jane E. Brody September 17, 2012



*Physicians for Reproductive Health* William K. Rashbaum Award Presented to Linda Prine, MD, our medical director in recognition of her career-long service and impact on the field of abortion care.

# Impact

Greater public recognition has allowed RHAP to connect with more clinicians and supporters than ever before.

Our website statistics illustrate our growing reach.



SPREADING OUR MESSAGE

# who WE are

## **Advisory Committee**

Talcott Camp, JD American Civil Liberties Union

Eric Ferrero Planned Parenthood Federation of America

Joshua Freeman, MD University of Kansas, Department of Family Medicine

Robert Gillespie Population Communication

Rebecca Hart, JD Chair Provide

Angela Hooton, JD Center for Reproductive Rights

Rachel K. Jones, PhD Guttmacher Institute

Hannah S. Kully, PhD

Virna Little, PsyD Institute for Family Health

lodi Magee Physicians for Reproductive Health

Maureen Paul, MD Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Eric Schaff, MD Temple University/Greater Philadelphia Action Center, Inc.

Susan Sommer, ID Lambda Legal

## Board

Katie Bahan, MPH Vicki Breitbart, EdD Barbara Kancelbaum, MS

President

Emily Kane-Lee, MA

Harlene Katzman, JD Vice-President

Eva Kolodner

Ruth Lesnewski, MD

Honor MacNaughton, MD

Ana Marin Secretary

Jayma Meyer, JD Sandy Merrill, MPH Danielle Pagano, MA Treasurer Linda Rosenthal, JD

## Staff

Lia Cassanego Women's Health Advocate

Tiffany Cook Program and Administrative Associate

Gabrielle DeFiebre, MPH Research Associate

Jenny Horton Texas Field Organizer

Ruth Lesnewski, MD **Education Director** 

Lucia McLendon, MD Fellow in Reproductive Health and Advocacy

Lisa Maldonado, MA, MPH Executive Director

Rosann Mariappuram Communications and Fundraising Associate

Linda Prine, MD Medical Director

Susan Yanow, MSW National Organizer

Mia Mattioli Intern

**Eve Peyser** Intern

Lianne Salcido Intern

Hannah Wade Intern

# financial information

# Our Funders

# The Reproductive Health Access Project is supported by many generous individual donors and the following foundations:

The Anderson-Rogers Foundation The Brack Family Foundation The Ettinger Foundation FJC-A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds The Bernard and Alva Gimbel Foundation The Glickenhaus Foundation The Glickenhaus Foundation The Lisa and Douglas Goldman Foundation The Green Fund The Grove Foundation The Irving Harris Foundation The Irving Harris Foundation The Edward S. Moore Foundation The Prentice Fund The Morris Smith Foundation The Mary Wohlford Foundation

# Financial Information Fiscal Year: April 1 – March 31

INCOME	2011	2012
Foundations	\$122,500	\$263,500
Individual Donors	\$57,132	\$61,150
Education Materials	\$2,587	\$3,941
Contribution - in kind	\$41,362	\$45,543
Interest and other income	\$385	\$502
Total Income	\$223,966	\$374,636
Net assets, beginning of year	\$175,510	\$142,510
Net assets, end of year	\$142,850	\$230,136

EXPENSES	2011	2012
Program Services	\$186,340	\$211,862
Fundraising	\$42,162	\$48,223
Administrative	\$28,123	\$27,267
Total Expenses	\$256,625	\$287,352









Integrating contraception and abortion into primary care

PO Box 21191 New York NY 10025 212-206-5247 info@reproductiveaccess.org www.reproductiveaccess.org