

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Patrice Promack [ppromack@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 15, 2013 11:31 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** Re-vote on Title X needed

First, thanks to Greg Chilcott and J.R. Iman for their vote to accept the Title X funds.

Second, the other 3 commissioners need to realize the enormous mistake they made in choosing to not accept the funds, resulting in the closing of this extremely important clinic which cannot operate without these funds.

Third, and most importantly, there is still time to change this situation, and 1 of the 3 who voted to not accept the funds must change that vote so that this clinic can remain open.

**To Ms.Foss, Mr. Burrows and Mr. Stoltz:** as noted by Mr. Chilcott and Mr. Iman, the benefits must be weighed against the negatives. Said benefits are truly essential to a significant number of Ravalli County citizens. Dismissing these low-income patients of the clinic as *not important*

is just plain **WRONG!** Not only is it wrong for the patients who cannot afford to pay for the services they have been receiving at the clinic, it is wrong for the remainder of us (*not using the clinic*) who who know that the clinic is vital to the health and wellness of our community.

Here are additional results of closing the clinic:

Costs to the County in the future will significantly increase because when contraception is not available to those who cannot afford it, they will continue to have sex (**UNPROTECTED SEX**), the result of which will be more unwanted babies, more sexually transmitted diseases, more babies with addictions and diseases, as well as more child abuse. The costs of these situations will increase the burden on our law enforcement, our legal system, our courts, medical and mental health facilities, and other agencies.

Also, by eliminating all of Title X monies, you have also effectively eliminated assistance for services including referral for abnormal pap screens, for abnormal breast exam results, domestic violence screening as well as pregnancy and pre-natal counselling. These clients have no connection with parental notification, but fall by the wayside.

Although there are citizens of Ravalli County who may object to parental notification (or the lack thereof) on religious grounds, both the division of church and state in this country and Montana's constitution which actually gives children rights, make these arguments indefensible.

The money is available to keep this clinic open, to continue what it has been accomplishing for the County's residents for 40 years. It is doubtless in the best interests of your constituents, the residents of Ravalli County to reconsider this vote, and to **ACCEPT** the Title X funds.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patrice Promack