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For Immediate Release

For more information: Rachel Carroll Rivas, Co-Director 406-442-1989/rachelc@mhrn.org

## **Breaking: MHRN Questions Scheme to Shut Down Clinic**

MHRN has learned the Michelle Reimer, director at Hope Pregnancy Ministries/Clear Choice Clinic, purchased All Families Clinic's former building location and kicked Susan out! When Susan was able to find another location for her clinic, she was then struck by vandalism – disabling her ability to operate.

"We knew that Hope was more politically anti-choice then they let on. Now with the connection of the accused vandal, Zachary Klundt, to Hope and knowing that Hope's director bought the clinic's building out from under Susan, we think there is reason to question if Hope is engaged in a concerted effort to deny women their constitutional rights by making reproductive health care inaccessible in the Flathead Valley," said MHRN Co-Director Rachel Carroll Rivas.

Since the late 1970s Susan Cahill has been offering family practice healthcare to the Kalispell, Montana area. In 1994 her clinic was firebombed by a serial arsonist targeting women's clinics. In February Cahill's All Families Clinic had to vacate their site on Meridian Rd after the building went under new ownership and refused to renew her lease. Then, earlier this month the clinic was devastated by extensive vandalism in which equipment was methodically destroyed, records were trashed, the sewer system was broken, and personal effects were ruined. Following his arrest, MHRN reported that Zachary Klundt was connected to Hope as the son of Twyla, who has been on the board directors of Hope Pregnancy Ministries. The All Families clinic provides a comprehensive family and reproductive health services, including a first term abortions.

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As an organization that both stands up for human rights and exposes anti-democratic efforts of the far right in Montana, MHRN has deep concerns that Hope continues to come across our radar again and again. First, with white supremacist, April Gaede, raising funds for the clinic, then as an operator of one of the deceitful crisis pregnancy centers outlined in the Naral Pro-Choice Montana report, and now these two connections to the vandalism and scheme to deny Susan a place to operate her clinic. That is quite a coincidence! We hope this recent development and the conspiratorial nature of the events spurs law enforcement to investigate further the potential of the vandalism as more than an isolated act, but rather as a federal crime (see: Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act).

The attack on All Families Clinic has garnered local and national media attention and <u>donations have poured in</u>
online from across the state and beyond in support of Susan and All Families and against intimidation.