

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

ADVANCING

SEX EDUCATION



SIECUS

Sexuality Information and Education
Council of the United States

From the President & CEO and Board Chair



2018 marked another year of attacks on our sexual and reproductive health and rights in the United States—regardless of what science, the public, and, in many cases, basic human decency, would have supported. We saw the Trump Administration attempt to cut federal spending on evidence-based, sexual health promotion programs entirely; increase funding for harmful abstinence-only-until-marriage programming; and lead continued efforts to deny people access to sexual and reproductive health care services—including safe and legal abortion.

Yet, even in the face of so much adversity, SIECUS was able to continue a powerful shift in the work we do and the ways in which we do it. This year, we drastically increased our ability to fight back with the power of sex education. We formed new partnerships and uplifted unheard stories to key in on the intersectional nature of comprehensive sexuality education.

In 2018, we showed the world that sex education has the ability to advance LGBTQ rights through inclusive curricula. That it can shut down the myths and flat-out lies that often serve as pillars of anti-abortion policies. That it creates opportunities for sexual violence prevention—teaching youth, early on, to respect their own bodies as well as the bodies of other people.

This year, SIECUS focused on asserting that sex education is more than just a curriculum. It's an effective way to address the leading sexual and reproductive health and rights injustices of our time.

We are incredibly thankful to our outgoing President & CEO, Chitra Panjabi, and our outgoing Board Chair, Keely Monroe, for their tireless leadership and efforts to ensure SIECUS' success both during and after their tenure. 2018 was a year of rapid movement for SIECUS. And we cannot wait to share what 2019 has in store.



Christine Soyong Harley
President & CEO



Kristine A. Kippins
Board Chair



This year, SIECUS welcomed **Samantha Dercher** to its Washington, DC office to serve as the **Federal Policy Director** to lead SIECUS' national policymaker and partner education, advocacy, and lobbying efforts.

Financials

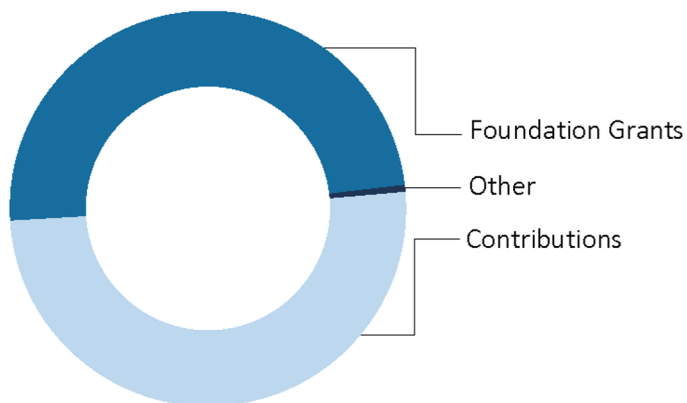
Fiscal year ended Sept 30, 2018

Revenue and other support	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Foundation grants	\$195,000		\$195,000
Contributions	\$189,623		\$189,623
Interest and dividends	\$1,388		\$1,388
Unrealized gain on investments	\$373		\$373
Other income	\$177		\$177
Net assets released from restrictions			
Satisfaction of grant restrictions	\$155,513	(\$155,513)	
Total revenue & support	\$542,074	(\$155,513)	\$386,561

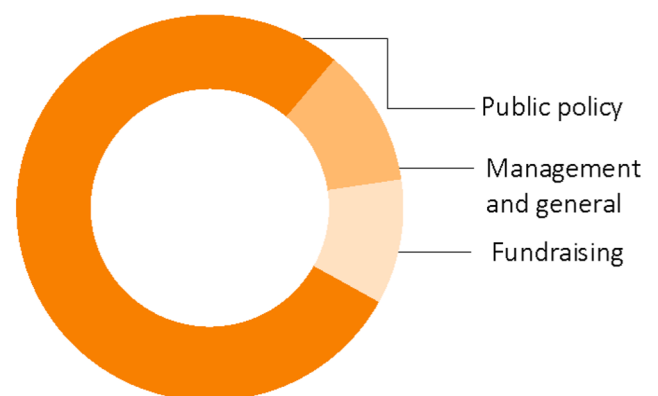
Expenses

<i>Program services</i>			
Public policy	\$452,799		\$452,799
<i>Supporting services</i>			
Management and general	\$49,711		\$49,711
Fundraising	\$78,990		\$78,990
Total supporting services	\$128,701		\$128,701
Total expenses	\$581,500		\$581,500
Change in net assets	(\$39,426)	(\$155,513)	(\$194,939)
Net assets - beginning of year	\$547,268	\$155,513	\$702,781
Net assets - end of year	\$507,842		\$507,842

Revenue and other support



Expenses



Defending sex ed in 2018

National Policy Leadership



In our nation's capital, SIECUS focused on defending adolescent health programs from the Trump Administration, while also working with our champions in Congress to introduce proactive legislation that would provide youth with the sex education that they need and deserve.

- SIECUS joined our national partners in a successful series of efforts to protect the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (TPPP)--a vital federal sexual health promotion program--from elimination. **We contributed resources and messaging guidance to our champions in Congress to aid their successful pushback against the Trump administration's attempts to cut TPPP altogether.**
- SIECUS assisted Senator Cory Booker's office in drafting a sexual violence prevention resolution--**calling on Congress to specifically focus on protecting the most marginalized among us against sexual violence and harassment.**
- Additionally, SIECUS hosted a successful congressional briefing, raising awareness around the dire need for LGBTQ-inclusive sex education with over **100 attendees and 30 Congressional offices.**
- SIECUS continued its work with Senator Cory Booker and Congresswoman Barbara Lee on **the Real Education for Healthy Youth Act**, which would provide the first-ever federal funding for comprehensive sexuality education, as well as for teacher training, while rejecting harmful programs, like those that take an abstinence-only approach. **SIECUS helped secure 71 House and 11 Senate REHYA cosponsors by the end of 2018.**
- SIECUS also continued working with Senator Mazie Hirono and Congresswoman Alma Adams on **the Youth Access to Sexual Health Services (YASHS) Act**, to support young people facing inequitable access to sexual health care and related services. **SIECUS secured 17 House and 8 Senate YASHS cosponsors by the end of 2018.**

↻ **SHARE** ↻

IF YOU SUPPORT ACCESS TO SEXUAL HEALTH CARE FOR:

- ✓ YOUNG PEOPLE OF COLOR
- ✓ IMMIGRANT YOUTH
- ✓ LGBTQIA YOUTH
- ✓ YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE
- ✓ HOMELESS YOUTH
- ✓ YOUTH IN JUVENILE DETENTION
- ✓ OTHER MARGINALIZED YOUTH



State and Local Policy Leadership



*In 2018, we took our advocacy efforts beyond DC and into more communities across the country than ever before. **We provided over 325 state and local partners with policy trainings and technical assistance** to advance sex education policies at state, district, and local levels.*

Our new Community Action Toolkit gives all advocates (students, teachers, parents, health care professionals, school administrators, and beyond) the resources they need to improve and expand sex education in their own communities—no matter where they are located. This year, some of our state and local highlights included:

- **SIECUS provided technical assistance to state partners leading six advocacy days in six different state capitals**, providing partners on the ground with the tools and strategies needed to lobby for comprehensive sex education with their policymakers.
- SIECUS played a leading role in the formation of **the Sexual Health Youth Advocacy Coalition (SHYAC)**. SHYAC is a national coalition of advocates, experts, and organizers working together to protect the rights of youth in out-of-home care, including juvenile correctional facilities and foster homes, to access comprehensive and essential sexual health care and education.
- SIECUS worked with partners in **eight** different states to add language on consent to their state-level sex education mandates.
- In Washington state, **SIECUS worked with partners on the ground to advance a new and improved version of the state's Healthy Youth Act** to mandate sex education in all public and charter schools, prioritize lessons on consent, bystander intervention, healthy relationships, and negotiation skills, and provide mechanisms to ensure that these policies are being enforced in the classroom.



Publications & Resources



*SIECUS shared over **35** policy updates or alerts on key federal, state, or local sexuality education and sexual health activities with nearly **6,000** advocates, educators, parents, young people, and other key partners, continuing our role as a leader in the field by informing stakeholders of up-to-date information about policies and practices that impact their work to advance sex education.*

Some of our key new resources and publications of 2018 included:

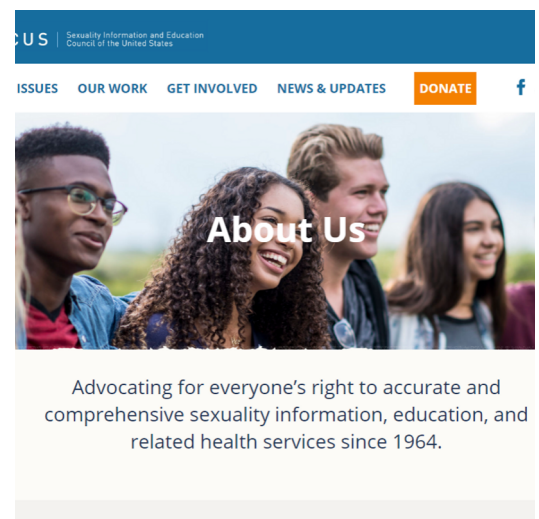
- **The SIECUS If/Then Factsheet Series** -- intended to clarify the connection between various social issue areas and sex education. The first two factsheets include: "If you care about LGBTQ rights, then you should care about sex ed" and "If you care about abortion, then you should care about sex ed." These resources were created with The National LGBTQ Task Force and Planned Parenthood Federation of America, respectively.
- **SIECUS' Policy Brief on Sex Ed and Parental Consent** -- which clarifies state laws regarding parental consent and what it means to have "opt-in" or "opt-out" policies.
- **On Our Side: Public Support For Sex Ed** -- a resource that uses the latest available data to prove that, overwhelmingly, people in the United States support sex education in schools--regardless of where they live or what their politics are.
- **The 2018 Sex Ed State Legislative Mid-Year Report** analyzed 139 bills introduced before May 31, 2018 that either advanced or restricted sex education in states across the country.

In addition...

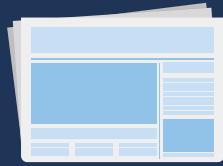
- SIECUS launched a new website! In 2018, SIECUS worked with Yippa Designs to redesign its website, siecus.org, to provide a more modernized, user-friendly way for supporters to navigate SIECUS' resources and take action on our issues.
- We created a new SIECUS blog. Beyond our regular policy updates, action alerts, and reports, we're also utilizing our blog to share stories, collaborate with partners, and add more personal commentary on the biggest sexual and reproductive health and rights issues of the day.

IF / THEN

LGBTQ Rights
& Sex Ed



Building the foundation for a long-term *culture shift*



This year, SIECUS continued serving as a thought leader and go-to organization for expertise surrounding sex education, as well as for the sexual and reproductive health and rights field overall.

Appearing in over 540 media outlets in 2018, SIECUS reached an audience of over 500 million through traditional media efforts alone. SIECUS was covered in outlets including, but not limited to: *The Advocate*, *Buzzfeed News*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Hill*, *The Intercept*, *PBS*, *ReWire*, *Teen Vogue*, *USA Today*, and *the Washington Post*.

SIECUS especially focused on discussing sex education as a means of sexual violence prevention with the media during 2018:

- SIECUS' President & CEO penned an op-ed in *Bustle* in response to the infamous hearings surrounding the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court of the United States. In it, SIECUS shared the need to start educating young people about sexual violence in this country earlier on.

"It is fairly obvious that we need to do better when it comes to teaching young people about consent. What's less obvious, but just as crucial, is the need to also teach about — and dismantle — rape culture, which has allowed sexual violence to go largely unchecked."

- SIECUS was featured on-camera in a segment of *PBS News Hour* to comment on the increase in calls to include lessons on healthy relationships, preventing violence, and ensuring consent within sex education following the viral #MeToo movement.

BILLION\$


of dollars have been poured into harmful, abstinence-only-until-marriage programs, now being called "sexual risk avoidance."

Call Congress NOW.
Urge them to say:
#NayToSRA



Only 2 States Require Consent To Be Part Of Sex Ed — That Needs To Change

By CHITRA PANJABI | Sept 25 2018 | f

 SIECUS also launched the **#NayToSRA** Campaign -- our most successful digital campaign to date.

Reaching nearly **ten million** social media users in two days, this campaign urged policymakers to quit funding abstinence-only programs, recently rebranded to "Sexual Risk Avoidance," or "SRA" by proponents of this harmful, ineffective approach.



Thank you to our supporters!



We won't sugar coat it: the hurdles this year have been huge. But we have been able to accomplish so much, despite the adversity, thanks to the incredible support of our donors and funders. **Your support allows us to continue our necessary work**--advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights for all people in this country.

We can't make long-term progress by ourselves. But with the help of our supporters, we have achieved incredible successes, advancing sex education in communities all over the United States.

And we need you with us as we move into the next year and beyond. Our work, though advancing steadily, is far from over. We look forward to having you by our side as we continue pushing toward a world that ensures social justice is inclusive of every person's sexual and reproductive health and rights.

SIECUS Staff

Christine Soyong Harley, *Interim President & CEO*
Chitra Panjabi, *Outgoing President & CEO*
Samantha Dercher, *Federal Policy Director*
Jennifer Driver, *State Policy Director*
Zach Eisenstein, *Communications Manager*
Madeleine Lowe, *Policy Analyst*
Gail Cowan, *Development Consultant*
Donna Muñoz, *Financial Consultant*

2018 SIECUS Board of Directors

Keely Monroe, Chair	Eli Green*
Barbara Libove, Treasurer	Kimberly Inez McGuire*
Debra Bazarsky	Sofia Jawed-Wessel
Ralph Chartier	Shelagh Johnson
Nimra Chowdhry*	Kristine Kippins
Larry D'Angelo	Stephen Russell
Sara Flowers*	John Santelli*
	Beth Tomasello*

* SIECUS was proud to welcome **six new Board members in 2018.**

Thank you to the following **Board members who stepped down in 2018** after years of dedicated service:

Thao Nguyen
Dana Beckton



1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1108
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 265-2405
info@siecus.org
siecus.org/donate