What are the Key Messages?

1. **Stay United**: Family planning is critical to meeting larger health and development goals and yet has been subject to relentless political assaults. Don’t let the global health community be divided. Stand up for access to family planning and other life-saving health interventions!

2. **Maintain Positive U.S. Leadership**: The U.S. has a long history of investing in global health programs and innovations—including family planning—which have delivered incredible results. Let’s not squander the progress that we’ve made and jeopardize women’s lives because of politics.

3. **Empower Women as Agents of Change**: Women serve as important catalysts for change in their families, communities, and countries, and access to family planning counseling and services can better empower them to do so. We should meet the demand of the 215 million women in developing countries who want to avoid pregnancy, but do not have access to modern contraception.
Global Health and Family Planning

KEY MESSAGES AND AUDIENCES

Where is Action Needed?

1 At home and in our communities: Use a moment like Mother’s Day to start a conversation with your family, at your organization, or in your community paper about the importance of global health investments to women and girls globally, and the key role that contraception plays in helping women have safe, healthy, and planned pregnancies.

2 In the halls of Congress: As Congress begins work on the budget for fiscal year 2013, some Members of Congress will be all too eager to cut funding for and impose restrictions on international family planning programs. Stand with women worldwide and tell Congress that this program is an important and cost-effective piece of our global health portfolio.

3 On the international stage: From Rio+20 in Brazil to the International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC, this year global stakeholders will come together to discuss a variety of important health and development issues. Let’s make sure that contraception and the way it contributes to health and sustainable development is part of the conversation.

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND POPULATION • CENTER FOR HEALTH AND GENDER EQUITY (CHANGE) PATHFINDER INTERNATIONAL • PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA POPULATION ACTION INTERNATIONAL