

# FOCUSED

ON THE FUTURE WE WANT







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**FOCUSED ON  
THE FUTURE  
WE WANT**

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# FOCUSED ON:



# WHAT MATTERS

What matters to you? Maybe it's the health and happiness of your friends and family. Maybe it's a thriving community where women are economically empowered. Or maybe it's a world where all girls are in good schools and can complete their education.

For PAI, all of these scenarios matter. And we are focused on the central issue that will help make these priorities a reality: securing sexual and reproductive rights for women and girls.

During a time of increased attacks on civil liberties, constant political upheaval and fake news, focusing on what matters can feel nearly impossible. With so many distractions, it is all too easy to get caught up in the noise of the latest scandal or tweet. It's all too easy to lose sight of what matters.

But over the past year-and-a-half, PAI has cut through the clamor and remained focused on building the future we want.

A future where women and girls around the world have full access to high-quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care.

In 2017, working towards this future became increasingly difficult. With the imposition and expansion of the Global Gag Rule, proposed cuts to U.S. funding for international family planning and reproductive health and increasingly restrictive reproductive rights policies in countries around the world, it can feel like the odds are stacked against women and girls.

Even so, PAI remains steadfast in our commitment to securing sexual and reproductive health care and rights worldwide, supporting local advocates in more than 25 countries to advance systemic change in their communities, and working with U.S. policymakers to counteract recent restrictions from our own government.

Our resolve to stay focused on creating the future we want fuels our ability and determination to defy the odds we face. And we have seen the results.

Our local partners around the world tell us they are stronger and more resilient because of our support and collaboration. Our advocacy wins have helped secure the policies and funding needed to ensure that sexual and reproductive health care is available to women and girls in the Global South. And we have laid the groundwork on Capitol Hill for more policymakers to speak out in support of sexual and reproductive health care and rights for all women and girls.

PAI will keep working towards the future we want, no matter the challenges along the way.

To achieve our vision, we need to tackle current threats. We need to continue to identify and promote sustainable solutions to securing sexual and reproductive health care and rights over the long-term. And that's what you'll learn about in this report.

We know the future we want. And we will remain focused on creating it.

Sincerely,

  
**Suzanne Ehlers**  
President & CEO

  
**Jackie Payne**  
Board Chair



# FOCUSED ON:



# THE HERE AND NOW

Achieving a future where women and girls around the world have full access to high-quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care requires tackling current threats to global reproductive freedoms.

That means being ready to take on new challenges and respond to attacks on sexual and reproductive rights, even when they come from our own government. It also means seeing the power and potential of underrepresented champions whose rights are often overlooked—and elevating their voices as they speak out against any and all limitations on sexual and reproductive rights.

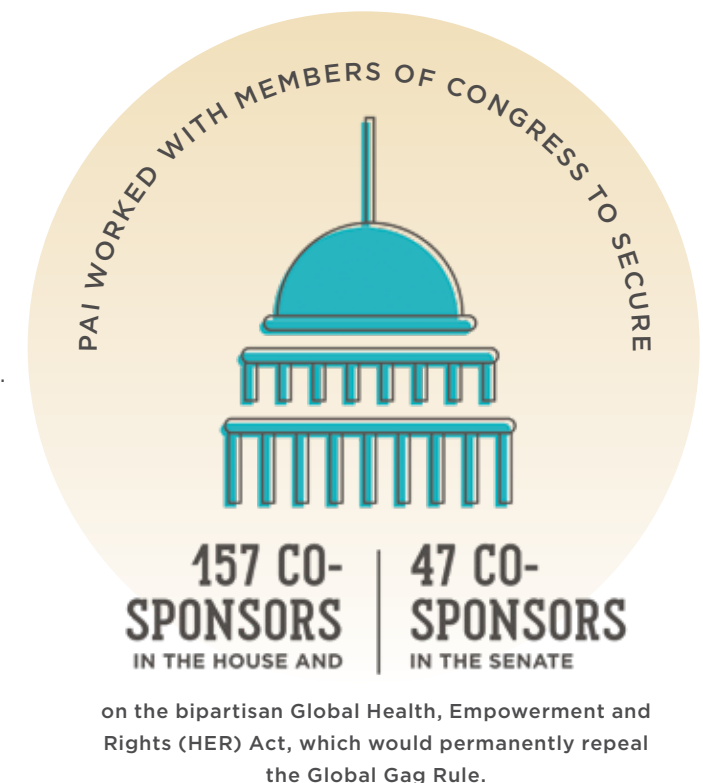
## READY TO RESPOND

In 2017, the Trump-Pence administration imposed and expanded the Global Gag Rule, forcing countless organizations overseas to choose between honoring the rights of women and girls by providing them with comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, or accepting critical U.S. government funding on the condition that they limit the health care they provide.

PAI and our partners responded quickly and boldly. We were one of the first organizations to offer critical policy analysis on the Global Gag Rule's expanded restrictions, and immediately began educating and engaging journalists to ensure their reporting accurately portrayed the implications and potential harms of the policy.

We also worked with a bipartisan group of policymakers in Congress to introduce the Global Health, Empowerment and Rights (HER) Act, which seeks to permanently repeal the Global Gag Rule. This bill has a record number of co-sponsors in both chambers, which gives permanent repeal a stronger chance once we are no longer in a climate of political opposition.

And we reached out to partner organizations all over the world that would be faced with deciding whether to agree to the Global Gag Rule. They shared their confusion about how this policy would impact their ability to provide and promote access to sexual and reproductive health care, and their fear of losing the critical U.S. funding that makes their work possible. Some organizations even began preemptively rolling back essential programs and health services that would be permitted under the policy because they feared violating it.





This is where PAI comes in. We immediately began working with partners in the field to provide guidance on understanding the policy, so organizations could make educated decisions about signing it. During 2017, we delivered resources—fact sheets, policy briefs and our comprehensive guide to the Global Gag Rule—to local organizations worldwide. We hosted forums and conversations to answer our partners' questions and, in several instances, helped them maintain critical funding and continue life-saving health services they thought were in jeopardy under the policy.

We have also collaborated with local partners in several countries to document the harm the Global Gag Rule has already caused, from the closing of health clinics, to restrictions on advocacy for safe abortion and post-abortion care services, to decreased availability of contraceptives.

By documenting these outcomes, PAI provided the evidence needed for policymakers and advocates in the U.S. and abroad to make the case for opposing the Global Gag Rule and setting the stage for its permanent repeal.

## BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Shortly after the Trump-Pence administration reinstated the Global Gag Rule, PAI began serving as an adviser to many organizations that were struggling to understand the policy and under threat of losing critical funding.

One of the groups we served was a women's rights organization in Mexico City. At the time, the group was working with a U.S.-based foundation to renew a substantial portion of their funding. This funding supported a program focused on strengthening the leadership of women activists and mainstreaming gender into civil society organizations in Latin America, specifically Nicaragua, Cuba and Mexico.

During the renewal process, the funder raised concerns about whether they could continue to support the organization because of the Global Gag Rule, putting critical funding in jeopardy. PAI worked with the funder and organization to address the funder's concerns and answer their questions. Because of our guidance, the funding was renewed and not only was the program able to continue, but the funder and organization gained a better understanding of what is allowed under the Global Gag Rule to avoid risking additional and unnecessary over-implementation of the policy in the future.

PAI PROVIDED INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE  
— TO —  
**70 LOCAL  
ORGANIZATIONS,  
POLICYMAKERS  
& DONORS**  
— IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH —  
ABOUT NAVIGATING THE  
GLOBAL GAG RULE





IN 2017, PAI PARTNERED WITH

## 9 YOUTH-LED ORGANIZATIONS

IN

CÔTE D'IVOIRE, DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC OF CONGO, ETHIOPIA,  
INDIA, KENYA, MEXICO,  
TANZANIA, UGANDA  
AND ZAMBIA



### AMPLIFYING VOICES

In the U.S. and around the world, PAI works with diverse constituencies, many of whom are often underrepresented or have to fight to be heard. We use our position as a leader in the sexual and reproductive rights movement to provide a platform to amplify the voices of champions and communities that rarely get the spotlight. This is especially true for our work with young people

When it comes to sexual and reproductive health and rights, young people face specific challenges, including harmful social norms, discrimination and violations of their privacy and outright denial of services. But adolescents and youth also have the potential to take on these challenges and advance sexual and reproductive rights in their communities.

PAI believes in the power of young people and the need to elevate their voices and their leadership.

In 2017, we partnered with youth-led organizations from nine countries, providing them with financial resources and coaching to spearhead their own advocacy efforts and move the needle on policies that directly affect young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights.

From reducing the rate of adolescent pregnancy, to expanding access to youth-friendly reproductive health services, to making menstrual hygiene supplies available, our youth partners are focused on creating a future where their voices matter and their rights count. Many of these young leaders are young women who have become powerful forces for change. Through our partnership with them, they are able to take their leadership to the next level.

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### BUILDING OUR FUTURE

In March 2018, youth family planning partners from five countries gathered with PAI staff in South Africa for a three-day strategy meeting.

After months of one-on-one advising from PAI, the advocates came together to share their expertise and experiences with each other, collaborate on their organizational objectives and refine their advocacy goals based on input from their peers.



# FOCUSED ON:



# EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS

The future we want—where women and girls around the world have full access to high-quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care—is only possible if we support sustainable solutions that are led and driven by our partners.

Our partnership model and focus on advocacy create the infrastructure needed for systemic change. We achieve this by simultaneously strengthening the capacity of our partners to be advocates and promoting policies and funding solutions that make the delivery of comprehensive sexual reproductive health care possible. We focus on long-term, evidence-based solutions. By doing so, developing countries become less reliant on foreign aid and can withstand external policy shocks, such as the imposition of the Global Gag Rule.

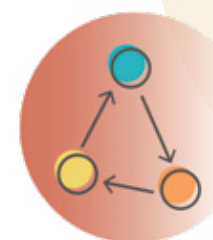
## LOCAL PARTNERS TAKE THE LEAD

We believe that our partners around the world must lead the way to create the future we all want. They know the needs of their communities and understand what it takes to advance change in their local contexts.

Our partnerships are a critical element of PAI's theory of change to achieve the policy and funding wins that can make a meaningful, lasting difference in the lives of the world's most vulnerable women and girls.

### OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

PAI is committed to advocating for funding and policies that support increased access to family planning and reproductive health care by:



#### MOBILIZING

influential leaders in the U.S., EU and developing countries



#### PARTNERING

with and supporting local organizations in developing countries



#### BUILDING

a compelling evidence base



In 2017, we partnered with 63 local organizations around the world, providing \$2.8 million to support their advocacy efforts. But our partnerships are about more than money. We work with local organizations and advocates to develop country-specific strategies and offer research and analysis to support those strategies. We help them understand how the policies of external donors affect their countries, provide communications and media training, bring advocates' experiences to a global stage and more.

In turn, we take what we learn from our partners and incorporate those lessons into our own work.

In supporting our partners, we also provide opportunities for organizational leaders to enhance and expand their skills. Last year, we worked with 47 individual advocates from 11 countries to develop the skills needed to facilitate advocacy strategy sessions in their own countries. These leaders go on to train organizations in their networks. Stronger individual advocates lead to stronger organizations working in effective, strategic ways to advance our collective mission of ensuring that all women and girls have access to the sexual and reproductive health care and rights they deserve.

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IN 2017, PAI PROVIDED MORE THAN

**\$2.8 MILLION**  
IN GRANTS

TO

**63 LOCAL PARTNERS**

IN

**25 COUNTRIES**





## THE SUSTAINABLE IMPACT OF ADVOCACY

Ensuring access to high-quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care for women and girls around the world depends on many factors, such as having established health clinics staffed by knowledgeable health workers and stocked with reproductive health supplies, including contraceptives. It takes a foundation of strong policies and sufficient funding to make sure these and other necessary pieces are in place. This foundation is built through advocacy.

PAI's advocacy in the U.S. and our partners' advocacy in their countries create the policy and funding frameworks to make sexual and reproductive health care delivery possible.

By collaborating with lawmakers on Capitol Hill, PAI advocates for sufficient funding for countries in the Global South to meet their most basic development and health needs. Needs like more clinics and trained health care workers and consistent supplies of a full-range of contraception and other sexual and reproductive health care supplies.

We help our partners engage policymakers in their countries to take ownership of those needs by creating and advancing policies that promote universal access to sexual and reproductive health care and rights. This helps lay the groundwork for advocates and policymakers to request funding for such care.

PAI's advocacy in the U.S. and our partners' advocacy in their countries create the policy and funding frameworks to make sexual and reproductive health care delivery possible.

LAST YEAR, OUR PARTNERS IN

**8  
COUNTRIES**

WORKED WITH  
POLICYMAKERS

— TO ALLOCATE APPROXIMATELY —

**\$1.4  
MILLION**

IN FUNDING FOR SEXUAL  
AND REPRODUCTIVE  
HEALTH SERVICES  
AND SUPPLIES



Once countries provide dedicated funding, our partners work to ensure that the funding is spent effectively. They also demonstrate how the increased funding has affected the lives of women and girls, and justify requests for additional funding. Over the long term, our collective goal is for countries to become more self-sufficient financially and resilient to external policies like the Global Gag Rule.

As a result of their advocacy efforts over the last year, our partners leveraged an additional \$1.4 million for sexual and reproductive health services and supplies.

Once spent, that funding leads to increased availability of health services in countries like Kenya, Uganda and Côte d'Ivoire, demonstrating the sustainable impact of advocacy.

We also push for strong primary health care systems that include high quality sexual and reproductive health services by encouraging policies that support communities' overall health and resilience.

Over the long term, our collective goal is for countries to become more self-sufficient financially and resilient to external policies like the Global Gag Rule.

#### BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Last year, PAI grantee ENAI-Africa had a milestone achievement when the Kajiado county government endorsed a multiyear programmatic and funding roadmap for family planning.

This led to the first-ever family planning budget line of 2 million Kenyan shillings. Because of continued advocacy by ENAI-Africa throughout the year, this initial allocation is on track to increase five-fold to 10 million Kenyan shillings in 2018.





# FOCUSED ON:



# THE FUTURE WE WANT

Throughout our long history, we have faced challenges, political opposition, distractions and more.

But staying committed to and focused on a future where women and girls around the world have full access to high-quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care has put PAI at the forefront of the global movement for sexual and reproductive health and rights.

You have been with us every step of the way.

As seasoned advocates, we know that persistence and tenacity win. With your help, when the odds are against us, we will continue to defy them, just as we have for the past 50 years. We will stay focused on tackling current threats to sexual and reproductive rights and continue working with our more than 60 partners in the Global South to put in place the infrastructure needed for lasting, systemic change.

Our focus and resolve are the cornerstones of our success, and we are focused on the future we want.

A future where a woman can start her own business and feel economically empowered because she can choose how many children she has and when. A future where a girl can complete her education because she can access contraception. A future where entire communities thrive because women's sexual and reproductive health and rights are secure.

PAI and our partners work towards this future every day.

This is what matters to PAI and to our community. This is our focus. This is the future we want.

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