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In Kentucky...

As a nurse practitioner at Planned Parenthood, Ashley Miller, 30, was shocked at how little many of her female patients knew about their reproductive health. She decided to enter a Ph.D. program to research better ways to educate women about their health—then decided to run for state representative so she could implement the changes she so badly wanted to see. Though Miller lost her bid for state representative, she plans to continue to advocate for the people of her state. "My calling is to serve my community. That's why I chose nursing and to engage in research and public policy [in the first place]."

Hotaru Inchinose