

# Network for Reproductive Options

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Empowering communities with  
abortion access, grassroots health  
education and reproductive options

Thank you for supporting a woman's right to choose!

**Thank you for your support!**

We have enclosed an envelope within the newsletter to make the donation and volunteer process easier.

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# Network For **REPRODUCTIVE** Options

## Board of Coordinators:

Amy Bruninga  
Kate Ojerio  
Marti Black  
Jennifer Webster  
Christine Mosbough  
Jessica Nunley  
Gerald Morsello  
Kristen Curtis

Empowering communities  
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## What's This? A Man On The NRO Board?

Yes, it's true. And why not? For every time a woman ponders an unintended pregnancy there is, or should be, a man involved somewhere. While it is an unfortunate fact of biology that human makes can too often just walk away virtually unaffected by any results of sexual union, men can change this by acknowledging their role and their responsibilities. Men can learn how to support women and to be aware of their needs- many do. Involving men in NRO complements NRO's desire to emphasize diversity, and is a potential channel for men to become more connected with and supportive of NRO's mission. In addition, males faced with awareness that they caused a pregnancy may need to talk with other males about their feelings and those of their partner. Males on the NRO Board may be able to help facilitate this communication. Add to this the realization that men play a considerable role in the anti-abortion camp and the real question becomes: Why not more men on the NRO board?  
Article by: Gerald Morsello

## UPDATES

\* NRO's website is now up and running! Please check it out at:  
[www.NROptions.org](http://www.NROptions.org)

\*Join NRO and choiceclothing in transforming the world through apparel! Throughout the month of November, 15% of proceeds from all *Fund Abortion* shirts sold will be donated directly to the Network for Reproductive Options. To support a great cause, and look stylish in the process, visit [www.choiceclothing.com](http://www.choiceclothing.com)

\*For those of you who are interested in volunteer opportunities, Bours' clinic in Eugene is currently looking for people to escort clients to and from the clinic every Saturday from 9:30am until 12:00pm. In order to escort you must attend a short training session, the dates of which will be announced. Please contact us if you're interested at: 541 345 5702

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# NRO Education Programs Update

With all of the talk and funding from the federal government for abstinence only sex education programs, NRO has taken a serious look at what type of information is missing from many of the current sex education curriculums. With so much available information and great educational programs already being created and implemented by organizations like Planned Parenthood, we had to take a hard look to find what was not being covered. To this end, NRO board members and volunteers have begun work with Robin Shea, a Marion County Health Department Nurse Practitioner, to develop first exam and fertility awareness classes for young people that can be worked into existing curriculums. Our rationale for focusing on these particular topics speak to NRO's belief that the demystification of the human

body is imperative to healthy body image, self respect and reproductive freedom. The first exam class covers issues like: how you should be treated mentally, emotionally and physically by a health practitioner, confidentiality issues, and steps of an exam. The fertility awareness class takes a more detailed look at the physiology of women's reproductive system.

Network for Reproductive Options has continued to present our self-health slide show to a variety of audiences and continues to explore ways to fund its development into a more comprehensive and relevant educational tool. It covers the women's health care movement, self-exam, fertility awareness, abortion and touches on some birth control options. Please contact us to schedule a showing.

## The Growth of NRO's Women In Need Fund

	<b>2003:</b>	<b>2004:</b>
Total # of women talked to:	56	71
Total # of women we gave \$ to:	16	47
Total # of women we helped get on OHP:	12	5
Total # of Hispanic women:	5	12
Total amount of money given away:	\$4,408.80	\$16,865.00
Average amount per woman:	\$275.55	\$358.90

The Women In Need fund allows us to help women access abortion procedures and transportation. We have currently funded women in the following counties:

Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Crook, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Jefferson, Kalameth, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Sherman, Union, Wasco, and Yamhill

We have also provided money for women in Idaho, Washington and Montana

NRO would like to thank its donors for their generous support. We couldn't have done this without you!

# Voting For Our Health, Voting for Our Future

(adapted from "Women Vote" published by the National Network of Abortion Funds)

In 1996, the government passed a new welfare law taking away many benefits for low-income women and families. The law pushes mothers into dead-end, low-wage jobs and pressures them to get married. Mothers are no longer allowed to finish their education, even though education is the best way for women to escape poverty.

Cuts to social security would hurt women more than men. Without Social Security, more than half of all senior women would be in poverty.

More than two million women are raped and/or assaulted by an intimate partner each year. Nearly all women in the US say that reducing domestic and sexual violence should be a top priority, but health and social services that could help women leave violent relationships have been cut.

Sixteen million women in the US don't have health insurance, including more than one in every six women aged 18-64. Among women of color, it's even worse: 2

in 5 African American women, 1 in 4 Latinas and 1 in 4 Asian American women lack health insurance.

The Hyde Amendment (passed in 1977) restricts access to abortion for uninsured, low-income women. Women and girls insured by the Indian Health Service, Federal Employee health plans and women in the military lost access to abortion due to this legislation.

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**Teenage Women are being denied the information they need to make responsible decisions about sexuality.**

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In the years since the Hyde Amendment, many states have passed legislation denying access to abortion services for women using public assistance for their health care.

Every year, tens of thousands of women and teenagers carry a pregnancy to term because they can't afford to pay for an abortion. In addition, many women of color, low-

income women and young women lack access to quality pre- and post-natal care and regular gynecological exams.

Teenage women are being denied the information they need to make responsible decisions about sexuality. Each year nearly one million teen girls become pregnant. One in every three sexually active people will contract a sexually transmitted disease by age 24. But teens are often misinformed about how to prevent pregnancy and STDs because of "abstinence-only" sex education programs in schools.

Voting isn't always the most empowering action we can take as women, but it is important. Our rights and freedoms are only going to be whittled away even further unless we start using our votes and voices to make changes. Voting isn't always enough, but it's the least we can all do.

Please Vote on November 2<sup>nd</sup>!

# NRO

NETWORK FOR  
REPRODUCTIVE OPTIONS

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark the type of information/help you would like to give NRO:

- I am interested in becoming a NRO volunteer!  
I am available approx. 0-5 hrs/month 5/10 hrs/month 10+ hrs/month  
I am interested in: Education Translation Board Member Other  
Special skills or experience: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to NRO to help build the WIN fund and assist with operating expense to increase abortion access throughout Oregon. (NRO is a 501C3 non-profit org.) All donations are tax deductible.
- I am currently unable to volunteer or donate money to NRO; however, I care about abortion issues. Please keep me on your mailing list! The best way to contact me is: Mail E-mail Phone
- I can think of the following person who would be interested in learning about the work NRO is doing:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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