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Ruth's Army

Things aren't always black and white

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Contact Info

i. ruthsarmytn

f. https://www.facebook.com/ruthsarmyTN

e. ruthsarmytn@gmail.com

w. https://ruthsarmytn.org

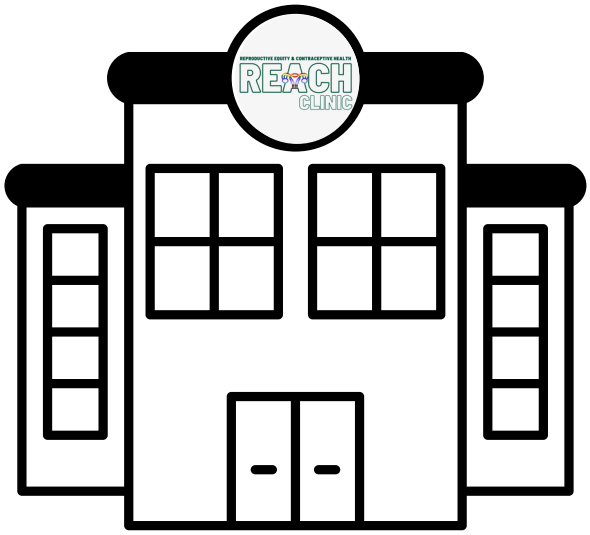
Appeals court rejects Tennessee's bid for family planning dollars

A federal appeals court rejected Tennessee's attempt to collect millions of dollars in family planning funds without complying with federal rules requiring clinics to provide abortion referrals due to the state's abortion ban. In 2021, the Biden administration announced that clinics that accept Title X funds must offer information about abortion. Last year, Tennessee's Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti filed a federal complaint seeking to overturn the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' decision to disqualify the state from receiving money offered through a family planning program known as Title X. A lower court later determined that Tennessee was unlikely to succeed and the state appealed that decision.

Tennessee has collected these funds since the 1970s and averages $7 million annually to support clinics for low-income and other vulnerable populations. Millions of people across the country rely on essential care — like birth control, STI screenings and treatment, cancer screenings, and other key sexual and reproductive health care services — funded by Title X," said Ashley Coffield, CEO of Planned Parenthood of Tennessee and North Mississippi in a statement. "The state's decision not to comply with all-options counseling is playing politics with our bodies."

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.



Our next clinic days:

September 14th
October 12th
November 9th

Next In-Person Meeting

As a reminder, meetings have moved to a quarterly frequency. Our next meeting will be September 11th from 6:00-8:00 at Queen City's Women's Health Clinic. Food and drinks (non-alcoholic & alcoholic) will be provided by Ruth's Army.

At our future meetings we plan to include speakers and other activities in addition to our standard organizational updates. Kicking us off at our September meeting will be Francie from Planned Parenthood. She will be leading a workshop on how to have challenging conversations related to reproductive health as we head into a contentious election season.





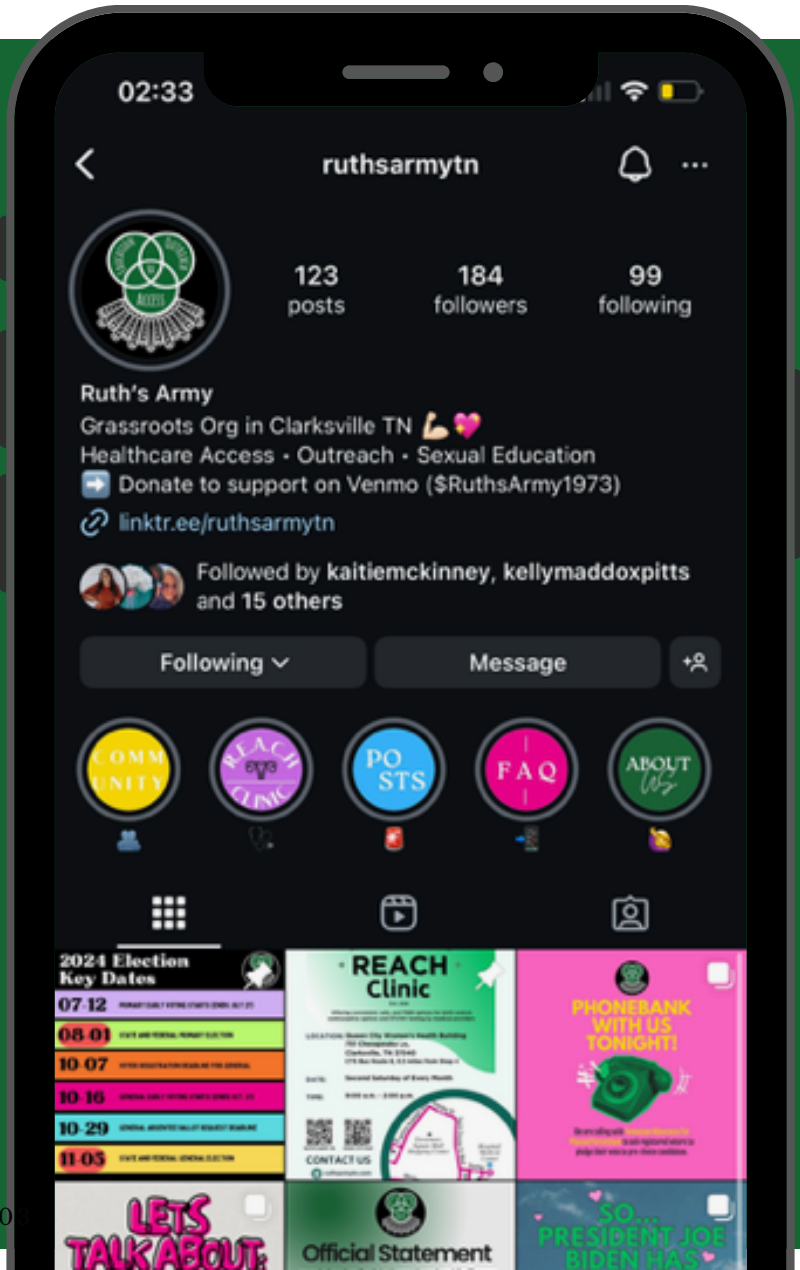


New Opportunity for APSU Students to Get Involved

If you have had the opportunity to check out Ruth Army's social media, you likely notice a new face, Destiny.

Destiny is on staff at Planned Parenthood and, among her varying other responsibilities in her role, serves as Ruth's Army's Marketing Coordinator. In addition to creating engaging, consistent social media content, Destiny is starting a student organization at APSU to increase student engagement and representation in the local fight for reproductive access. While not directly affiliated, this student organization will work closely with Ruth's Army and aid in spreading awareness of the REACH Clinic.

If you know a student who may be interested in joining this organization, please direct them to Destiny at djames@pptnm.org



We're updating our volunteer contact & interest list. Please fill out this quick form!