

## March Community Plate Recipient-Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood South Atlantic runs 14 health centers across the region and sees nearly 50,000 patients annually. Services include wellness exams, birth-control, STI testing, treatment and vaccines, clinical breast exams, HIV prep, hormone replacement therapy, the morning after pill and abortion services. The Asheville health center is the only abortion clinic in WNC.

Nearly half of patients at the Asheville health center are uninsured. Our mission is to provide necessary, expert and affordable health care regardless of zip code, insurance status or economic bracket. Free evidence-based education programs are also offered through PPST.

Since the Dobbs decision, the Asheville health center has experienced a large surge in patients traveling from other states. 35% of patients are now traveling to WNC for abortion care. We offer both medication and surgical options, including light sedation. Our 2 patient navigators help out of state residents with appointments and screen them for additional subsidies for travel, lodging, food and child care stipends.

Planned Parenthood centers are subsidized by philanthropy which keeps our doors open, our prices affordable and our education programs free.

**In support of reproductive freedom, UUCA will be featuring three different organizations through March, April and May. Each group approaches this issue from a unique angle, but all work toward upholding a woman's right to make her own decisions with regard to her body and her privacy. Our March organization is Planned Parenthood.**