



Ensuring Access to Comprehensive Reproductive Health Information and Services

Abortion Access Project

\$50,000

*Cambridge, Massachusetts; <http://www.abortionaccess.org>
Melanie Zurek, Executive Director*

Created in 1992 by the Reproductive Rights Network, the Abortion Access Project is a coalition of advocates and health care providers dedicated to realizing the promise of *Roe v. Wade* for all American women. Despite the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, by 2000 87% of United States counties had no licensed abortion provider, and only 20% of obstetrics/gynecology residency programs required training in first trimester abortion procedures. To help alleviate these shortages, Project staff mounted a campaign to expand abortion training for nurse practitioners, physicians' assistants, and midwives, and to establish their legal right to perform abortions. Over the past five years, Project researchers have analyzed the laws and regulations relevant to the provision of abortion services by advanced practice clinicians (APCs) in 17 states and the District of Columbia. Based on the research findings, this year the Project is helping reproductive health care providers and activists in several of these states develop advocacy, organizing, and training strategies to enable APCs to offer medical and, where possible, surgical abortion services. In addition, Project staff are collaborating with other members of the national APC Working Group to develop strategies to defend APCs' practice rights and expand their services in rural areas. Our grant supports this work.

Advocates for Youth

\$65,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.advocatesforyouth.org>

James Wagoner, President

Advocates for Youth (AFY) was founded in 1980 to improve the health and well-being of young people by helping them prevent pregnancy and sexually-transmitted diseases. AFY offers technical assistance to practitioners offering adolescent reproductive health services, provides information to policymakers about the benefits of comprehensive and realistic public health policies, and works with media to educate the general public about these issues. Despite recent reductions in teenage pregnancies, American teens still have the highest birth rate in the industrialized world. The little progress made is now threatened by the federal government's efforts to censor sexuality education and channel hundreds of millions of dollars into "abstinence-only" programs, much of it flowing directly to religious and conservative nonprofits. Flying in the face of scientific research and recommended public health policy, these misguided and dangerous programs prohibit discussion of contraception to prevent pregnancy, AIDS, and other sexually-transmitted diseases. Given the federal policy climate, AFY plans to concentrate its efforts in key states that have the potential to make positive state-level policy changes. Our grant supports these efforts as AFY works with existing state sex education coalitions and advocacy groups to advance comprehensive sexuality education in nine individual states.

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation Reproductive Freedom Project

\$85,000

New York, New York; <http://www.aclu.org>

Louise Melling, Director

The Reproductive Freedom Project was created in 1974 by the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation to provide legal advice, technical assistance, and public education materials to support affiliates working to protect access to reproductive health care in their states. Project attorneys also conduct litigation on reproductive rights issues in federal and state courts. This year, the Project's litigation, policy analysis, and public education activities focus on derailing bans on safe abortion procedures, protecting the reproductive rights of minors and poor women, and countering religiously grounded limitations on the availability of contraceptives. As part of this work, Project attorneys are preparing *amicus* briefs to the Supreme Court asking it to uphold lower court decisions striking down a federal ban on certain abortion procedures. In addition, the Project is conducting a national campaign to promote comprehensive sex education programs and challenge curricula that contain inaccuracies or religious proselytizing. Our grant supports this work.

Catholics for a Free Choice

\$65,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.catholicsforchoice.org>

Frances Kissling, President

In the run-up to the 2004 elections, Catholic legislators and candidates were subjected to unprecedented pressure from a group of Catholic bishops and their allies to take positions on reproductive rights issues in accordance with church doctrine. Attacks on pro-choice candidates took the form of highly publicized threats of excommunication, rescinded invitations to speak at Catholic institutions, and removal from lay religious posts. Many of these candidates turned for help to Catholics for a Free Choice (CFFC), an educational organization that supports the right to legal reproductive health care, family planning, and abortion. Since 1973 CFFC has played an important role in balancing the Roman Catholic Church hierarchy's opposition to a wide range of reproductive health options with pro-choice Catholic perspectives. As the 2006 election cycle drew near, the bishops and their allies in conservative Catholic organizations were expected to again launch attacks on pro-choice Catholic candidates. With our support, CFFC made preparations to help Catholic candidates defend pro-choice positions and to monitor conservative Catholic groups to determine if they overstepped the legal limits on electioneering to which all nonprofits are subject. In addition, our grant supports CFFC's continued work to preserve access to reproductive health care services within the Catholic health care system.

Center for Reproductive Rights

\$160,000

New York, New York; <http://www.reproductiverights.org>

Nancy Northup, President

Established in 1992, the Center for Reproductive Rights uses litigation, public policy analysis, and a multifaceted communication program to advance women's access to comprehensive reproductive health care. Among its ongoing docket of 20 federal and state lawsuits challenging various restrictions on health care providers and patients, this year the Center is defending its lower court victories overturning the federal abortion ban before the Supreme Court. Staff are also examining the implications of last year's Supreme Court ruling that the court must consider legislative intent in determining whether to strike down New Hampshire's parental notification law. In addition, the Center will publish its analyses of whether "fetal rights" laws pose threats to reproductive rights, and the applicability of sex discrimination claims to abortion rights and "abstinence-only" education cases. Lastly, staff are advising activists on legal strategies to secure state protections for abortion rights, and providing activists, policymakers, and members of the press with analyses of court decisions and legislative proposals addressing the full range of reproductive rights concerns. Our grant supports this work.

Communications Consortium Media Center**\$150,000***Washington, D.C.; <http://www.ccmc.org>**Kathy Bonk, Codirector*

In explaining President Bush's 2004 election victory, some political analysts opined that Kerry's support for choice had enabled the religious right to mobilize its base in key swing states, and that the progressive community would be better served by downplaying the abortion issue in the future. Concerned about the possible abandonment of abortion advocacy by erstwhile supporters, as well as the opposition's successes in polarizing public discussion, many pro-choice leaders have recognized the need to reposition abortion within the context of a broader reproductive health agenda and widely supported public values. Responding to these concerns, the Communications Consortium Media Center, a public interest communications strategy firm, and the Women Donors Network launched a "Moving Forward" project to develop a new, more broadly appealing language for the pro-choice movement. Drawing on extensive public opinion research, the Consortium identified "life decisions," personal responsibility, respect for others, and planning/prevention as effective message frames for advancing pro-choice perspectives. With our support, staff are now developing communications materials and other resources for advocates, and organizing media campaigns and public events to promote these messages.

Family Planning Advocates of New York State Education Fund**\$50,000***Albany, New York; <http://www.fpaofnys.org>**JoAnn Smith, Executive Director*

Since legalizing abortion, three years before the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1970, New York State has remained a leader in protecting women's reproductive rights. In recent years, however, the Catholic Conference and other groups on the religious right have become increasingly influential in Albany. They regularly urge policymakers to fund "abstinence-only" curricula in place of comprehensive sexuality education programs, to restrict minors' access to confidential reproductive health care, and to limit the availability of emergency contraception. In 1997 the Education Fund of Family Planning Advocates organized a statewide Concerned Clergy for Choice network to counter this influence and strengthen pro-choice advocacy on the state level. With our support, the network continues to inform pro-choice clergy about reproductive health policy debates and assist them in conveying a religious pro-choice perspective to their congregations, policymakers, and the press.

Feminist Majority Foundation

\$90,000

Arlington, Virginia; <http://www.feminist.org>

Eleanor Smeal, President

The Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF) is a national public interest organization founded in 1987 to promote equal rights and opportunities for women. Since its inception, FMF has been at the forefront of the battle to preserve and extend reproductive rights. Beginning in 1989 with the creation of its National Clinic Defense Project, FMF has directly challenged the efforts of anti-choice extremists to shut down abortion clinics throughout the country. Employing such things as volunteer recruitment and training, a sophisticated communications system, and provision of legal assistance and media briefings, FMF has been the national leader of on-site clinic defense efforts. In 1995, the Project's work was expanded to include research on and monitoring of extremist elements in the anti-choice movement in the belief that this information would enable FMF to develop early warning systems capable of predicting criminal activity. Since that time, the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation has provided continued support for the work of FMF's Research and Investigative Unit as it tracked extremist anti-choice groups and individuals and compiled a massive database of information about them. This information is used by clinics to avert possible threats and by law enforcement officials to prevent and prosecute criminal attacks on reproductive health providers.

Guttmacher Institute

\$248,000

New York, New York; <http://www.guttmacher.org>

Sharon L. Camp, President & CEO

over 2 years

Public debate over abortion policy is too often clouded by competing claims and misinformation about who has abortions and why, the prevalence and practice of abortion, and its effects on women's health. To counter this misinformation and provide an accurate basis for public discussion and policymaking, the Guttmacher Institute conducts periodic surveys of abortion providers. During the current grant period, Institute researchers will compare this year's survey data with data from previous Institute surveys and from government agencies in order to produce a comprehensive overview of abortion patients today and changes over the past 30 years. In a second research project, Institute staff are analyzing customer data provided by the distributor of the medical abortion drug mifepristone to document its use across the country and assess the extent to which its availability has affected women's ability to terminate unwanted pregnancies. The findings and analyses of both research projects will be submitted to professional journals, and summarized in briefings, fact sheets, and other materials for members of the media, health care providers, advocates, and policymakers.

Hampshire College
Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program

\$40,000

*Amherst, Massachusetts; <http://clpp.hampshire.edu>
 Marlene Gerber Fried, Director*

The Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program (CLPP) at Hampshire College was founded in 1981 to educate and activate a new generation of leaders in the reproductive rights movement. As a campus-based program that works nationally, CLPP plays a unique role. Not only does it educate, mentor, and support student reproductive rights activists, it also works to connect national pro-choice organizations with this natural but underdeveloped constituency. CLPP carries out a range of activities to raise awareness about reproductive rights issues, to educate and train a new generation of activists, to bridge the gap between the academy and reproductive rights advocacy, and to ensure that the voices of younger women are heard in the larger pro-choice community. In the coming year, CLPP will continue to organize its well-established and growing networking and training conference. In addition, the Program will expand newer initiatives — an internship program that places student activists with pro-choice organizations and a summer leadership program that brings young women who are currently employed by pro-choice organizations to the Hampshire College campus so they can develop professional networks and advance their knowledge of the field.

Institute for Reproductive Health Access

\$100,000

*New York, New York; <http://www.prochoiceny.org>
 Kelli Conlin, Executive Director*

There are nearly three million unintended pregnancies in the U.S. each year and about half of them end in abortions. Drugs used for emergency contraception (EC) have been approved by the FDA and can prevent pregnancies if taken within 72 hours of having had intercourse. However, surveys indicate that most American women are unaware of their availability or use. The Institute for Reproductive Health Access, the research and education arm of NARAL Pro-Choice New York, has been working to promote state and local policy reforms that would enable pharmacists to dispense EC without an individual patient prescription, thereby increasing access to EC. With our support, the Institute is continuing this work in New York, advising groups in other states as they undertake similar efforts, and leading the national Back Up Your Birth Control Campaign, a public education project involving more than 100 organizations nationwide that are advocating for the federal approval of over-the-counter sale of EC. The Campaign will also highlight current barriers to EC use, help advocates develop strategies to overcome those barriers, and create messages and materials to enhance public attention to EC issues.

Ms. Foundation for Women

\$60,000

New York, New York; <http://www.ms.foundation.org>

Sara K. Gould, President and CEO

Established in 1975, the Ms. Foundation supports grassroots women’s groups working on issues such as discrimination, domestic violence, economic empowerment, reproductive rights, and non-sexist education. In its grantmaking, priority is given to women’s organizations whose access to financial support is limited, and that sponsor community-based self-help initiatives. Its funding is also distinguished by a policy of helping grantees develop the skills they need to become effective agents of social change. In recent years, with the future of reproductive rights more precarious and the battle lines shifting to individual states, the Ms. Foundation has expanded its work in this area to include coalition building and regional organizing through its Reproductive Rights Coalition and Organizing Fund. Over the years, the Fund has helped state reproductive rights coalitions form, solidify, and grow with a combination of financial support, technical assistance, and networking opportunities. Our grant will help underwrite these activities, as well as the Fund’s efforts to expand current pro-choice partnerships by building strategic cross-issue alliances with organizations working to counter right-wing groups on a variety of other issues.

NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation

\$150,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.naral.org>

Nancy Keenan, President

The NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation was created in 1977 to advocate for the repeal of laws criminalizing abortion. In recent years, its mission has expanded to include efforts to “guarantee every woman the right to make personal decisions regarding a full range of reproductive choices, including preventing unintended pregnancy, bearing healthy children and choosing legal abortion.” In today’s post-*Webster*/post-*Casey* era, with increasing power to limit reproductive rights having been granted to individual states, NARAL has focused much of its energy on combating anti-choice activities at the state and local level. As part of this effort and that of planning national pro-choice strategies, the organization developed a computerized database designed to track the growing body of abortion and other reproductive rights-related legislation and court decisions nationwide. Each year this material is analyzed and published under the title *Who Decides? The Status of Women’s Reproductive Rights in the United States*. In the coming year, NARAL will continue to expand and update this data, use it to analyze the status of reproductive rights in all fifty states, and disseminate the findings to policymakers, the pro-choice community, and the public at large. Our grant supports this work.

National Abortion Federation

\$70,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.prochoice.org>

Vicki A. Saporta, President and CEO

The National Abortion Federation (NAF) is a professional membership association of abortion service providers in the U.S. and Canada, serving thousands of physicians, nurses, counselors, and other health care professionals at over 400 facilities. NAF develops standards of performance for counseling and medical services, conducts professional training workshops, and provides information on abortion technology to its members and the public. In recent years, as its members have endured increasingly violent attacks, NAF has responded by taking a more vocal and visible role in presenting the pro-choice perspective in public policy debates. Its particular strength is its ability to provide the medical, provider, and patient perspectives on legislative and regulatory assaults on abortion access. In the coming year, NAF expects federal and state legislators to continue attempts to pass a range of bills designed to place more obstacles in the way of women seeking abortions and to undermine the foundations of *Roe v. Wade*. Our grant supports NAF's Public Policy Program, which will work in coalition with other pro-choice organizations to defeat these proposals, coordinate Capitol Hill briefings, arrange for abortion providers and patients to testify and/or meet with legislators, and participate in media interviews.

National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association

\$105,885

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.nfprha.org>

Marilyn Keefe, Interim President and CEO

NFPRHA is a membership organization of more than 750 family planning service providers operating some 4,500 clinics in all 50 states. Funded by the federal government under Title X of the Public Health Services Act, these clinics are the primary source of reproductive health care for nearly six million low-income women and a cornerstone in our nation's efforts to reduce unintended pregnancy. Title X-funded clinics provide not only contraception, but also breast and cervical cancer screening, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, and AIDS testing and counseling. NFPRHA's primary mission is to provide services to assist its membership, including technical assistance and an extensive publications program. One of the most distinguished of these publications is the *NFPRHA Federal Legislative and Regulatory Action on Reproductive Health Year-End Report*. The Report provides a detailed yet easy-to-understand overview as well as discussion and analysis of the year's developments on reproductive rights and health. This year, NFPRHA will also produce and disseminate an analysis of the fall election results. Our grant supports these publications which will be critical to elected officials and the press in defining a public policy plan of action based on solid information. Our funds also support NFPRHA's overall public policy work.

National Partnership For Women & Families

\$100,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.nationalpartnership.org>

Debra Ness, President

Founded in 1971 as the Women's Legal Defense Fund, in the last decade the National Partnership for Women & Families has expanded its advocacy in support of women's rights to include reproductive health care. The growing influence of the anti-choice movement in the White House, Congress, and state houses across the country has resulted in the enactment of many laws restricting access to abortion, as well as the recent appointments of two Supreme Court justices whose records suggest a willingness to uphold such restrictions. To protect access to comprehensive family planning services against further assaults, the Partnership has developed two complementary research, advocacy, and public education initiatives focusing on the federal judiciary and on Congressional and Executive branch policymaking. With our support, staff research and publicize the records of nominees to federal courts, provide information to policymakers, guide pro-choice advocacy efforts, and educate journalists, opinion leaders, and advocates about court cases involving reproductive rights and what is at stake in the appointment of new justices. They also provide information and technical assistance about a wide range of reproductive health issues addressed by Congress and federal administrative agencies.

National Women's Law Center

\$100,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.nwlc.org>

Marcia D. Greenberger, Co-President

The National Women's Law Center (NWLC) conducts litigation, research, public education, and advocacy activities that are aimed at ensuring that national and state policies address the rights and needs of women. The Center is a valued source of legal expertise in these areas including income support, employment, education, and child care. In recent years, as abortion rights have come under increasing attack in the courts and in Congress, the Center has emerged as a key player in the reproductive rights arena. In this capacity, Center attorneys analyze proposed legislation, brief legislators and their staffs on legal aspects of reproductive health and rights issues, provide legal analysis and assistance to other pro-choice groups, and have played a leadership role in the debate over anti-choice judicial nominations. In addition, NWLC conducts advocacy efforts to fight health care provider mergers with Catholic agencies that would reduce reproductive health services and to counter the emerging trend of pharmacists refusing to fill prescriptions for contraceptives based on their personal religious beliefs. Our grant supports this work.

**New York Civil Liberties Union Foundation
Reproductive Rights Project****\$70,000**

*New York, New York; <http://www.nyclu.org>
Donna Lieberman, Executive Director*

New York State has long been a leader among states in ensuring its residents access to reproductive health care. However, New Yorkers are affected by national trends that threaten reproductive freedom, particularly for teenagers and poor women. To address these developments, the New York Civil Liberties Union established a Reproductive Rights Project. With our support, the Project conducts litigation, public education, and legal analyses of New York court decisions, administrative policies, and legislative proposals that affect reproductive health care access. This year, Project attorneys are concentrating on challenging constraints on confidential care for minors, limiting religious institutions' restrictions on access to family planning services, expanding access to emergency contraception, enhancing sexuality education, preserving the availability of late-term abortion, and facilitating the provision of medication abortion by family physicians and advanced practice clinicians (APCs).

Planned Parenthood Federation of America**\$150,000**

*New York, New York; <http://www.ppfa.org>
Cecile Richards, President*

Opinion polls show that a majority of Americans understand the importance of publicly funded family planning programs, access to safe and legal abortion, comprehensive sexuality education, and other programs that help individuals make responsible choices about childbearing and sexuality. In 1998, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) launched the Planned Parenthood Action Agenda to build awareness of the glaring discrepancy between what the public wants and what policymakers deliver with respect to reproductive health care, and to mobilize a powerful national network of family planning advocates. Agenda staff work intensively with PPFA state affiliates, bringing them together around shared state and federal policy goals and equipping them with the training and technology needed to build their own public education and advocacy campaigns in support of these goals. In addition to coordinating national advocacy efforts focused on judicial nominations to the Supreme Court, the Action network is helping affiliates promote comprehensive sexuality education and access to emergency contraception, as well as minors' privacy rights and Medicaid coverage for family planning services. Our grant is in support of this work.

Pro-Choice Public Education Project

\$70,000

New York, New York; <http://www.protectchoice.org>

Aimee Thorne-Thomsen, Executive Director

Launched in 1996, the Pro-Choice Public Education Project (PEP) was founded to educate young women and the organizations that serve them about threats to reproductive freedom and choice, thereby developing a new generation of pro-choice leaders. Governed by a steering committee comprised of 16 representatives drawn from 8 national pro-choice organizations, PEP is the only national coalition dedicated to conducting research on young women's attitudes and then using this information to develop pro-choice messages targeted to young women ages 16 to 25. Historically, the national organizations that represent the pro-choice movement have used the same messages to reach potential supporters, regardless of age. However, having grown up in a time when there have been few actual obstacles in obtaining reproductive health care, young women see a discrepancy between the messages and their own experience. Consequently, they don't believe that their reproductive rights and access to reproductive health care are threatened. To correct this misperception, PEP is creating and disseminating new messages that mix pop culture and politics and that are designed to resonate with today's young women. Our grant provides continued support for PEP's work to create a new generation of pro-choice advocates.

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice Educational Fund

\$70,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.rcrc.org>

Reverend Carlton Veazey, President and CEO

In contrast to what many in the anti-choice movement would have the public believe, the "religious" position is not necessarily the anti-choice position. On the contrary, many branches of religious thought hold that women have the right to choose to terminate a pregnancy on the basis of conscience and their personal religious and ethical beliefs. The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC) was established in 1973 to educate the American public about the diversity of views on abortion within the religious community, and about the threats to religious liberty posed by restrictive legislation. Today, RCRC is a national coalition of 41 member organizations from 15 national denominations and faith traditions with 26 affiliated chapters across the country. RCRC's affiliates voice religious support for choice in their communities and are assisted by the national organization in responding to the religious right's intensive organizing on the state and local levels. Our grant supports RCRC's multipronged effort to strengthen the structure and operations of affiliates and other grassroots components of its network through a comprehensive program of technical assistance and financial support. The project is also designed to enhance collaborations among affiliates and between them and the national office.

Reproductive Health Technologies Project**\$75,000***Washington, D.C.; <http://www.rhtp.org>**Kirsten Moore, President*

The Reproductive Health Technologies Project is an 18-year-old public policy and education organization dedicated to advancing women's reproductive freedom through ensuring all women access to safe, effective methods for controlling their fertility. Recent public opinion research and linguistic analyses commissioned by the Project suggest that Americans are thinking differently about pregnancy, the fetus, and abortion partly as a result of advances in prenatal medicine. The Project has also conducted a more detailed survey to determine the most effective ways for reproductive rights supporters to speak about abortion and contraception to people whose views fall in between the unequivocally pro- and anti-choice positions. With our grant, the Project is disseminating its findings and analyses, along with recommendations regarding effective messages and communication strategies. The Project will then work with coalitions in two or three states to develop public education and advocacy campaigns that engage reproductive health activists in promoting broader child and family policy agendas.

Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S.**\$75,000***New York, New York; <http://www.siecus.org>**Joseph DiNorkia, Jr., President and CEO*

The Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS) is the major sexuality education information resource in the country, boasting a 40-year history of work to improve sexuality education curricula while playing an increasingly important role in shaping public policy on this issue. Despite overwhelming public support for comprehensive, medically accurate sexuality education, Congress has increasingly appropriated escalating amounts of funding for "abstinence-only" sex education. These tax dollars are directed at programs that evaluations have shown to be ineffective at best and medically inaccurate and harmful at worst. While SIECUS takes the position that abstinence should be taught, it believes that it must be part of a comprehensive sexuality education program that includes information about contraception, AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases, a position based on research showing that a comprehensive approach is the most effective way to help young people behave responsibly. Our grant supports SIECUS's advocacy efforts designed to alert policy-makers and the public to the fact that "abstinence-only" education deprives young people of the critically important medical information they need to avoid disease and unwanted pregnancy, while continuing to press for comprehensive sexuality education programs in our public schools.

Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program

\$35,000

Washington, D.C.; <http://www.wlppfp.org>

Johanna Bond, Executive Director

The Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program was founded in 1983 to provide recent law school graduates with a special interest in women's rights the opportunity to work in the nation's capital on legal and policy issues relevant to women. Since its inception, over 200 young people have participated in the program serving as interns in some 50 nonprofit organizations. In addition to the many hours of experience acquired by the interns and the valuable legal services they provide to the host institutions, the interns take part in an active group program that deepens their experiences and builds their ties with the public interest legal service profession. For each of the past several years, one fellow has been placed with a national pro-choice organization such as NARAL Pro-Choice America or the Center for Reproductive Rights to work exclusively on reproductive health and rights issues. Our grant provides partial support for this internship during the 2006-07 academic year.

Women's Law Project

\$50,000

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; <http://www.womenslawproject.org>

Carol E. Tracy, Executive Director

In the fall of 2006, at the request of the Bush administration, the U.S. Supreme Court will review *Carhart v. Gonzalez*, setting up a major test of abortion rights at the newly changed high court. The administration is appealing a ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit that struck down the 2003 federal ban on a procedure known by its critics as "partial birth" abortion because it lacked an exception to preserve a woman's health. *Amicus curiae* (friend of the court) briefs have historically played an important role in informing the Court of the medical, legal, and social ramifications of restrictions on abortion rights. Because Supreme Court rules prohibit attorneys for the parties directly involved from writing or actively participating in generation of *amicus curiae* briefs supporting their position, the Center for Reproductive Rights, which will be arguing the case, has asked the Women's Law Project (WLP), a Philadelphia public interest law firm, to organize and coordinate this national effort. WLP works to advance the legal and economic status of women through litigation, advocacy, and legislative reform and has a long and distinguished record of waging difficult battles against anti-choice bills introduced in Pennsylvania. Our grant supports WLP's work to organize and coordinate *amicus curiae* briefs for the *Carhart v. Gonzales* case.