

This application has been on my to-do list for over a month, and in a more abstract sense I've been meaning to get to it since I first heard about the opportunity from my school's MSFC president in August. And then last night's election happened, and 'tomorrow' for reproductive rights began to look a lot less certain. I realized that it's not enough to passively support reproductive rights.

The fundamental ability of millions of patients to receive comprehensive, supportive reproductive care depends directly on a continued supply of healthcare providers who are trained to provide it. In going into primary care, I would like to become one of those providers.

- An RHE participant, in her application submitted Nov. 9, 2016

**Thank you** for supporting our medical student and resident members every day in a variety of programs. 2016 was a year full of surprises, but the vigor and vitality of our members was no surprise at all. Just as they will be when they are physicians, our members are quick on their feet, ready to take action, collaborate, and advocate for their future patients.

#### President's Review of 2016

During a contentious year of political upheaval and legislative uncertainty, Medical Students for Choice (MSFC) brought the voices of medical students into the public sphere. Beyond our traditional advocacy work with medical students and educators, MSFC students worldwide bravely shared their stories to educate politicians and the general public on the necessity of accessible and affordable reproductive health care and the importance of quality medical training.



MSFC's community of medical student members now extends to 49 states and to 31 other countries, most of which have been affected by the incredible surge of damaging legislation to further restrict abortion access. We responded by partnering with organizations such as Planned Parenthood, NARAL, and the Center for Reproductive Rights to engage our powerful grassroots community in coordinated efforts to stop harmful legislation that impacts patient care and medical education. Across the country, MSFC students testified before state legislatures, engaged in letter writing campaigns, called legislators, gathered petition signatures, and participated in public demonstrations to support and protect access to reproductive health care.

2016 was a year filled with new experiences for our members. In Florida, MSFC served as co-plaintiff in a challenge to an abortion waiting period bill, which was eventually blocked by the state supreme court. In Texas, Katie Hansen, chapter founder at University of Texas-Austin Dell Medical School, spoke in front of state legislators objecting to a policy that would restrict abortion procedures on the grounds that "the bill places the judgment of politicians above that of medical professionals." In Ohio, MSFC chapter leader Tiffany Stainfield of Ohio University Heritage College of Medicine testified in a state senate hearing and reflected on the experience by observing that, "it is incredibly inspiring to realize that future abortion providers are coming, our voices will be heard, and we will not back down."

Throughout the year, our members have worked to protect reproductive rights, and safe, accessible care. Engaging medical students in the effort to advocate for the health of their patients worldwide has had and will have a powerful impact as our members become doctors and medical leaders. We are tomorrow's pro-choice physicians—both abortion providers and physicians of every specialty—who share the commitment to securing our patients' access to family planning options. This is the power of Medical Students for Choice.

In solidarity,

Kristin Prewitt

President 2016-2017

University of South Florida College of Medicine



2016 AT A GLANCE

25 new chapters

including
12
international chapters

for a total of 208 schools

who held nearly

1,200 educational events

## **Growing Our Community**

Our community of medical students and residents has continued to grow. At the close of 2016, MSFC was represented at 208 schools! Together, these groups held nearly 1,200 educational events that filled the family planning education gaps for thousands of medical students.

With each chapter established and supported by you, our mission is spread further. Student-led chapters adapt to their local community and medical school needs. No two chapters are alike, but each works towards making sure every future physician is trained in family planning, including abortion.

## **Improving Medical Education for Everyone**

According to our last survey of medical education in the US, education on basic options counseling is included in only one out of five medical schools' curriculum. Two-thirds of US medical schools spend *less than 30 minutes* of class time on abortion, a procedure that was performed nearly a million times in the US last year.

Our members are working to change that from within their own schools. For example, the University of Toledo chapter created an elective course on family planning that was approved by the curriculum committee. It began last fall, exposing many more students to these topics. Students also organize educational events for any interested student. MSFC maintains a large inventory of training materials to help our student chapters in this endeavor.



### Innovative, Intensive Training

Our Abortion Training Institutes provide hands-on training for students passionate about abortion provision. Students spend two days receiving family planning education while also networking with like-minded peers. In 2016, we held three training institutes, which were entirely funded by you!

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\*\*Participation\*\*

"This weekend has been absolutely amazing! This is the kind of comprehensive training everyone should receive.

It has been incredible to be surrounded by so many inspiring, passionate, and patient-centered providers. This institute will always stick out in my mind as the moment when I truly cemented my calling to women's health and abortion care. THANK YOU!!!"

– Christina, third-year medical student

### **Real Life Experience**

Our students are eager to get out of the classroom and start learning in a clinical setting. The Reproductive Health Externship funding program makes that possible. Students spend at least two weeks in a clinic of their choice, immersed in the day-to-day life of that clinic. This is truly a life-changing opportunity for students.

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extern<sup>e</sup>

"My experience was fantastic, and I am even more committed and excited about entering the community of family planning. I was mentored by inspiring faculty who took the time to model excellent patient care and to train me. Their trust in me was so appreciated, and I felt nurtured and supported in my own growth. It was a privilege to support women and their families. I am grateful for the support from MSFC and the larger family planning community that made this formative experience possible."

– fourth year medical student

### **Training for Tomorrow**

In 2016, 293 students from 82 medical schools attended the Conference on Family Planning, a 25% increase compared to 2015! Through your support, MSFC provided travel assistance funds to students from new or struggling chapters and students from chapters located in hostile areas. Students love the supportive, pro-choice atmosphere as well as receiving training on diverse topics from highly qualified faculty.

#### When asked what they liked best about the conference, students replied:



Inspiring speakers covering a variety of topics, good networking opportunities, being around like-minded people, supportive network.



I loved all of the possible sessions and the hands-on learning activities. The speakers were all enthusiastic and knowledgeable and open to questions. They were inspiring and truly willing to help students.



The environment of hundreds of like-minded peers and professionals, the workshops with a myriad of information, the keynote speakers, the stands outside and the materials provided there... Basically, everything!

### **Strengthening Community Connections**

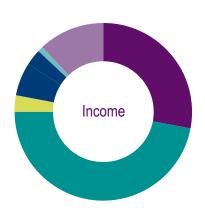
MSFC student groups frequently collaborate with other organizations, such as local clinics, Planned Parenthood affiliates, ACLU, and NARAL. 87% of chapters reported collaborating with other organizations in 2016. Whether hosting a guest lecturer or speaking in front of legislators, our members are active in their local communities.

We know that if we stand together, we become stronger in our fight for reproductive health care. We are grateful that our donors recognize the important role we play in our movement: to create tomorrow's abortion providers and pro-choice physicians.

# **FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2016**

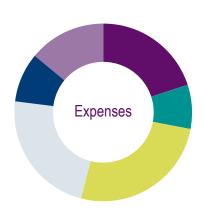
# Income

Total Income	1,552,725
Income Released for Use in 2016	193,784
Other Income	475
Meeting Registrations	47,950
Net Gain/(Loss) on Investments	88,206
Investment Income	46,805
Foundation Grants	733,962
Individual & Trust Contributions	441,543



# **Expenses**

Externship	269,486
Outreach and Communications	108,665
Student Organizing	344,693
Conferences & Meetings	298,515
Fund Development	124,713
Management and General	185,684
Total Expenses	1,331,756
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	3,173,868
Net Assets, End of Year	3,394,837





### **2016 Foundation Supporters**

Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund

1661 Foundation

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