

**Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Southern New England
Susan Lloyd Yolen, Vice President, Public Affairs & Communication
Appropriations Committee Hearing on the Department of Public Health Budget
February 18, 2010**

Good evening, I am Susan Yolen, Vice President, Public Affairs and Communication, for Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. PPSNE is the largest provider of basic reproductive health care and family planning services in Connecticut and Rhode Island. I'm here tonight to express serious concern about a proposed cut of about 30% to the DPH community health services budget line—a line that totals less than \$7 million, and a projected cut of over \$2 million.

This budget line includes approximately \$1 million in funding for subsidized family planning services that were utilized by *over 35,000 individuals*, mostly women, in fiscal year 2009...women from every city and town in Connecticut. The Planned Parenthood centers and other providers who accept this state support used it to serve over 2000 Bridgeport residents, over 1000 Danbury residents, over 3500 New Haveners, 2000 Hartford residents and 2800 Waterbury residents. This grant also served 136 residents of Lyme, 145 women from Plainville, 103 from Newtown and 193 from Winchester. I've attached a list for those of you who'd like to see how many of your constituents received DPH family planning services last year.

Many of these women, from every corner of our state, were very likely hard hit by the year's economy. They relied on the DPH family planning program to access the basic services and supplies they needed in order to prevent an unintended pregnancy. For the individual woman and her family, the timing of children is a matter of choice, and personal preference. For the State of Connecticut, it's a matter of savings, since **every public dollar spent on family planning in Connecticut saves over four public dollars, within the year**, on the costs associated with prenatal care, delivery and pediatric care later spent by the Medicaid program.

In the overall picture, and against a mounting deficit, we know this is a small budget line, and a relatively modest cut. And family planning providers are willing to take our lumps with everyone else—no more, no less. We are frustrated, however, by the fact that, like so many nonprofits that rely on public grants, Planned Parenthood and our colleagues have received essentially the same grant for over twenty years, making do while our costs...for supplies, medications and skilled medical providers...have increased steadily.

As part of the state's nonprofit sector, Planned Parenthood believes that ultimately the solution to the budget crisis lies not in shredding the safety net of health and social services that protect our state and its citizens in hard times, but in *using these essential community services* to prevent the costs that inevitably result from health care postponed or neglected. We support a state budget that combines revenue enhancement strategies with sensible cuts that preserve the services people need, at a time when they need them the most. Thank you.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

Towns served by DPH family planning grant, 10/1/08-9/30/09

In the table below is the number of new (unique) clients served during this period according to their place (town) of residence.

Town	# Served	%	Town	# Served	%	Town	# Served	%	Town	# Served	%
Andover	25	0.07%	Enfield	57	0.17%	Newtown	103	0.31%	Union	1	0.00%
Ansonia	102	0.30%	Essex	4	0.01%	Norfolk	30	0.09%	Vernon	323	0.96%
Ashford	45	0.13%	Fairfield	187	0.56%	N. Branford	52	0.15%	Voluntown	33	0.10%
Avon	58	0.17%	Farmington	87	0.26%	North Canaan	3	0.01%	Wallingford	525	1.56%
Barkhamsted	26	0.08%	Franklin	3	0.01%	North Haven	139	0.41%	Warren	14	0.04%
Beacon Falls	25	0.07%	Glastonbury	163	0.48%	N. Stonington	62	0.18%	Washington	9	0.03%
Berlin	113	0.34%	Goshen	43	0.13%	Norwalk	128	0.38%	Waterbury	2,803	8.33%
Bethany	13	0.04%	Granby	89	0.26%	Norwich	1,337	3.98%	Waterford	203	0.60%
Bethel	164	0.49%	Greenwich	14	0.04%	Old Lyme	23	0.07%	Watertown	154	0.46%
Bethlehem	32	0.10%	Griswold	15	0.04%	Old Saybrook	13	0.04%	Westbrook	18	0.05%
Bloomfield	224	0.67%	Groton	547	1.63%	Orange	41	0.12%	West Hartford	518	1.54%
Bolton	22	0.07%	Guilford	66	0.20%	Oxford	28	0.08%	West Haven	772	2.30%
Bozrah	56	0.17%	Haddam	14	0.04%	Plainfield	67	0.20%	Weston	22	0.07%
Branford	200	0.59%	Haddam	14	0.04%	Plainville	145	0.43%	Westport	27	0.08%
Bridgeport	2,051	6.10%	Hamden	699	2.08%	Plymouth	25	0.07%	Wethersfield	133	0.40%
Bridgewater	8	0.02%	Hampton	36	0.11%	Pomfret	8	0.02%	Willington	64	0.19%
Bristol	346	1.03%	Hartford	2,020	6.01%	Portland	36	0.11%	Wilton	18	0.05%
Brookfield	117	0.35%	Hartland	9	0.03%	Portland	36	0.11%	Winchester	193	0.57%
Brooklyn	28	0.08%	Harwinton	57	0.17%	Preston	53	0.16%	Windham	817	2.43%
Burlington	46	0.14%	Hebron	62	0.18%	Prospect	49	0.15%	Windsor	200	0.59%
Canaan	46	0.14%	Kent	37	0.11%	Putnam	17	0.05%	Windsor Locks	42	0.12%
Canterbury	63	0.19%	Killingly	17	0.05%	Redding	27	0.08%	Wolcott	93	0.28%
Canton	62	0.18%	Killingworth	14	0.04%	Ridgefield	89	0.26%	Woodbridge	25	0.07%
Chaplin	39	0.12%	Lebanon	95	0.28%	Rocky Hill	106	0.32%	Woodbury	59	0.18%
Cheshire	123	0.37%	Ledyard	190	0.56%	Roxbury	19	0.06%	Woodstock	13	0.04%
Chester	12	0.04%	Lisbon	46	0.14%	Salem	148	0.44%			
Clinton	19	0.06%	Litchfield	66	0.20%	Salisbury	38	0.11%			
Colchester	122	0.36%	Lyme	136	0.40%	Scotland	0	0.00%	Total Served	33,630	
Colebrook	16	0.05%	Madison	23	0.07%	Seymour	39	0.12%			
Columbia	67	0.20%	Manchester	448	1.33%	Sharon	18	0.05%			
Cornwall	15	0.04%	Mansfield	214	0.64%	Shelton	85	0.25%			
Coventry	148	0.44%	Marlborough	36	0.11%	Sherman	12	0.04%			
Cromwell	71	0.21%	Meriden	1,682	5.00%	Simsbury	56	0.17%			
Danbury	1,044	3.10%	Middlebury	24	0.07%	Somers	13	0.04%			
Darien	4	0.01%	Middlefield	22	0.07%	Southbury	55	0.16%			
Deep River	14	0.04%	Middletown	372	1.11%	Southington	172	0.51%			
Derby	43	0.13%	Milford	262	0.78%	S. Windsor	131	0.39%			
Durham	36	0.11%	Monroe	40	0.12%	Sprague	9	0.03%			
Eastford	3	0.01%	Montville	199	0.59%	Stafford	58	0.17%			
East Granby	11	0.03%	Morris	28	0.08%	Stamford	88	0.26%			
East Haddam	21	0.06%	Naugatuck	317	0.94%	Sterling	44	0.13%			
East Hampton	65	0.19%	New Britain	843	2.51%	Stonington	204	0.61%			
East Hartford	476	1.42%	New Canaan	7	0.02%	Stratford	325	0.97%			
East Haven	337	1.00%	New Fairfield	91	0.27%	Suffield	20	0.06%			
East Lyme	37	0.11%	New Hartford	54	0.16%	Thomaston	88	0.26%			
Easton	18	0.05%	New Haven	3,563	10.59%	Thompson	7	0.02%			
East Windsor	17	0.05%	Newington	166	0.49%	Tolland	74	0.22%			
Ellington	81	0.24%	New London	1,336	3.97%	Torrington	799	2.38%			
			New Milford	161	0.48%	Trumbull	96	0.29%			