

*Jeanne Richardson*

Former State Representative  
Former Director Midtown  
Mental Health Center

*Jocelyn Wurzburg*

Founder, Panel of American Women

*Barbara Pleasant*

Former President Shelby County  
Democratic Women

Dear [REDACTED]

We're writing to you because we believe you care about women's health issues in Shelby County. We have a chance to improve women's health services here—to correct a wrong three years in the making--and we need your help. **Please support Commissioner Steve Mulroy's resolution to re-bid the contract for Title 10 family planning services.**

Planned Parenthood had for years been the county's contract provider of family planning and other services using federal grant dollars under Title 10 which allows low-income women to get contraception, pregnancy screening, breast and cervical cancer screening, and related services.

**No public dollars go to support any abortion-related services.**

In 2011, bowing to political pressure from Tea Party types in Nashville, the Republican County Administration switched that contract to Christ Community Health Services (CCHS). At the time, Mayor Mark Luttrell's top staff said that CCHS would do a better job because (a) it would have 6 locations plus a mobile unit, and (b) it would quickly hire new staff to be ready to serve as many patients as Planned Parenthood.

**Neither of those two things happened.** Now, after two years of data, it is clear that CCHS is not serving the number of patients which Planned Parenthood had served. **The number of clinic visits per month dropped by more than half.** In the last year, CCHS served fewer Title X patients all year than Planned Parenthood had *in the last three months of its contract period.* This means that thousands of low-income women are not getting the family planning and related health services they need, even though federal dollars are available to pay for them.

County Commissioner Steve Mulroy, who has been monitoring CCHS's performance for the last two years, is sponsoring a resolution which would call for the Administration not to renew the CCHS Title 10 contract, but instead to put the contract out for rebidding. Further, Steve Mulroy's resolution would have the grading of the competing bids done by an independent panel of **outside medical experts** rather than Administration insiders, to avoid the politicization of the process which occurred in 2011. **That resolution will be up for a vote this Monday, March 24, 1:30 p.m.** It's time we took the politics out of women's health, and made sure that women who can't afford it can get the women's health services they need and deserve. **Call & Email to support Commissioner Mulroy's Resolution!**

**Please do these 4 things ASAP- before noon Monday March 24<sup>th</sup>**

- 1) Please call the County Commission at 222-1000 before Noon on Monday March 24<sup>th</sup>
- 2) Ask the staff to take your name and address and ask Commissioners to support Steve Mulroy's Resolution to re-bid the Title 10 contract now.
- 3) Ask them to give the Message to all 13 Commissioners.
- 4) Email the following Message to [Tamisha.Draper@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:Tamisha.Draper@shelbycountyttn.gov) and ask that it be forwarded to all 13 Commissioners: "Please support Commissioner Mulroy's resolution to re-bid the Title 10 contract." Please add your own, personalized thoughts.

## URGENT CALL TO ACTION ON A WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE ISSUE BEFORE OUR SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSION

We urgently need your help to improve women's health, family planning and other services using federal grant dollars under Title 10 which allows low-income women to get contraception, pregnancy screening, breast and cervical cancer screening, and related services.

Please read the letter on the back and then call the County Commission to support Commissioner Steve Mulroy's resolution regarding the rebinding of this contract that is critical to women and families in our community.

**Help us take the politics out of Women's health care!**

**The Memphis Area Women's Council board has voted to support Commissioner Steve Mulroy's Resolution**

**Please do these 4 things A.S.A.P  
before Noon Monday March 24<sup>th</sup>**

1) Please call the County Commission at 222-1000 before 12 noon Monday March 24<sup>th</sup>

2) Ask the staff to take your name and address and ask Commissioners to support Steve Mulroy's Resolution to re-bid the Title 10 contract now.

3) Ask them to give the Message to all 13 Commissioners.

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