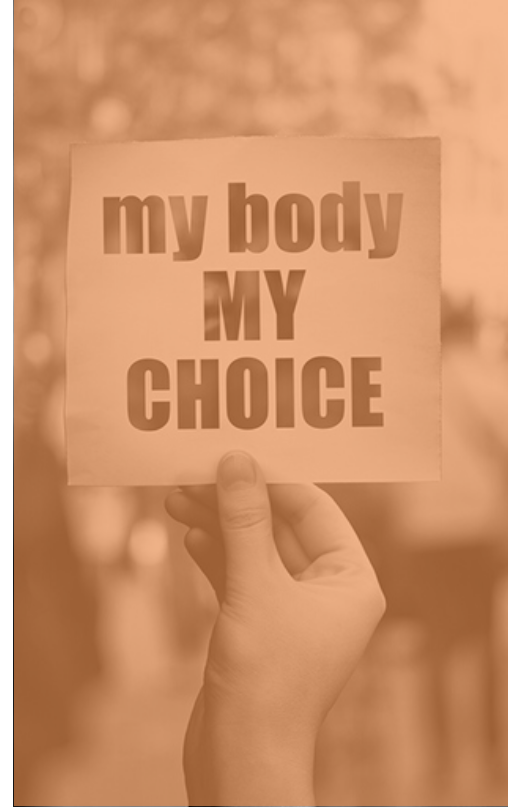


PRO-CHOICE
NORTH CAROLINA



The 2022
SPRING INTO
ACTION
Gala

A Virtual Event on YouTube

May 24, 2022 | 7 pm

We're so happy you're here!

We are delighted to welcome you to Pro-Choice North Carolina's 2022 Spring into Action Gala! We hope that you'll not only enjoy the amazing program but that when it ends, you'll have a better understanding of Pro-Choice North Carolina's work and a renewed belief in the fact that together, we can make true reproductive freedom a reality in our state!

Enjoy the Show!

Be Engaged:

Use the chat feature to ask questions in real-time.

Follow and connect with hosts, speakers, and special guests on your favorite social media channels.

Share Your Experience

Use #AbortionIsARight, #AbortionIsHealthcare, and #ReproductiveFreedom to tag us on social media to share your favorite moments.

Pro-Choice NC: Twitter: @ProChoice_NC, Instagram: prochoice_nc

Facebook: prochoicenc

Dr. Ghazaleh Moayed: Twitter: @dr_moayed, Instagram: dr.ghazal_moayed

Autumn Nicholas: Instagram: autumnnicholas

If you have technical questions or issues during the event, please email Giving@ProChoiceNC.org for assistance.

Using the Chat for Q&A

During the discussion between Tara Romano and Dr. Moayed, we would love to answer questions that may come up for you. For security reasons, we ask that you submit your questions during the event using this form:

<https://prochoicenc.org/Questions>

We will answer as many questions as we are able.

Welcome	Jordin Dickerson
Musical Selection	Autumn Nicholas
Why I support Pro-Choice NC	Sen. Natalie Murdock
Why I support Pro-Choice NC	Sen. Natasha Marcus
The Importance of Community Partnerships	Heysoll Rodriguez
Partnering with Pro-Choice North Carolina	Justine Orlovsky-Schnitzler & Camille Adair
	Serena Sebring
	Rob Schofield
About Susan Hill and the Susan Hill Award	Jordin Dickerson
Susan Hill Award Presentation	Jenna Beckham
Remarks	Amy Bryant
Thank you	Lori Bunton
What we do: CPCs and Abortion Bans	Margaret Crites
Why I support Pro-Choice NC	Sen. Jay Chaudhuri
Poetry Reading	Laura Fjeld
Conversation with Dr. Ghazaleh Moayed	Tara Romano
What we do: Relevance and Urgent Need	Tara Romano

Pro-Choice North Carolina works across the state to galvanize North Carolinians to actively promote reproductive freedom and reproductive justice. We seek access to quality reproductive healthcare—including abortion—that is fully and equitably accessible to every North Carolinian. Our mission is to ensure material and social support for all people in whatever reproductive health decisions they make for themselves; including decisions about preventing pregnancy, bearing healthy children, and choosing abortion.

We advance this mission through grassroots advocacy, community education, partnerships across issues, independent research, and civic engagement. We educate communities about the impact that restrictive reproductive health care policies and oppressive societal norms have on people, particularly marginalized communities. We also work closely with state and local policymakers to defend reproductive freedom and advance policies and programs that expand equitable access to reproductive choices.

As a bold advocates for abortion access, we work to ensure reproductive rights, health, and justice issues are an integral part of the broader North Carolina progressive movement. We partner with independent abortion providers in the state to bring their crucial voices to the movement. We envision a progressive movement that includes diverse organizations creating a permanent space for reproductive justice on their platforms, whether they focus primarily on healthcare access, economic justice, LGBTQ equality, civil rights, racial equity, or freedom from violence.

Pro-Choice North Carolina Staff



Tara Romano, MS, MPH
Executive Director



Toni Curry
Development Director



Lynne Walter, MSW
Advocacy and
Organizing Manager

Pro-Choice North Carolina Board

Margaret Crites, Chair
Lori Bunton Jill Sergison Karen Stegman

Pro-Choice North Carolina Foundation Board

Latoya Brooks, Ph.D., MSW, Chair
Jenna Beckham Trude Bennett, Secretary Tara Corbett
Jordin Dickerson Kathy Gregg Geoff Green, Treasurer
Valerie Ann Johnson, PhD Heysoll Rodriguez

Susan Hill and the Spring into Action Gala



Susan Hill was committed to providing safe, affordable, and compassionate reproductive health care to women and families. For decades she remained a valiant supporter of reproductive freedom, even in the face of life-threatening adversity.

With the support of Susan's family, the Spring into Action Gala was created to honor Susan's memory and to uphold her commitment to reproductive health care access for all North Carolinians.

Tonight, we honor Susan's legacy and renew our resolve to uphold her promise to be present and to continue the fight to make true reproductive freedom a reality for all North Carolinians.

The Susan Hill Award

The Susan Hill Award is presented to a North Carolina individual or organization with a demonstrated commitment to reproductive freedom. Honorees exemplify the qualities for which Susan will always be remembered: Work in the field of reproductive choice, courageous action in light of community opposition, education on the importance of reproductive justice, and influencing policy to safeguard and promote reproductive autonomy.

We are pleased to present the 2022 Susan Hill Award to Dr. Amy Bryant.

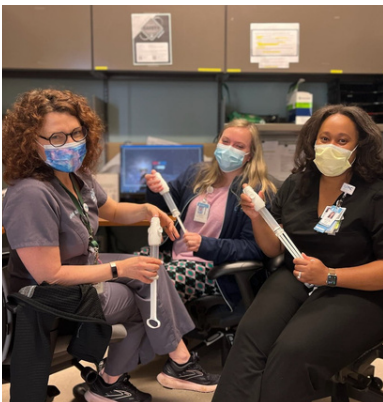
Dr. Amy Bryant



Dr. Amy Bryant is a practicing gynecologist with a subspecialty in Complex Family Planning. She attended medical school at Johns Hopkins University, completed her residency at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine, and pursued a Fellowship in Family Planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She currently serves as Director of the Complex Family Planning Fellowship at UNC and is the interim director of her division. She also teaches at the Gillings School of Global Public Health and is the 3rd year medical student OBGYN Clerkship Director.



Beyond her resume, Dr. Amy Bryant is an audacious champion for reproductive freedom. Her passion and compassion for patients seeking abortions are unrivaled. She was a plaintiff in two lawsuits to overturn unconstitutional abortion restrictions in NC. She was the lead plaintiff in "Bryant vs. the State of North Carolina" in a case that overturned NC's 20-week ban and led to expanded access to patients across the state.



She has served on the board of Pro-Choice North Carolina and served as the board chair. After her time on the board ended, she has remained a loyal friend and advocate of the organization and movement. She continues to show her support for Pro-Choice NC and the fight for protecting abortion access. She is always quick to help rally people to join events, write op-eds, or speak with the media. On the clinical side, she is a role model to learners and trainees - not just in the performance of clinical skills and care but in her bedside manner, advocacy, and tenacity.

The people of North Carolina are so fortunate to have Dr. Amy Bryant on our team as a courageous fighter in the battle for reproductive freedom.

Dr. Ghazaleh Moayed



Dr. Moayed not only provides birth care for her community, but prior to SB8, she was also one of the few physicians providing second-trimester abortion care in Texas.



In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Moayed conducts research aimed at improving access to abortion care and improving abortion experiences for patients. Dr. Moayed is a fierce advocate for her community and she is involved in local, state, and national reproductive health, rights, and justice advocacy through her service on the board of directors for Texas Equal Access Fund and Physicians For Reproductive Health.

Dr. Ghazaleh Moayed is a board-certified OB/GYN and complex family planning specialist who has devoted her career to serving the full-spectrum reproductive health needs of people in Texas.

She is the founder of Pegasus Health Justice Center, a community health resource that creates holistic community wellness through justice-centered, patient-oriented healthcare and advocacy.

Dr. Moayed is also a founding member of CERCL-FP: Centering Equity, Race, and Cultural Literacy in Family Planning. CERCL-FP is a collective that works to name, disrupt, and dismantle the systems of oppression in family planning care.

Autumn Nicholas <http://www.autumnnicholas.com/>



Autumn Nicholas is a gifted songwriter and performer who has amazed audiences around the country. Reminiscent of the singer/songwriter sensibility of Julia Michaels and the swagger of Kacey Musgraves, with the warmth of Adele and the soul of Etta James, Autumn Nicholas' lyrics and melodies tell stories. Stories about love, pain, loss, and hope. She seamlessly blends pop alternative melodies that become part of your daily playlist. Her textured vocals create imagery that brings the listener in, so they feel that her journey is their journey. She is an award-winning artist and performer that connects with fans in large venues and small intimate performances. Her latest single, Dealing, showcases her vocal range and lyrical sensibilities with pop infused, soulful melodies and displays a raw, honest, and emotional storytelling style that brings listeners on her journey as if it were their own.

Laura Fjeld

Laura Fjeld is a poet, lawyer, mother, grandmother, mentor, and 2014 Democratic congressional candidate endorsed by Emily's List and Planned Parenthood. She is completing her Master's in Fine Arts in Poetry at the Warren Wilson College Program for Writers. She lives in Hillsborough, North Carolina.



About CPCs <https://prochoicenc.org/fake-womens-health-centers/>

Anti-abortion centers, also known as "crisis pregnancy centers" (CPCs), have a long history as a tactic in the anti-abortion movement, designed to both directly impede patients' access to abortion and to spread political and often misleading, coercive, inaccurate, and deceptive messages about sexual and reproductive rights, health, and freedom.

Established soon after the 1973 "Roe v. Wade" Supreme Court decision, about 4,000 of these fake clinics now exist across the United States. There are approximately 100 in North Carolina, and they have received increasing amounts of tax dollars since 2011, including \$15 million in the 2021-23 state budget. Designed to draw in people with limited access to quality reproductive health care—people of lower income, students, rural residents, and those in LGBTQ and immigrant communities—these anti-abortion centers often spread medically inaccurate information about abortion, pregnancy, and contraception while also perpetuating stigma and shame around personal decisions involving pre-marital sex, abortion, LGBTQ relationships, and single parenthood.

At Pro-Choice North Carolina, we recognize these anti-abortion centers as a direct threat to reproductive freedom for all, a public health hazard, and a continuation of the exploitation of marginalized communities in an effort to score political victories for reproductive oppression.



About Clinic Defense

<https://prochoicenc.org/issues/anti-abortion-violence/>



Harassment of abortion clinic patients, staff, and volunteers has escalated at almost every North Carolina clinic in recent years and will likely get worse after the "Dobbs" decision is handed down later this spring. The inflammatory and harmful rhetoric at the legislative and political level has real-life consequences, which we often see playing out in front of clinics as protesters gather—in increasing numbers and with escalating intensity—to scream at, film, harass, intimidate, coerce, threaten, and block patients and staff from accessing the clinic to either obtain or provide care.



This harassment and escalating threats of violence are rooted in racist and misogynistic beliefs, stereotypes, and ideologies. People deserve to access the healthcare they need—including abortion care—with dignity and safety. The community of abortion rights advocates has been providing patient safety and clinic defense for decades, and we are committed to working with partners in this community and others to reimagine what safety in accessing abortion care looks like.

Reproductive freedom is the essential right of EVERY person to be able to plan their future and control their destiny.

Securing our reproductive freedom means expanding access to abortion and affordable contraception, protecting pregnant people from workplace discrimination, and supporting working parents by guaranteeing paid family leave. Visit our website to learn more about our core issues:

<https://prochoicenc.org/issues/>

Throughout our long history, Pro-Choice North Carolina has been an advocate and a voice for the vast majority of North Carolinians who believe individuals, not politicians, should make their own reproductive health care decisions. Our supporters are people of all ages and come from all walks of life. Still, we share the common belief in every person's right to control their own body so that they may also control their own destiny.

This evening, we reaffirm our commitment to protecting and expanding reproductive rights by advocating for policies that promote access to comprehensive reproductive health care and aggressively mobilizing North Carolinians to defeat legislation that will restrict access to that care. We will end the abortion stigma that contributes to restrictions, and expose the deception, misinformation, and goals of the anti-abortion opposition.

The coming year will bring immense challenges: The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to overturn "Roe v Wade" soon and with it, the remaining federal protections for abortion access. This will change the landscape of abortion care as we know it and impact millions across the country who may not be able to legally obtain the care they seek. Now, more than ever, it is imperative we make North Carolina a state where everyone can access the abortion care they need, without stigma and without barriers; not just for North Carolina residents, but for people in surrounding states who may have to travel here for care.

We're ready to take on this hard work, but we can't do it without friends like you. Your continued partnership makes all that we do possible.

On behalf of the Pro-Choice North Carolina staff, Board members, and North Carolinians from the mountains to the coast, I sincerely thank you for your generous and unwavering support tonight and throughout the year.

In solidarity,



Tara Romano, MS, MPH
Executive Director