

# Innovative & Interdisciplinary

The University of California,
San Francisco (UCSF) Bixby Center
for Global Reproductive Health
works to ensure that women, men
and adolescents have the power to
manage their reproductive health.
We improve care and training in
abortion, adolescent sexual health,
contraception, HIV and sexually
transmitted infections, and pregnancy
and childbirth. Our rigorous research
and evidence translate into better
reproductive health policies and
clinical care around the world.

The Bixby Center is a hub at UCSF, the leading university exclusively focused on health. We are proud to be interdisciplinary: our 175 faculty, investigators, fellows, associates and staff have expertise in medicine, nursing, pharmacy, sociology, psychology, anthropology, demography, epidemiology, law, public policy and public health.

UCSF Bixby Center Co-Directors
 Claire Brindis, Dr PH,
 Philip Darney, MD, Msc, and
 J. Joseph Speidel, MD, MPH

## Our Impact

Bixby Center work is contributing to important advances in reproductive health care and policy. Here are a few examples of our findings and achievements in 2014-2015.

#### **Abortion**

Major complications from abortion are rare, occurring in less than ¼ of 1 percent of procedures. This is about the same as for colonoscopy, and less than wisdom teeth removal and tonsillectomy.



One of the few recent state laws expanding access to abortion care was grounded in Bixby research. California affirmed that nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and physician assistants can safely perform early abortions.

- We conducted the largest longitudinal study on women's health and well-being immediately following and up to 3 years after either having an abortion or being denied one. We found that women who received an abortion had similar or lower levels of depression than women denied one, and that more than 95 percent of women believe that abortion was the right decision for them.
- We have continued to improve the safety of abortion care. We recently showed that obesity does not increase women's risk of complications in later abortion.
- Each year in the US, nearly 150,000 pregnant women are diagnosed with a fetal anomaly. We're working to understand what type of abortion care they prefer, and how the care they receive affects their grief and coping.

#### Adolescent Sexual Health

We provide training, technical assistance and evaluation to ensure California's teen comprehensive sex education programs are based on scientific evidence, and are taught consistently.



We work with the World Bank and other international organizations to include adolescent health perspectives in their work, particularly the impact of early marriage on young women's health and development.

### Contraception



We continue to expand birth control options for women in the US. Our research contributed to the recent introduction of a new lower-cost IUD and over-the-counter EC access for all ages.

- We helped inform the federal decision to require health insurance plans to cover birth control without out-ofpocket costs. This decision has already saved women in the US billions of dollars in healthcare costs.
- For family planning clinics, we developed and tested a training that helped integrate IUDs and implants into routine care. Clients at those clinics had half the number of accidental pregnancies in the following year.
- Our research showing successful integration of family planning services and HIV care contributed to adoption of this policy by the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.
- We're examining shared decision-making and other best practices in contraceptive counseling, as well as disparities in family planning outcomes.

#### HIV & STIs

- We provided support for research in Zimbabwe that showed early antiretroviral therapy prevents sexual transmission of HIV from infected men and women to their HIV-uninfected partners.
- We are supporting the launch of the first HIV vaccine clinical trial in Zimbabwe.
- We're helping lead the development of guidelines for cervical cancer screening and treatment for women living with HIV.
- We developed a model for understanding how migration contributes to HIV risks in women in Africa, highlighting potential opportunities for HIV prevention.



We collaborate with partners in Kenya to provide family-centered, comprehensive and compassionate HIV care. We're building a foundation for long-term, sustainable treatment for more than 85,000 clients, 92 percent of whom receive life-saving antiretroviral therapy.

## **Education & Training**



We're introducing state-of-the-art reproductive health education online. This includes the first-ever online course about abortion, which reached almost 7,000 students from 155 countries, and a course on early pregnancy loss.

- We launched the GloCal Health Fellowship, a program that trains researchers and health care providers to address critical global health issues.
- We have trained more than 1,600 contraceptive providers in diverse practice settings to offer the fullrange of contraceptive methods to their patients.
- Our Fellowship in Family Planning—the only postdoctoral training—is now in 31 leading Ob/Gyn departments, with 225 current and graduated fellows.
- Our Ryan Residency Training Program is now in 85 teaching hospitals—1/3 of Ob/Gyn residency programs. The program has trained 4,300 residents in evidence-based methods of abortion and contraception.

## Pregnancy & Childbirth

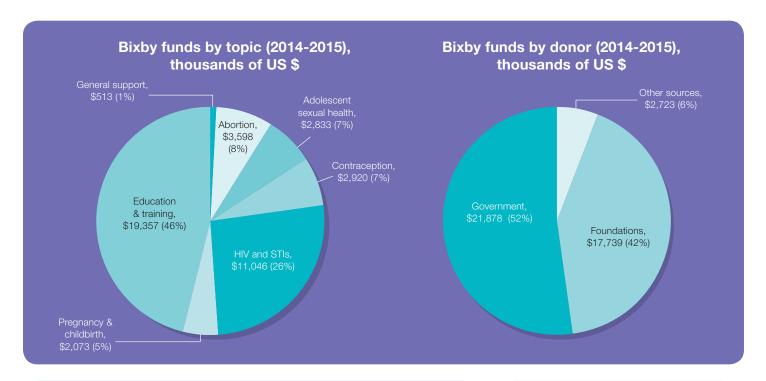
- We are leading trials to evaluate the impact of a low-cost training for health care providers on maternal and newborn health in Guatemala, Kenya and India. In India's state of Bihar, we are working with CARE India to roll out a midwife mentor training program.
- We proved that providing women with publicly funded contraceptive services after they give birth helps them to achieve healthy birth spacing and prevent subsequent preterm births.



We designed and tested a simple tool that saves women's lives when they continue to bleed after giving birth, called the Lifewrap. Our research helped inform an international agreement with NGOs, UCSF, a manufacturer and UN agencies to significantly reduce the cost of the Lifewrap so it can reach more women in need.

## Our Finances

The Bixby Center received \$42 million in support in 2014-2015. We accomplish our work primarily through support from private foundations, and federal and state contracts and grants.



#### **Foundations**

Allmen Foundation Anonymous Foundations (3) Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation BT Rocca Jr. Foundation California Wellness Foundation David & Lucile Packard Foundation Fistula Foundation Fred Gellert Family Foundation Fred H. Bixby Foundation Gillespie Foundation Greenwall Foundation Hellman Family Foundation JPB Foundation Marty Tomberg Charitable Fund Mary Wohlford Foundation Mount Zion Health Fund Ray & Dagmar Dolby Family Fund Wallace Global Fund William & Flora Hewlett Foundation Winslow Foundation

#### Government

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
Department of Health & Human Services,
Office of Adolescent Health
National Institutes of Health:
National Cancer Institute
National Institute of Allergy &
Infectious Diseases
National Institute of Child Health &
Human Development

National Institute of Mental Health National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism

California Health & Human Services Agency:
Department of Health Care Services
Office of Family Planning
Alameda County Health Care
Services Agency
Centro de Investigación Epidemiológica

en Salud Sexual y Reproductiva

#### **Other Funding Sources**

Butler Koshland Fellowship **Ipas** National Health Law Program Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Population Services International Public Health Foundation Enterprises, Inc. Society of Family Planning The National Campaign to Prevent Teen & Unplanned Pregnancy The World Bank UCSF AIDS Research Institute UCSF Resource Allocation Program: Center for AIDS Research Center of Excellence in Women's Health Helen Diller Family Comprehensive

And generous gifts from individuals

Cancer Center

# Darney Professorship Established

The UCSF Bixby Center recently endowed a \$2.5 million Distinguished Professorship in Population, Family Planning and Reproductive Health in honor of our founder and co-director Dr. Philip Darney. We offer our sincere thanks to the many individuals and organizations contributing to this success.

For a full list of citations and other features, visit bixbycenter. ucsf.edu/2014report.

Visit bixbycenter.ucsf.edu/ our-people for a list of Bixby Center faculty, staff and scholars.

#### UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health

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