



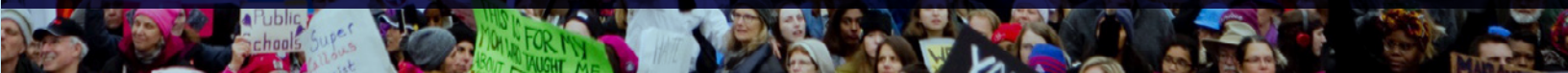
personalPAC

Pro-choice. No exceptions.

2019 IMPACT REPORT



Thanks to the commitment of its dedicated supporters, Personal PAC helped to improve the lives of Illinois women in 2019 primarily through the passage of the Reproductive Health Act (RHA). This historic bill establishes an individual's fundamental right to make decisions about their reproductive health. Additionally, Personal PAC honored leaders of choice at its Annual Awards Luncheon where needed funds were raised to ensure the election of pro-choice leaders in 2020. Personal PAC is proud of its progress over the past year but recognizes the challenging road ahead to repeal the dangerous Parental Notice of Abortion Act and continue to safeguard reproductive rights for future generations.



VICTORIES

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT (RHA)

While *Roe* was under attack across the country this past year, Personal PAC worked hard to ensure Illinois advanced reproductive rights. A tremendous win in safeguarding reproductive health in Illinois and across the Midwest was the passage of the Reproductive Health Act (RHA).

The RHA recognizes that abortion is healthcare, not criminal activity. The bill repealed Illinois' outdated abortion law so the state treats abortion care like all healthcare, with regulations that reflect current medical standards. The bill affirms that "women, not politicians, make the decisions" about their reproductive health, including their birth control and their decision to have an abortion.

This vital law modernizes and updates Illinois' laws from the 1970's to establish the necessary access to reproductive healthcare.

Without the RHA, Illinois could have faced a lack of insurance coverage for abortion care and birth control, mandatory spousal consent for abortion, 24-hour waiting periods, criminal penalties for a doctor performing an abortion, misinformed consent, and bans on assisted reproductive techniques like IVF. We refused to go back and prevailed!

Personal PAC worked tirelessly to educate the public, move voters to contact their representative on behalf of the RHA, and urge elected officials to stand up for reproductive justice. Elected officials endorsed by Personal PAC in 2018 were the deciding factors in the vote to pass the RHA, reminding us just how much elections matter.

Personal PAC wants to thank all of our friends and partners who fought by our side and Governor Pritzker, who signed the bill into law on June 12, 2019.

IT'S PRO-CHOICE OR NO CHOICE!

THE CHALLENGE

The Reproductive Health Act (RHA) moves Illinois closer to being one of the strongest states in favor of reproductive health. As we see more and more healthcare restrictions enacted in states surrounding Illinois, the need for Illinois to remain a safe haven for women throughout the Midwest continues to grow. Unfortunately, Illinois' label as a reproductive healthcare oasis in the middle of the country also puts a target on our back.

Anti-choice groups want to eradicate access to abortion and birth control and are winning battles across the Midwest. The next step for them to accomplish this goal will be to fund anti-choice extremists to replace Illinois' pro-choice leaders in 2020 and create an anti-choice majority in the General Assembly. Most at risk are the recently elected representatives who helped pass the RHA. Heavy funding for these anti-choice candidates will arrive from not only anti-choice groups in Illinois but from extremists across the country.

The only way for us to counteract these opponents is with resources directed at supporting both our pro-choice incumbents and future pro-choice leaders who can replace current anti-choice politicians. The statement "elections matter" has never hit home for people more than it will in 2020 on both a national and state level. One election can wipe out all of the progress we have made. One election can reverse the makeup of Illinois General Assembly. One election can see the repeal of both HB40 and the RHA.

STRATEGIES THAT WORK

Personal PAC is fortunate to have partnerships with likeminded organizations whose shared belief in a women's right to choose brings everyone together to achieve a common goal – keeping the women of Illinois safe.

Through regular strategy meetings, we work together to:

- **Support online and social media efforts for pro-choice leaders**
- **Lead canvassing efforts to shed light on anti-choice extremists**
- **Encourage constituents to contact their legislators about important pro-choice legislation**
- **Inspire legislators to sponsor and support historic pro-choice legislation**
- **Identify and recruit new pro-choice candidates**
- **Promote the candidacy of new pro-choice leaders**



By combining resources, Personal PAC has found ways to be even more effective with its donors' dollars in ensuring that every woman in Illinois has equal access to safe and affordable reproductive healthcare, including contraception and abortion, without government interference.

THE 26TH ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

On September 23, 2019, Personal PAC hosted its 26th Annual Awards Luncheon. The event honored Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky and Hope Clinic for Women and featured inspiring remarks by reproductive rights champion, Cecile Richards.

Personal PAC's Annual Awards Luncheon is the organization's primary fundraiser. We thank everyone who attended and contributed to the event.

Please mark your calendar for next year's Annual Awards Luncheon – Wednesday, October 21, 2020!



Cecile Richards



Jennifer & Terry Diamond



Hon. Jan Schakowsky & Jerry Newton

LOOKING AHEAD

There is little time to celebrate the passing of the RHA with anti-choice politicians fighting for its repeal and national anti-choice organizations gearing up to fund anti-choice candidates in 2020. With that in mind, Personal PAC will be focused on two key goals in 2020:

- **Repealing the Parental Notice Act of Abortion (PNA) and**
- **Protecting and expanding the Illinois General Assembly's pro-choice majority**

REPEAL PARENTAL NOTICE

Why is it important that we repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act requiring healthcare providers to alert an adult family member 48 hours before performing an abortion on patients under the age of 18?

The American Academy of Pediatrics contends that parental notification and consent laws can lead to serious harm. "There is evidence," the group's policy states, "that such legislation . . . increases the risk of medical and psychological harm to the adolescent." Some of their reasons include:

- **Not all parents are good parents**
- **Volatile home environments put individuals at risk for being thrown out of their homes**
- **A family member may be the young woman's sexual abuser**
- **The judicial bypass process (which is 99.5% successful) forces them to miss school, presents immense logistical hurdles, and can grossly delay their procedure**

Personal PAC is implementing a multi-step strategy that will protect reproductive rights for all women in Illinois through 2032. With the first step – supporting the election of a pro-choice Governor and Attorney General – accomplished, Personal PAC is now directing its attention toward removing remaining reproductive rights restrictions that impede a woman's access to a safe and legal abortion.

Repealing this forced parental involvement law will provide more security for the women of Illinois and those from other states who come here for safe reproductive healthcare. To learn more about the repeal bill, please visit our website at www.personalpac.org.

2020 ELECTIONS

The 2018 election was pivotal for the pro-choice movement in Illinois—successfully making our state's General Assembly the most pro-choice it has ever been. Personal PAC supported pro-choice candidates who are now working in Springfield on behalf of women and families. While our success was undeniable, the 2020 election is going to be the fight of our lives.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PRIMARY ELECTION: March 17, 2020 + GENERAL ELECTION: November 3, 2020

We have the chance to defeat 13 anti-choice leaders—see you at the voting booths!

In addition to defending the six new pro-choice leaders, Personal PAC will also focus on turning over 13 seats currently held by anti-choice extremists in Illinois. Those seats are critical if Illinois is going to retain its pro-choice majority and repeal forced parental notification.

It is often difficult to energize donor giving in non-election years despite this being our most critical time to prepare for 2020's historical election. So, with full transparency, we are asking you to fund our efforts now so that we have the resources needed to resist anti-choice candidates running in 2020 and protect our 2018 victories.





THANK YOU!

Personal PAC would not be one of the most dynamic and successful political action committees in the country if it weren't for the support of its friends and partners. Below are ways you can help fund the critical work of Personal PAC.

Make a Donation

- Donate Online – Visit www.personalpac.org
- Donate by Phone – Call the office at 312-422-0005
- Your gift can be made in Memory or Honor of someone

Consider a Monthly Gift

- Monthly giving is a great way to support Personal PAC year-round. Funds will be used to support candidates and pro-choice legislation
- To set up a monthly gift, simply visit the website or call the office (see above)

Don't miss the chance to be recognized as a loyal donor

- Personal PAC will launch a new loyalty giving society in 2020 that honors believers in choice who consistently support the organization's mission
- Friends of choice who contribute five years in a row, based on our calendar year of giving, will be included
- Benefits will include an invitation to a loyalty society event

Consider Leaving Personal PAC in your Will

- The anti-choice moment is never going away. That means Personal PAC needs to be here to protect the next generation of women
- The Marcie Love Legacy Society has been established to honor individuals who make a deferred gift through inclusion of Personal PAC in their Will
- To learn more, please reach out to Malia Huff at 312-422-0005

Funds raised in 2019 will determine how hard we can fight in the 2020 elections. We ask you to dig deep so we can make a difference for the women of Illinois! Our right-wing, anti-choice opponents NEVER give up and neither can we.



The fight is not over. We need your continued partnership to protect her future.