PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL INDIANA

Collection Information 1
Historical Sketch 2
Scope and Content Note 3
Contents 4

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 14 manuscript boxes, 2 oversize boxes 3 bound volumes, 1 photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1932-1985

PROVENANCE: Gift of Planned Parenthood Association of Central Indiana, 17 November 1986

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1987.0096

NOTES: Planned Parenthood of Central Indiana made its initial donation of records in November, 1986. They will continue to donate records as they become inactive on a schedule of approximately five year intervals.
**HISTORICAL SKETCH**

The Indianapolis (now Central Indiana) branch of the Planned Parenthood Association was established on February 4, 1932 and was known as the Indiana Birth Control League. Dr. R. Clyde White of Indiana University presided over the first meeting which was held at the Hotel Lincoln in Indianapolis. The organization's name was changed to the Maternal Health League of Indiana in January, 1934, and later that year the public was invited to the association's annual meeting for the first time.

The agency employed a full time executive director in 1947. Prior to this time all workers were volunteer except for the clinic's doctors and nurses. Mary Sinclair was named the first executive director (then called Executive Secretary), and she, in turn, was followed by Mrs. Dorothy McClamroch in 1948. Helen McCalment assumed the duties from McClamroch in 1955 and retained them until her retirement in 1979, at which time she was succeeded by the association's present director, Delbert Culp.

The association's major purpose is the establishment and maintenance of birth control clinics, which provide medical services, counsel, and dispense supplies. The first clinic, known as the Maternal Health Clinic, was established in 1933 and was located in the Meridian Life Building in Indianapolis. The clinic was staffed by a doctor and a nurse and was limited to married women with two or more children who were "referred by a licensed physician or a recognized social agency with a written report accompanying the patient." The average number of patients in the clinic's first years was 32, with a total of 1,534 by 1938. The number of children restriction was lifted for the use of its services in 1940, and in 1943 the clinic received 525 new patients. In the mid-1950s the association expanded from traditional birth control services into the areas of premarital counseling, services to teens, and infertility services. A continued increase in the number of new patients and returnees led to the establishment of a number of neighborhood birth control clinics, the first of which was opened in July, 1963, in Lockefield Gardens. Grants obtained from Title X, Title XX, and Title V (Maternal and Child Health) provided the much needed finances to allow increases in staff and supplies that resulted in the establishment of additional clinics including those in the surrounding counties of Boone, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Morgan, Bartholomew, and Shelby. In 1978 the agency served 21,604 patients.

Financing for the association and its clinic originally came only from private sources and campaigns. Although the organization had been admitted into the Council of Social Agencies around 1952, it was not until 1965 that a recognized organization, the Indianapolis Foundation, supported the association. The agency's primary goal of "every child a wanted child" began to be accepted in the early 1960s with the legalization of birth control pills and was greatly aided by the attainment of federal grants in the 1970s. In 1979 the executive director was able to administrate with a budget of $100,000. In addition to the Indianapolis area, Planned Parenthood has maintained organizations in a number of Indiana cities with some tracing their origin to the 1930s. Indiana cities with Planned Parenthood Associations include Evansville, Fort Wayne, South Bend, and Gary.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The largest portion of the collection contains the association's records after the 1970s. With a few exceptions, the only items that predate the 1970s is a complete run of the board of directors’ minutes and related materials from 1932-1976 (BV 2252-2254; Box 1 and Box 2, folder 1). Information contained in the minutes includes appointments and resignations of officers, committee reports, financial reports, seeking outside advice on organizational matters, obtaining speakers and arranging for annual meetings, and campaign fund raising. Also included are political endorsements (p. 36 in 1937-1942 minutes) and detailed information and statistics on the clinic's operation such as the number of patients (broken down by races in the earlier years), number of new patients, who recommended, and cash received.

The remainder of the collection comprises the association's records, correspondence, and printed items including other board of director's materials such as correspondence, membership lists, bylaws, manuals, and general information. Also contained are meeting minutes, correspondence, and general information regarding the organization's various committees including Public Affairs, Executive, Personnel, Nominating, Education, and Legislative (1975-1982). In addition, there is information, financial and operational records, printed information, and statistics regarding the association's clinics (1935-1980). There is also correspondence with the Great Lakes Regional Office and the national and local offices, as well as with other service related organizations such as the United Fund's refusal to include Planned Parenthood as a member organization (1957-1970; Box 5, Folder 2). Also contained are financial statements, budgets, and financial ledgers (1967-1983). Additional financial records include grant applications, invoices, reports, worksheets, revisions, agreement for services, vouchers, expenditures, budgets, contracts, agreements, and correspondence for federal government titles V, X, XX, and applications and claim vouchers to the Indiana State Board of Health (1974-1981). The collection also includes reports to the BCRR (Bureau of Community Health Services Common Reporting Requirements, 1977-1981—a federal agency) and the financial records and correspondence of the BBJ (Bartholomew, Brown, and Jackson Counties) Branch. Among the patient related materials are questionnaires regarding clinic visits, educational information, and items of a general nature (1960s-1970s). There are also association and clinic personnel materials such as employee information and changes, changes in board membership, including the search for a new executive director (1979), and orientation and operational manuals. The association's records also contain correspondence, records, and publications regarding fund raising and other financial contributions (1957-1980). Also included are Planned Parenthood and other related publications regarding overpopulation, contraception, sex, and general topics, as well as publicity materials, advertising publications, and scrapbooks (1940s-1980s).
CONTENTS

BOX 1: Board of Directors Minutes, 1932-1972

CONTENTS

Board of Directors Minutes, 1932-1937; 1937-1942; 1942-1946; 1946-1949 (see also BV 2252-2254)  CONTAINER
Box 1, Folder 1

Board of Directors Minutes, 1932-1937; 1937-1942; 1942-1946; 1946-1949  BV 2252

Board of Directors Minutes, 1932-1937; 1937-1942; 1942-1946; 1946-1949  BV 2253

Board of Directors Minutes, 1932-1937; 1937-1942; 1942-1946; 1946-1949  BV 2254

Board of Directors Minutes, 1950-1952  Box 1, Folder 2

Board of Directors Minutes, 1953-1955  Box 1, Folder 3

Board of Directors Minutes, 1955-1958  Box 1, Folder 4

Board of Directors Minutes, 1959-1961  Box 1, Folder 5

Board of Directors Minutes, 1962-1965  Box 1, Folder 6

Board of Directors Minutes, 1966-1969  Box 1, Folder 7

Board of Directors Minutes, 1970-1972  Box 1, Folder 8


CONTENTS

Board of Directors Minutes, 1973-1976  Box 2, Folder 1

Meeting Information, 1930s-1940s (loose items from bound volumes of 1932-1946 Minute Books)  Box 2, Folder 2

Minutes, 1976  Box 2, Folder 3

Board of Directors Members, 1979  Box 2, Folder 4
Board of Directors Minutes, 1982
Meeting Minutes, Financial Records, Memos, and Correspondence, 1976-1983
Memos, Records, and Notes, 1976-1979
Bylaws and Board of Directors Information, 1960-1961
Executive Director's Correspondence, 1969-1971
Executive Director's Correspondence, 1975
Board of Directors Correspondence, 1979


CONTENTS
Organizational Information
Monthly Reports, 1978
Monthly Reports, 1979
December Monthly Report, 1979 (year end)
Nominating Committee, 1978-1979, Minutes
Nominating Committee, 1979
Public Affairs Committee, 1978-1980
Programs, Staff, and Public Affairs, 1981-1983
Personnel Committee, 1979
Personnel Committee, 1979, Minutes
Executive Committee, 1979, Minutes
Executive Committee, 1979, Correspondence
Medical Advisory Committee Minutes, 1978
Medical Advisory Committee Minutes, 1979
Legislative Committee, 1977-1979
Education Committee, 1977-1979

**BOX 4: Committee Records and Clinic, 1975-1980**

**CONTENTS**
Community Education Committee Minutes, 1982
Community Education Program, 1978-1980
Executive Search Committee, 1979
Planning Committee, 1979
Community Service Council, 1975-1979
Legislation (Committee to Advance Rights of Minors), 1975
Indiana Planned Parenthood Affiliates Association, 1975-1978
Medical Advisory Committee-Medical Director, 1975-1978
Clinic Memos and Materials, 1978-1980
County Clinics and Medical Information, 1977-1979
County Clinic Profiles, 1978-1979
Clinic Site, Fact Sheets, 1979 Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>CONTAINER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director Memos, 1979-1980</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence Regarding United Fund, 1957-1970</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Information and Correspondence, 1975-1978</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Related Correspondence, 1977-1980</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Year Plan, 1978</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements, 1975</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements, 1976</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements, 1977</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements, 1978</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements, 1979</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget and Audit Reports, 1967-1985</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget, 1978-1979</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Sheet, 9-30-1982</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget vs. Patient Data, 1969-1979</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary of Income and Expenses, 1979-1983</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions, 1981; Personnel Committee Meeting, 1981</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen McCalment Fund</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Report to National Organization, 1974-1979</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1977</td>
<td>Box 5, Folder 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOX 6: General Files and Questionnaires

CONTENTS

Memos and General Information, 1982
Box 6, Folder 1

Political Correspondence and Information
Box 6, Folder 2

Great Lakes Regional Office, 1973-1976
Box 6, Folder 3

Great Lakes Regional Office, 1979
Box 6, Folder 4

Dr. Allan F. Guttmacher
Box 6, Folder 5

Blank Forms
Box 6, Folder 6

Monthly Counts/Lecture Sessions, 1980
Box 6, Folder 7

Completed Questionnaires (General Patient)-I
Box 6, Folder 8

Completed Questionnaires (General Patient)-II
Box 6, Folder 9

Completed Questionnaires (General Patient)-III
Box 6, Folder 10

Completed Questionnaires (General Patient)-IV
Box 6, Folder 11

Personnel Information
Box 6, Folder 12


CONTENTS

Orientation Manual
Box 7, Folder 1

Publicity and Office Operating Manual, 1970s and 1980s
Box 7, Folder 2

Film and Pamphlet List, 1980
Box 7, Folder 3

Correspondence, Title V, 1975-1977
Box 7, Folder 4

Vouchers, Invoices, Title V, 1976
Box 7, Folder 5
Grant Applications, Title V, 1976-1977  Box 7, Folder 6
Title V Grant Application 10/1978-9/1979  Box 7, Folder 7
Title V Grant Application 10/1979-9/1980  Box 7, Folder 8
Agreement for Services, Title V, 1975-1979  Box 7, Folder 9
Vouchers, 1977-1978  Box 7, Folder 10
Quarterly Reports, Budget, 1978  Box 7, Folder 11
Grant Revision, Work Papers  Box 7, Folder 12
County Office and Medical Supplies, 1977  Box 7, Folder 13
Invoice Worksheets, 1977  Box 7, Folder 14

**BOX 8: Grant Information (Title V), Financial Information, 1974-1981**

**CONTENTS**

Invoice Worksheets, 1978  Box 8, Folder 1
Invoice Worksheets, 1978  Box 8, Folder 2
Invoice Worksheets, 1979  Box 8, Folder 3
BBJ (Columbus Branch) Invoices, 1974-1975  Box 8, Folder 4
BBJ-Family Planning Finances and Expenses, 1975  Box 8, Folder 5
Reports and Vouchers to State Board of Health, 1975-1977  Box 8, Folder 6
Project Application, Indiana Board of Health, Maternal and Child Health Division, 1979  Box 8, Folder 7
State Board of Health Claim Vouchers for County Clinic Program, 1979  Box 8, Folder 8

CONTENTS
BCRR Reports, 1977
BCRR Reports, 1978
BCRR Reports, 1979
Cost allocation Time Studies, BCRR Report Ending 6-30-1979
BCRR Reports, 1980
BCRR Reports, 1981
Invoices, 1969-1972
Invoices, 1973-1974

CONTAINER
Box 9, Folder 1
Box 9, Folder 2
Box 9, Folder 3
Box 9, Folder 4
Box 9, Folder 5
Box 9, Folder 6
Box 9, Folder 7
Box 9, Folder 8

BOX 10: Grants (Title X and XX), Budgets, and Invoices, 1974-1978

CONTENTS
Invoices, 1974-1975
Title X Expenditures, 1973-1975
Grant Application, 1975
Invoices, 1975
Title X Grant Application, 1976
Budget and Expenditure Reports, 1976
Agreement for Services, 1977
Title X Grant Application, 1977
Budget and Invoices, 1978

CONTAINER
Box 10, Folder 1
Box 10, Folder 2
Box 10, Folder 3
Box 10, Folder 4
Box 10, Folder 5
Box 10, Folder 6
Box 10, Folder 7
Box 10, Folder 8
Box 10, Folder 9
BOX 11: Grants (Title X and XX) Budgets and Invoices, 1978-1980

CONTENTS

Invoices, 1978
Title X Grant Application, 1978
Agreement for Services, 1978
Budget, 1978
Summary Budget, 1978
Agreement for Services, 1979
Title X Grant Application, 1979
Title X Invoices, 1979
Title X Invoices, Budget, 1979
Title XX--7/1977-6/1979, Proposal, Contract, Agreement
Budget, 1979

CONTAINER

Box 11, Folder 1
Box 11, Folder 2
Box 11, Folder 3
Box 11, Folder 4
Box 11, Folder 5
Box 11, Folder 6
Box 11, Folder 7
Box 11, Folder 8
Box 11, Folder 9
Box 11, Folder 10
Box 11, Folder 11
Box 11, Folder 12
Box 11, Folder 13


CONTENTS

Title XX, Cost Statement, 1979-1980
Title XX, Budget Application, 1980
Title XX, Grant Application, 7/1981-6/1982

CONTAINER

Box 12, Folder 1
Box 12, Folder 2
Box 12, Folder 3
Ledger Sheets, 1976-  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 1
Ledger Sheets, Supplies, 1977  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 2
Personnel Services, 1977  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 3
Personnel Services, 1978 (Book I)  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 4
Supplies, 1978 (Book II)  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 5
Supplies, 1978 (Book II)  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 6
Personnel Services, 1979 (Book I)  OMB 0053:
                      Box 1, Folder 7
Income and Expenditure, 1979, Ledger Summary  Box 12, Folder 4
In-Kind Contributions Log, 1980  Box 12, Folder 5
Income and Expenditures, 1980  Box 12, Folder 6
Work Papers, Client Copies, 1980  Box 12, Folder 7
Cash Disbursements, 1980 (I)  Box 12, Folder 8
Cash Disbursements, 1980 (II)  Box 12, Folder 9

**BOX 13: Publicity and Publications**

**CONTENTS**  **CONTAINER**

Miscellaneous Clippings and Printed Materials, 1970s  Box 13, Folder 1
Advertising  Box 13, Folder 2
General Publications  Box 13, Folder 3
Clippings  Box 13, Folder 4
Contraception Information Publications  Box 13, Folder 5
Population Information Publications  Box 13, Folder 6

**BOX 14: Publications and Miscellaneous Printed Materials; Scrapbooks**

**CONTENTS**

General Information Publications  Box 14, Folder 1
Sex Information Publications  Box 14, Folder 2
Manual of Medical Standards and Guide Lines (I)  Box 14, Folder 3
Manual of Medical Standards and Guide Lines (II)  Box 14, Folder 4
Chord, 1987-1988  Box 14, Folder 5
Scrapbook, Publicity 1971-1978  Box 14, Folder 6
Scrapbooks (3) 1940's-1970's  OMB 0053: Box 2, Folders 1-2
Portrait of Alan F. Guttmacher  Visual Collection: Photograph, Folder 1