RUTH'S ARMY

Things aren't always black and white

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ABORTION ON THE BALLOT: A SILVER LINING AMONGST DEVASTATING ELECTION RESULTS

In the 2024 elections, voters in 10 states considered amendments to their state constitutions regarding abortion rights. Seven states approved these measures, while three rejected them, resulting in a significant shift in abortion access across the country. *Key outcomes in states where measures passed:*

- **Arizona**: In Arizona, a ballot measure led by **Arizona for Abortion Access** was approved to establish a legal right to abortion. The measure challenges the state's 15-week abortion ban by guaranteeing the right to access an abortion before fetal viability (around 24–26 weeks) and preventing the state from restricting abortion prior to that point. It also ensures access to abortion after viability if needed to protect the life or health (physical or mental) of the pregnant person. Additionally, the measure prohibits laws that penalize individuals or entities helping someone obtain an abortion.
- **Colorado**: In Colorado, a ballot measure led by **Coloradans for Protecting Reproductive Freedom** was approved to secure the constitutional right to abortion. It also repealed a previous constitutional amendment that had banned the use of state funds for abortion care, allowing the state to use public funds for abortion services.

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VOLUNTEER FOR THE *NEXT* REACH CLINIC

Our tabling and marketing efforts have paid off as clinic days have been increasingly busy. **To register for our upcoming clinics, please visit this link to complete our updated interest form.** This will provide us updated emails for newsletters and volunteer opportunities. Moving forward we will use the website, Mobilize, to sign up for volunteering.

REPRODUCTIVE EQUITY & CONTRACEPTIVE HEALTH
REACH CLINIC

OUR *NEXT* CLINIC DAYS..

December 14th
January 11th
February 8th

GEN *ACTION* @APSU

Gen Action has continued to be an active voice for reproductive rights on **Austin Peay's** campus. They wrapped up their first semester exceeding what most student organizations accomplish in a year. With a membership base of over 30 students, monthly events, and weekly meetings, the organization offers a much-needed presence of acceptance and advocacy on campus. Their meetings will resume this spring, so please refer any students you may know to their instagram page (@apsugenaction) or president, Destiny James.

NEXT IN-PERSON MEETING & HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

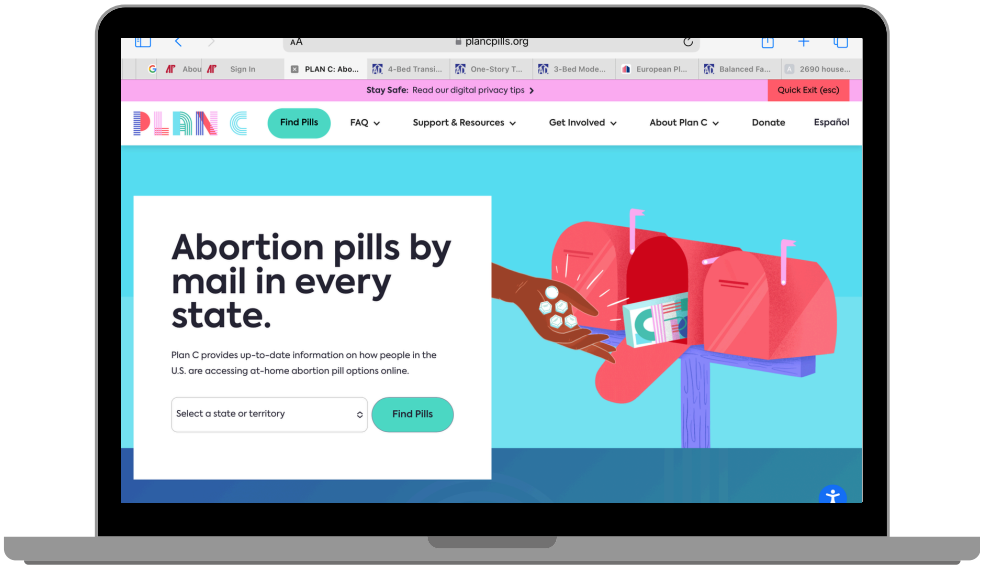
Join us on Wednesday, December 18th from 6PM - 8PM for our next in-person meeting and holiday celebration! We will be meeting at Music City PrEP in Nashville where we'll have the opportunity to learn more about one of great contributions for the REACH Clinic.



Music City PrEP Clinic
225 S 11th Street 101 A
Nashville, Tennessee 37206

PLAN *C* PILLS

If you haven't heard the great news, Tennesseans can still obtain Plan C pills. Generous practitioners living in states where Plan C is legal and accessible, are assisting through PlanCPills.org. You do not need to be pregnant to order pills through the website.



ABORTION ON THE BALLOT *(Cont.)*

- **Maryland**: In Maryland, a ballot measure led by **Reproductive Justice Maryland** was approved to establish a constitutional right to reproductive freedom. This right is defined as the ability to make and carry out decisions regarding one's own pregnancy, including the choice to prevent, continue, or end the pregnancy.
- **Missouri**: In Missouri, a ballot measure led by **Missourians for Constitutional Freedom** was approved to challenge the state's total abortion ban. It establishes a constitutional right to reproductive freedom, including decisions about abortion, contraception, miscarriage management, prenatal and postpartum care, and birthing conditions, free from government interference. The measure also protects the right to assist someone in exercising their reproductive rights. Abortion may be restricted or banned after viability (around 24–26 weeks), but the right to abortion is preserved after that point to protect the pregnant person's life or health.
- **Montana**: In Montana, a ballot measure led by **Montanans Securing Reproductive Rights** was approved to guarantee the right to make pregnancy decisions, including abortion. It prevents the state from restricting abortion before viability (around 24–26 weeks) and ensures access after viability if needed to protect the pregnant person's life or physical health. The measure also protects patients, healthcare providers, and anyone assisting someone in exercising their right to make decisions about their pregnancy.
- **Nevada**: In Nevada, a ballot measure led by **Nevadans for Reproductive Freedom** was approved to enshrine the right to abortion in the state constitution. The measure guarantees access to abortion until viability (around 24–26 weeks) and allows abortion after that point if necessary to protect the pregnant person's life or physical health.
- **New York**: In New York, a ballot measure led by **New Yorkers for Equal Rights** was approved to amend the state constitution. It prohibits discrimination on additional grounds not currently protected, including ethnicity, age, disability, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, reproductive healthcare and autonomy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

States where measures protecting a right to choice failed include: Florida, Nebraska, and South Dakota. With the upsetting results in Congress and White House races, it is more important than ever for states and individuals to come together to fight for reproductive health access.