



Marcie Shealy

Marcie Shealy, Dir of Philanthropy, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic

Marcie is a true hidden figure and that's the way she likes it. This self-effacing over achiever prefers to do all her work behind the scenes then give credit to others.

Her job title at Planned Parenthood as its Director of Philanthropy does not fully capture her range. First, she worked to raise Planned Parenthood's profile as a key provider of health services for women. Then she built up the annual fund. And when the group recognized it needed a more central location, she worked behind the scenes on the capital campaign.

Her approach to fundraising is a mix of tenacity and graciousness. Crandall Bowles, who has known Marcie since their years at Springs Industries, says "she hand-writes thank you notes and any other correspondence for almost anything, the day it happens, and if she can't mail it, she delivers it. Final note, she does all this wearing high heels every single day."

Before you think Marcie is just a driven money-raising machine, we give you two words: Condom Couture. The runway fashions made of condoms instead of fabric raised money and lightened the tone during a stressful period for the group.

Need someone to counsel the Secret Service on the potential for demonstrations, and you call on Marcie; she knows that terrain all too well. As I struggled with how CMPD could best address the noise ordinance outside women's clinics without violating First Amendment rights, I found Marcie an invaluable sounding board.

Marcie was critical in getting the new Planned Parenthood Center up and running. Learning from the experiences of other planned parenthoods who had their work delayed by organized protesters and vandalism, she once again went silent. But let a skeptic challenge their mission and she's an effective spokesperson.

When you compliment Marcie about her ability to work so tirelessly for women's reproductive rights, she brushes your praise off "I'm just doing my job." But in today's highly charged climate, we are incredibly lucky to have Marcie "just doing her job."