

CHESHIRE DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB

FORUM ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

MAY 21, 2025

The Cheshire Democratic Women held a forum on Women's Reproductive Health on May 21, 2025. Twenty-five members attended along with 5 Young Dem's, twenty members of the community and 6 keynote speakers' staff members.

The Forum was planned by the Campaign Committee. Pat Baker was moderator and CDWC members Lois Sadler, PhD RN FAAN, and Nancy Redeker, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN, were speakers on women's health and their research studies at Yale and UConn. Cuts in funding and their impact on important studies of women's health were discussed.

Amanda Skinner, CEO of Planned Parenthood of So. New England, gave an inspiring speech on the critical importance of Planned Parenthood to women and the danger of reductions in funding. The low rates for Medicaid reimbursement are an issue that threatens the continuation of providers and services.

CT AG William Tong, President of the National Association of Attorneys General, presented a strong call to action, detailing his work nationally and in the region and state to hold the line on assaults on reproductive rights. He assessed CT as a strong state in this fight, emphasizing that reproductive rights are a man's issue too, and spoke directly to young people to take on the challenge for the future. Gretchen Raffia of Planned Parenthood took to the podium to urge the Young Dem's to stay strong and involved.

Special thanks to the Reading Room for providing a beautiful space for the event, to Marj Chapman for obtaining and setting up the sound system, to Sue Renehan for refreshing lemon water, and to all who helped make the event a success. The Forum was free to participants, funded by the CDWC.

Helen S. Wilson
Chair Campaign Committee