

## 6/27/22 NOTES

### iSOS General Membership Meeting

1. Our summer gala will be held at Betsy Porter's home-July 28th from 5:00 to 7:00! Please invite a prospective member to join us! We need your RSVP by July 7th, please. Catered by Cowgirls! We're up to 37 RSVPs!
2. Florida postcards should be ready soon.
3. No meeting July 4th or for the month of August. We'll resume September 12th.

It's looking like we will have to re-focus on fortifying our reproductive rights here in NM, in addition to hold the house and the senate. AZ, FL, NC, VA, MI, WI, PA, NE, KS are states that are listed as uncertain as to their status around abortion rights at this moment in time. Several of them coincide with the swing states for House and senate. We might considered changing our meetings to postcards and letter writing parties.

Cynthia will write an action oriented draft for a "My View" piece (up to 600 words?) for the paper, all legislators and the Governor.

David Cicilline (D-RI) says the filibuster in the Senate will continue to be problem.

A NM Constitutional right to Privacy might be a smart way to go to protect not only reproductive rights, but also gay marriage, etc.

Our Speaker:

Kayla Herring, Director of Public Affairs of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

Planned parenthood is part of a large coalition including:

- [Bold Futures](#)
- [Black Health New Mexico](#)
- [Breath of My Heart](#)
- [Indigenous Women Rising](#)
- [Mariposa Fund](#)
- [NewMexicoWomen.Org](#)
- [NM Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice](#)
- [Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains](#)
- [Respect NM Women](#)
- [Southwest Women's Law Center](#)
- [Southwest Organizing Project](#)
- [Strong Families NM](#)
- [Tewa Women United](#)

Kayla had just gotten of the phone with the Governor, who issued an order to protect service providers <https://www.governor.state.nm.us/2022/06/27/gov-lujan-grisham-takes-action-to-secure-abortion-access-protect-new-mexico-health-care-providers/>

Q. Will you push for a special session to codify in law the right to legal, safe abortion in nm?

A. 26 states to ban or restrict, we will be monitoring them. NM has 2 NM Supreme Court cases that support our position, along with case law and equal rights amendment. Agree it can be stronger.

Q. We need to codify this into law in NM.

A. Take a step back, historically, this effort has been led by women of color in our state. Around the state there are legal experts looking at creating stronger protections. At the moment there are over 50 pieces of potential legislation, which are critical for women of color and poor communities. We are in a tough place with the election this year, with Governor and all NM House reps up. Anything we put into place this year could easily be repealed next year if the election goes the wrong way. Access is key.

Q. Free contraception, Telehealth, Plan B through milk will all need to be more available.

A. We will utilize all buckets. Plus we must protect providers and their licenses (from any state). Locations, broadband access, medicaid and expanded Telehealth (no ultrasound screening). There will be extended wait times for all due to the influx.

Q. Will nurse practitioners be trained in these procedures?

A. We expanded last year into allowing physician's assistants to be allowed. (They may need clarification)

Q. We will be a destination state and we have limited capacity, with only ABQ, Farmington and the south having facilities.

A. Bernalillo is the only county that provides surgical abortions. Santa FE and Las Cruces via medication only.

Q/A. The last provider in Mississippi is moving to NM, probably Las Cruces. This may be a hub for out of state providers.

Q. We will need to boost outreach for contraception, telemedicine, etc. Can we access physicians in Canada for some of these options?

A. We have just expanded Telehealth as well as Contraceptive equity, which allows patients prescribed contraception to obtain a full year's worth at a time. Also expanded LARC and IUD options. Dual licensures could help Canadian physicians help US.

Q. Can Reservations or federal land be used for clinics or housing?

A. Reservations are served by Indian Health Services, which is sorely underfunded with no abortion services allowed. Any use of federal land would have to go through congress.

Q. How hard is it to get a license to practice here and what about reciprocity with other states?

A. It is currently a long process, which effects all kinds of health providers trying to come to NM. Reciprocity takes about 6 months, with lots of hoops to jump through.

Q. Can we join this coalition? What can we do to help?

A. The coalition is focused on group policy goals. It is a very broad coalition. Kayla will ask about us joining. There is currently a change in co-chairs and so it could take a bit of time.

#### NEXT STEPS:

Insure New Mexicans have access to abortion care, safe and legal.

Engage in political work - somewhat precarious due to election.

Donations can be made to any of the groups within the coalition. See list above.