



Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin

**Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin
2018 Candidate Survey
Wisconsin State Legislature**

Candidate & District: Mark Garthwaite - Assembly District 77

Party: Democratic

Name of Campaign Committee: Mark Garthwaite for Assembly

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Disclosure: Your answers to this survey will not be posted on our website. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin (PPAWI) may, however, publicly refer to your positions as indicated by your responses. We reserve the right to revoke a candidate endorsement for any reason at any time.

Information about the issues raised in the following questions can be found on the website of PPAWI (www.ppawi.org). PPAWI is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization formed as the public policy arm of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin (PPWI). PPAWI engages in educational, legislative and electoral activities including voter education campaigns, grassroots organizing and legislative advocacy. The PPAWI Election Fund is a non-partisan political action committee committed to supporting pro-women’s health candidates for state and local office.

Please return questionnaire to:
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Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin: Trusted Provider of Health Care Services and Information

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin (PPWI) is the state's oldest and largest reproductive health care provider and advocate, serving Wisconsin for over 80 years. PPWI provides essential, high quality and affordable preventive health care. That includes breast and cervical cancer screenings, well woman exams, HIV/STD testing and treatment, as well as birth control options and information. PPWI is also one of only two abortion providers in the state of Wisconsin, operating two health centers that offer medication and in-clinic abortion services in Madison and Milwaukee and part-time medication abortion services in Sheboygan.

EMBODY, which is PPWI's education and training program, is the state's leading provider of comprehensive sexuality education. EMBODY offers resources and information for a wide variety of comprehensive sexuality education programs and provides training for other educators to implement such curriculum in Wisconsin.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin (PPAWI) is the advocacy arm of PPWI. PPAWI engages in educating and lobbying for strong reproductive health policies, communicating with 300,000 statewide supporters and the general public. PPAWI is a non-partisan 501(c)(4) organization that supports state and local candidates that share the values of PPWI including access to high quality health care and the importance of personal decision making when it comes to private health and family matters.

CORE ISSUES

Protecting PPWI's ability to serve patients statewide. PPWI is a trusted source of affordable, high quality patient care, last year providing services for over 59,000 patients at 21 health centers statewide. Public funding for these services is incredibly important for the overall public health infrastructure in Wisconsin—over 60% of PPWI's patients are at or below the federal poverty level. Two-thirds of PPWI patients consider us their primary care provider.

Will you defend against efforts to eliminate critical Medicaid reimbursements for patients who receive preventive health care services at a Planned Parenthood health center?

YES NO

Will you work to reverse the policy that prohibits PPWI from participating in the state's women's health program (in 2011, Governor Walker's budget excluded PPWI from that public health program)?

YES NO

Will you work to enhance funding for evidence based programs that are shown to increase access to critical preventive health care and reduce the unintended pregnancy and STD rates in Wisconsin?

YES NO

Access to effective, affordable birth control. Birth control is basic women’s health care, essential to good maternal and child health outcomes and important to women’s economic status. Nearly all women who are sexually active (99%) use some form of birth control in their lives. Unfortunately, there are those lawmakers who would subject birth control access to multiple restrictions and barriers which make it more difficult to obtain—including allowing employers to determine whether a woman’s insurance covers birth control.

Will you work to protect Wisconsin’s law requiring equity in prescription drug coverage, which ensures that prescription birth control is covered in prescription drug plans?

YES NO

Will you work to protect Wisconsin’s law requiring pharmacies to have someone on staff to fill birth control prescriptions?

YES NO

Will you oppose legislation that would limit or eliminate a woman’s ability to have insurance coverage for the full range of FDA approved birth control methods?

YES NO

Access to high quality and safe abortion services. In life’s most personal moments, a woman should be able to make important decisions based on her own deeply held values and her unique circumstances without judgment. PPWI acknowledges that people have strong and complicated feelings about abortion, and also firmly believes that politicians should not be able to interfere with a woman’s personal decision-making. These are private health care and parenting decisions. As one of two remaining abortion providers in Wisconsin, PPWI is strongly committed to ensuring that safe and legal abortion services are available for a woman when and if she makes the decision to end a pregnancy. Opponents of safe and legal abortion have tried to erode or eliminate access through a range of abortion restrictions—many of which have passed in the Wisconsin Legislature over the last 7 years.

Do you support Roe v. Wade, which protects a pregnant woman’s ability to make her own decision about whether to have and raise a child, choose adoption or end a pregnancy?

YES NO

Will you oppose efforts to limit an individual’s ability to purchase PRIVATE health insurance that includes coverage for abortion?

YES NO

Will you oppose efforts that target safe and legal abortion providers with medically unnecessary requirements that are designed to end access to abortion health centers (example: 2013 Wisconsin Act 37 requiring abortion providers to have hospital admitting privileges within 30 miles of the abortion health center, permanently enjoined by a federal court)?

YES NO

Will you oppose efforts to restrict or eliminate access to safe and legal abortion through medically unnecessary requirements (example: banning abortion at a specific time based on reasons unrelated to women's health and safety)?

YES NO

Will you work to repeal Wisconsin's requirement for a mandatory ultrasound regardless of a woman's individual health circumstances prior to obtaining an abortion?

YES NO

Will you work to ensure that state mandated health information (example: abortion consent materials required by Wisconsin statute) healthcare providers are required to provide patients is medically accurate?

YES NO

Healthy women, healthy men, healthy families. Deciding when to start a family, delay becoming a parent or end a pregnancy are some of the most important life decisions that a woman or man can make. For generations, PPWI has provided men, women and teens with honest sex education, birth control, adoption referrals, pre-natal referrals, non-judgmental counseling, health screenings, STD testing and treatment and the option of safe abortion services. PPWI believes we all deserve strong, healthy families in Wisconsin, and that means medically accurate and accessible information and care.

PPWI encourages teens, both at our health centers and through our EMBODY comprehensive sexuality education programming to involve their parents or other trusted adults in decisions about reproductive health care. However, we also recognize that not all teens have a parent they can turn to and we all want to ensure that teens have a safe, non-judgmental place to go for accurate information.

Yet politicians in Wisconsin continue to interfere with the PPWI's ability to be a trusted source of information for Wisconsin families. Currently, Wisconsin has a parental consent requirement for a teen under 18 to access abortion services. This law can put some teens at risk when they cannot

safely disclose a pregnancy to a parent. Going further, some politicians have supported bills to require parental consent for birth control and other reproductive health counseling.

Will you support a requirement that sex education taught in Wisconsin schools be medically accurate and comprehensive, including information about abstinence and contraception to prevent teen pregnancy and the spread of STDs?

YES NO

Will you support current Wisconsin law, which protects a teen's access to reproductive health services, including confidential HIV and STD testing?

YES NO

Will you oppose eliminating important safeguards in Wisconsin's parental consent for abortion law that currently includes the ability of a grandparent or foster parent or licensed psychologist to be there for a teen in place of a parent?

YES NO

Healthy Communities for All. At PPAWI, we believe that there is no true economic security without reproductive freedom, individual civil rights and safe communities. This is why we support important work social justice advocates are doing across movements like ensuring equity in pay, paid family leave for men and women, protecting our immigrant communities and ensuring access to the ballot. All of these issues impact a woman's ability to access reproductive health care, have and raise a family if and when she chooses, and live in a safe, healthy and strong Wisconsin.

Will you oppose legislation that discriminates or harms a person on the basis of gender identity or expression (e.g. a bathroom bill that intentionally targets transgender and other LGBTQ populations)?

YES NO

Will you keep families safe by supporting universal background checks for all firearms purchased in Wisconsin?

YES NO

Will you support extending drivers licenses to immigrants, regardless of documentation status?

YES NO

Will you support policies that give working families the tools they need to succeed like accessible paid leave and public child care options, available for an adequate amount of time, and available without retaliation?

YES NO

Will you support policies that keep immigrant families together and oppose policies that commit state resources to targeting non-violent undocumented people for deportation (e.g. A state-wide version of 287g in Waukesha, which would turn local law enforcement officers into ICE deputies)?

YES NO

Will you work to keep families together by opposing policies that increase the incarceration rate in Wisconsin, including opposing building new (non-replacement) prison facilities and opposing the privatization of our prisons?

YES NO

Will you advocate against racially-motivated policies like "Stop and Frisk" and other policing practices that discriminate against people of color?

YES NO

In Wisconsin over 600,000 people live in poverty (including 12.8% of women and almost 33% of African Americans) and families who are headed by single women and are at an increased risk of poverty. Will you fight rural and urban poverty in our state by championing expanded eligibility for BadgerCare, living-wage jobs and state Earned Income Tax Credit for childless adults?

YES NO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please attached additional pages as necessary

- 1) Why should PPAWI endorse you? Please include any current or former personal or professional relationship with PPAWI/PPWI and how you would champion women's health and rights.

I worked in the UW-Madison Department of Ob/Gyn for 17 years to develop models of early implantation in human pregnancy. My role was to utilize embryonic stem cells to create these models that would help us to understand the biological circumstances that can promote a successful pregnancy or prevent an unwanted pregnancy. PPWI was one of our research partners. Additional work I did to advance women's health included genomic profiling of cysts that resulted from endometriosis, uterine fibroid tumors, and placental biopsies. Most of my professional career has been dedicated to women's reproductive health research. Notably, the same rights that guarantee a woman's right to choose made human embryonic stem cell research possible.

- 2) Please describe what issues PPAWI engages in that are most important to you or what issues you think PPAWI should prioritize.

Expanding voter opportunities, restoring the state's commitment to funding for PPWI, and expanding access to health care services are among my highest priorities. Efforts to stop sexual violence should be prioritized by requiring that rape testing kits be processed rapidly and without delay so that victims have closure and offenders are deterred from committing sexually violent crimes. I believe that making BadgerCare a public option for all would promote health care equity if we guarantee that no discrimination of any kind is acceptable. Expanding convenience and ballot access for all voters by adding more early voting options, vote by mail options, and eliminating voter ID impediments are critical to achieving these goals.

- 3) PPAWI is committed to being a justice-centered organization. Reproductive Justice is defined as the complete physical, mental, spiritual, political, social, and economic well-being of individuals, based on the full achievement and protection of the person's human rights. In what ways, beyond accessible health care, do you consider yourself an advocate for reproductive justice?

Empowering voters through education and awareness so that they are informed about policies that would jeopardize reproductive justice is critical in the current political environment. Washington DC is poised to expand voting rights to all 16 year olds and I believe that we should consider it as well. Voting is a civic duty and as such, we have a duty to expand voter opportunities. I believe that young voters must become more engaged in democracy and they should be given the opportunity to do so as they are becoming politically aware. Developing consistent voting habits will carry forward and lead to a more politically engaged electorate for decades to come. They will become the new generation of reproductive justice advocates that we badly need and I will support efforts to expand voting rights to achieve their goals.

- 4) Cross-movement work and working within different advocacy groups is vital in advancing a progressive agenda. What partnerships and community relationships within your district do you have now that you hope to strengthen if you were elected into office?

For the past 4 years, I've been engaged in policy development related to complex regulatory issues that affect the small businesses from across the state that I represent. I've not only built coalitions within our own organization, I've built some unlikely coalitions in the Capitol which has led to successful legislative outcomes. Those skills will carry forward with me as an elected official. I've led a non-profit organization that has contributed \$30,000 per year to numerous community organizations including Wil-Mar Center, Ice Age Trail, Breast Cancer Recovery Foundation, and WORT Community Radio among them. So many of those relationships remain strong. Most importantly, I have a long professional relationship with UW-Madison which is the greatest advocacy institution in the state of Wisconsin.

- 5) If elected, will you commit to using your position to mentoring others and creating space for younger and other under-represented voices in our state?

I will eagerly commit to mentoring others and have enjoyed mentoring graduate students and high school students in biomedical research settings. I've gained valuable new perspectives from working with students and colleagues who have come from all over the world seeking opportunities to grow and thrive in an inclusive learning environment.