

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Planned Parenthood Collection**

Processed April 2024

**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1967-
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	Past Perfect #2025.0035

**Brief History**

In fall of 1969, Normal resident Kay Wilson and others called a meeting of social workers and other community members to discuss establishing a local Planned Parenthood (PP) affiliate in Bloomington-Normal. Wilson had become aware firsthand that many low-income women had little knowledge of or access to birth control and related medical information or services. Wilson became the local PP unit's first president. Despite opposition, they established an education unit in August 1970 at the local YWCA.

The group faced challenges in funding. They secured some United Way funding despite some objectors but eventually withdrew as the funding was too small and governmental funding became available for some services. As of 2024, PP operated at a separate facility in Bloomington.

## Scope

The collection contains Kay Wilson's "History of Planned Parenthood of McLean County" scrapbook including retrospective histories and reminiscences, newspaper articles, newsletters, brochures, annual reports, correspondence, board member lists, constitution, Wilson's letters to newspaper editors and scripts for WJBC Radio Forums, and more, 1967-2020.

Other miscellaneous materials are also included such as a 1984 "The OK Bears Coloring Book" for children's sexual abuse prevention.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: General

- 1.1 *The OK Bears Coloring Book*, PP of Mid Central Illinois 1984. 12pp guiding youngsters on "Ok/Not OK Touches" to prevent child sex abuse.
- 1.2 "I Stand with Planned Parenthood" bumper sticker, 2024.

### Loose Scrapbook

Originally donated in one 3-ring binder "History of Planned Parenthood of McLean County," this scrapbook has been re-situated into two smaller binders to fit into a collection box. Donor Kay Wilson's note and 2024 gift agreement inside front cover of the first binder. Other items are listed below in order as they appear in Wilson's notebook:

- 1. Planned Parenthood interview; Kay Wilson's retrospective comments on local Planned Parenthood (PP) chapter. Possibly dated 2020. 2pp.
- 2. Additional information on early history of local chapter, signed by Kay Wilson. 2020. Plus handwritten notes on verso.
- 3. Planned Parenthood of McLean County Board of Directors names and contact info, January 21, 1976.
- 4. "Decisions About Your Pregnancy," early brochure describing local PP services. Original & photocopy.
- 5. "Family Size Important to Two Local Groups," *Pantagraph*, May 3, 1970. Zero Population Group and local PP (still in formative stages.) Depending on gov't grant, PP would be either be educational affiliate or try to enter medical services.
- 6. PP fund-raising letter, with handwritten, unsigned response on back re: evils of Planned Parenthood. Sept 1971.
- 7. Planned Parenthood of McLean County Constitution and Bylaws. 8pp including amendment, Oct 19, 1977.

8. McLean County United Community Services (UCS) list of Board of Directors and Officers, 1972.
9. "McLean County UCS adds three new member agencies," *Pantagraph*, May 26, 1973.
10. "Planned Parenthood receives federal grant," *Pantagraph*, May 26, 1973.
11. "Unwanted Pregnancy: A Challenge to Mental Health," by Alan F. Guttmacher, M.D. Reprint from *Mental Hygiene* October 1967. 6pp booklet.
12. Editorial: "Room for abortion détente, but hostility runs too high," *Pantagraph*, Oct 8, 1978.
13. "No abortion aid ban," unknown publication, hand labelled "March 28, 1973."
14. "Planned Parenthood shaved," *Pantagraph*, Dec 16, 1972. PP may need to decline smaller grants such as the \$7,500 grant from UCS due to other funding issues.
15. "UCS, short of 1973 goal, trims requests by agencies," *Pantagraph*, Dec 16, 1972. No mention of PP in article.
16. "Planned Parenthood ouster sought by foes of abortion," *Pantagraph*, Sep 22, 1973. United Way (formerly UCS) received an objection when PP added as member.
17. "Right to Life group names committees," *Pantagraph*, Feb 24, 1973.
18. Newsletters: Planned Parenthood of McLean County "News and Views," 3rd quarter 1974. Also April 7, 1975.
19. Planned Parenthood Annual Report, 1974, with cover memo from Robert J. Keller. 7pp.
20. Kay Wilson letter to editor of Bloomington *Pantagraph*, April 2, 1975. Typed letter and published letter. Concerns supporting Medicaid payments for abortions.
21. Kay Wilson's prepared comments for radio station WJBC's Forum, October 22, 1975, about Planned Parenthood. 4pp.
22. Kay Wilson's prepared comments for WJBC's Forum, October 8, 1975. Response to previous Forum participant, Violet Hamilton and her opposition to local United Way, YWCA, and Planned Parenthood.
23. Kay Wilson's typed position statement on a woman's right to make decisions about reproductive issues, nd. 2 pp.
24. "Parenthood losing funds?" *Pantagraph*, Nov 22, 1978. Mid-Illinois Area Health Planning Corporation (MIAHPCo) committee recommends no funding for PP because they are "duplicating" services available from physicians.
25. "Funding of Planned Parenthood," *Pantagraph*, Dec 23, 1978. East Central Illinois Health Systems Agency reversed prior decision to recommend funding.
26. "Parenthood funded in United Way divvy," *Pantagraph*, Dec 9, 1978. Includes \$10,000 grant out of over \$1million total granted.
27. Kay Wilson's essay on unmet health needs in McLean County, nd. 4pp.
28. Kay Wilson, photocopy of prepared comments for WJBC's Forum on Planned Parenthood funding approval. circa Dec 1978. 2pp.
29. Planned Parenthood of McLean County response to Mid Illinois Areawide Health Planning Corporation Project Review Committee, December 5, 1978. Review

Committee recommended disapproval of Planned Parenthood's application for Title X funding. 6pp plus 24pp attachments.

30. "Health planners to review funding," *Pantagraph*, Dec 1, 1978. Mid-Illinois Area Health Planning Cop (MIAHPCo) review.
31. "Bishop raps Parenthood funding," *Pantagraph*, Dec 1, 1978. Bishop O'Rourke meets with United Way executive.
32. Kay Wilson letter to Allen E. Wann of East Central Illinois Health Systems Agency, February 12, 1979. Concerning desired procedural changes for MIAHPCo. 1p.
33. "Parenthood OK nets objections," *Pantagraph*, Jan 10, 1979. Comments from board members and staff.
34. Kay Wilson's handwritten history of McLean County Planned Parenthood. Dated January, 1977; 13 pages, p. 10 missing.
35. "Planned Parenthood at 10 still making friends, enemies," *Pantagraph*, Nov 25, 1979.
36. Planned Parenthood of McLean County letter from Rebecca Abrams, Educational and Informational Services Coordinator, to Kay Wilson on Wilson's radio presentation of February 23 on abortion rights, March 14, 1979.
37. Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois "Action Alert!!!" regarding reauthorization of Title X. Dated May 3 (no year given). On national level, references Illinois Senators Percy and Dixon. Also references Illinois H.B. 1399, re: anti-choice forces in state. 2pp.
38. Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois; newsletter, summer 1984. 4pp.
39. List of Bloomington Friends of PPECI, Feb 2004.
40. Planned Parenthood of East Central Illinois letter to Kay Wilson, October 22, 2005. Thanks Wilson for support of Planned Parent of East Central Illinois after anniversary gala.
41. Planned Parenthood of East Central Illinois program for annual gala. Held in Champaign on September 20, 2006, and in Bloomington on September 21, 2006.
42. Certificate for Founders' Award from Planned Parenthood of East Central Illinois. Presented to Kay Wilson, September 21, 2006.
43. *Inside Our Doors*, Planned Parenthood of Illinois newsletter, Fall 2020. Includes donor spotlight, Kay Wilson. 4pp.
44. *A Closer Look at the Issues*, Planned Parenthood of East Central Illinois newsletter, Fall 2006. Photo of Kay Wilson, Founders' Award recipient, with the Rev. Ignacio Castuera. 8pp.
45. Services and statistics, Fiscal Year 2019, for Planned Parenthood of Illinois, Bloomington Health Center. 1p.
46. "County survey shows 69% against abortion," *Pantagraph*, Nov 4, 1974.
47. "Majority believes abortion should be legal at times," *Pantagraph*, Jan 22, 1978. National Gallup poll.
48. "Society's stake critical in abortion alternatives," *Pantagraph*, July 10, 1977.

49. "Millions of Voices Silent No More," *Pantagraph Preview*, Sep 16, 1999. Ad from McLean County Voice for Choice.
50. "ACLU Will Challenge New Illinois Abortion Restrictions," *The Brief*, Nov/Dec 1977. HB333.
51. "Attack on legal abortion finds legislative friends," *Pantagraph*, Jan 13, 1979. Editorial.
52. "Carter sensible about abortion," *Pantagraph*, Kay B. Wilson letter to editor, Oct 20, 1976.
53. "Who pay bill not key to anti-abortion goals," *Pantagraph*, Feb 25, 1977. Editorial.
54. Planned Parenthood of Central Illinois Legislative Alert with Action Line, January 1982. Concerns the Human Life Federalism Amendment and Senator Orrin Hatch. 2pp.
55. "Abortion pill touted by researchers," *Pantagraph*, Dec 18, 1986.
56. "Planned Parenthood of Central Missouri v. John C. Danforth, Attorney General of the State of Missouri." US Supreme Court opinion as decided July 1, 1976. 10pp.
57. Kay Wilson, possibly letter to Democratic Party official: Wilson writing as member of the Abortion Rights Association of Illinois and other organizations. Urges support of family planning clinics, research on birth control devices and methods, and the Supreme Court's 1973 abortion decision (*Roe v. Wade*).
58. Letter to Kay Wilson of Coalition for the Right to Choose from Harber M. Hall, Illinois State Senator, District 44; thanks Wilson for information concerning H.B. 1851. Nov 5, 1975.
59. "Illinois Facts of Life—1974," statistics on contraception services, abortion, pre-natal care and delivery, welfare statistics, etc. in Illinois.
60. Abortion Rights Association of Illinois statement in support of Supreme Court ruling (*Roe v. Wade*) with membership application, nd.
61. Kay Wilson's letter to Klemm's Department Store, Bloomington. Response to Klemm's underwriting of right-to-life ad in the *Pantagraph*. Dated February 14, 1974.
62. Kay Wilson, statement on H.B. 1851, so-called Kelly Bill. Reports Governor Dan Walker deciding whether to sign bill severely restricting abortion rights in Illinois. Not dated; probably 1974-75. 2pp typescript.
63. Kay Wilson, prepared comments for radio station WJBC's Forum, January 14, 1976. Concerns anniversary of 1973 Supreme Court decision, *Roe v. Wade*. 2pp typescript.
64. "God Marauders crucify Planned Parenthood," *Post-Amerikan*, Vol 7, No 7, nd. 2 sheets.