

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Katie Huls [kthuls@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2013 9:06 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners  
**Subject:** Public Health Funds

Dear Jeff Burrows, Suzy Foss, and Ron Stotlz,

My husband and I are both conservative Christians who have lived in the valley for entire lives (Spencer was born here I moved here at 5) and understand the political statement you are making by refusing the funds the government has allocated for public health.

BUT, we think that you are in error in declining these funds! Our valley needs public health and the money allocated for our valley will just be taken eventually by Planned Parenthood in Missoula and when a adolescent or woman needs services bad enough she will just drive the hour to a much more liberal, pro-abortion clinic. As a pharmacist, I have worked in concert with the public health nurses of the Bitterroot and trust them to advise women in a correct way. Our valley has a huge constituent of people who don't have insurance or have high deductibles and cannot afford the \$200 to go to their OBGYN or prescriber. You cannot consider the opinions of those on Medicaid or who have plenty of money, because those are not the people who need this service. It is the other 75% of the valley who may need it for a UTI, or unknown woman issues that may be STD, or Birth Control not only for contraceptive but there are plenty of young women which birth control has helped be able to have children because it holds polycystic ovarian syndrome and other ailments at bay.

I personally know people who have used public health for immunizations, first-time pregnancy identification and advice (which they found excellent with no abortion persuasive), unknown bacterial infections, and birth control. All these people were in their 20s with no or poor insurance and have went on to be productive members of society.

We have 2 daughters ages 5 and 2 and are pregnant with a boy due in 7 weeks and both are professionals in this valley and feel that you should petition to reverse your decision to decline the Title X funds. Our tax dollars would be better controlled by friends and professionals we trust in our valley than transferring them to Missoula and setting the stage in the upcoming years for Planned Parenthood to branch down to our valley... which we greatly oppose.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Please accept the funds for the women and children of this valley.

Sincerely,

Katie Huls  
531.6625