



Patron
Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

www.womensplans.org
WomensPlansFoundation@bigpond.com

Women's Plans Foundation presentation to PGPD, March 23, 2011

While we value holistic maternal health programs, WPF is concerned that funding for contraceptive access has shrunk in proportion to funding for gender relations and disease aspects of reproductive health. Now, with the current emphasis on maternal health, it is possible for actual provision of family planning to be subsumed. Contraception is still considered 'controversial' in patriarchal sectors of theocracies and governments, and WPF's focus turns the concept of holistic to the benefits family planning achieves.

Family planning results in interlinked benefits:

1. Women can recover health between pregnancies, are more able to gain education and be role models for their daughters, who may aspire to education, careers and community involvement;
2. Maternal and infant mortality rates improve with birth spacing and choice of family size;
3. Water and food security, school places and employment gain stable populations for sustainable living within the local and regional environments;
4. Current world population stresses and unintended rapid population rise in developing countries can be eased. Very simply, breaking the poverty cycle cannot be achieved without access to family planning.

Women's Plans Foundation donates to:

- Marie Stopes International Australia because our donations can be targeted for contraception for the women who want and need it most;
- SH&FPA for partnering with in country family planning organisations to deliver contraceptive advice and supplies;
- Child sponsorship agencies Save the Children and ChildFund in the hope that having an add-on contraceptive component for maternal and child health will seed realisation that programs are optimised when women can manage fertility and health by child spacing.

WPF Fundraising aims to create:

1. Awareness in sympathetic individuals who value education and equity of the plight of women who have no access to family planning;
2. Wider group awareness, with people attracted to fundraising appeals and events by presentation of our aims in attractive entertainment settings;
3. A climate in which focus on family planning will make it non-contentious for the Government and AusAID to support family planning capacity as an integral part of overseas aid and development.

Our Trust Fund is growing and adding to our fundraising efforts in annual donations. AusAID's ANCP matching funding adds greatly to the effectiveness of our donations and motivates donors. People care. We can give caring both direction and reward.