

Grant Program: Pregnancy Assistance Fund

Arkansas

Arkansas Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers

The Arkansas Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board is partnering with the Arkansas Statewide Technical Assistance Resource Team (STARS) to fund ten communities across the state that are in greatest need for services to support pregnant and parenting teens. Communities are selected using the results from a statewide needs assessment of high-risk pregnant and parenting women and will be funded to develop either a home visiting program or a community or school-based support group for pregnant and parenting teens. All funded communities will receive intensive technical assistance from Arkansas STARS, which is a partnership of two statewide non-profit organizations (The Center for Youth and Families and Healthy Connections, Inc.) that both have extensive experience providing services and support to pregnant and parenting teens. Overall, the Arkansas Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board will serve 700 teen parents and their babies each year.

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California

State of California Department of Public Health Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Program

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers

The California Department of Public Health has linked and expanded its existing Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) and the existing CAL-SAFE (School-Age Families Education) program. Funds are used to expand the AFLP and the CAL-SAFE program to include four to eight additional high-need service sites across the state. Existing partnerships have been leveraged to provide comprehensive services to pregnant and parenting teens. Pregnant and parenting teens receive intensive case management services using a positive youth development model and reproductive life planning through the AFLP as well as school-based childcare services through the CAL-SAFE program. The program serves predominately Hispanic youth in the highest need areas of the state.

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Connecticut

Connecticut State Department of Education

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Public Awareness and Education

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) serves as the lead agency to develop and implement the Connecticut Support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens Project (SPPT), which is a school-based grant program for five Connecticut school districts with high teen birth and school dropout rates. This project targets pregnant and parenting Hispanic and African American youth in grades 9 through 12 and aims to improve health, education, and social outcomes through partnering with the Connecticut State Department of Public Health and Social Services. CSDE also is creating a social marketing campaign to disseminate information about existing resources for pregnant and parenting teens and their children. CSDE in partnership with the Hispanic Health Council is implementing a social marketing campaign and creating a Statewide Support for Pregnant and Parenting Teens Advisory Council and Local Advisory Committees in each of the five school districts. The purpose of the Council and Committees is to ensure key stakeholders and partners, at both the state and local level, advise and support all project strategies and objectives. This multi-faceted project aims to utilize a coordinated evidence-based approach that offers 6 core services (i.e., 1. flexible, quality schooling to help young parents complete high school, 2. case management and family support, 3. linkages and referrals to prenatal care and reproductive health services, 4. quality childcare for children with links to basic prevention healthcare, 5. parenting and life skills education and support services, and 6. father involvement services and support) to meet CSDE's primary outcome goals of improved high school completion rates and the health and wellness of students and their children.

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District of Columbia

Government of the District of Columbia

Program Model/Strategy schools/Community Service Centers; Public Awareness and Education

The District of Columbia Department of Human Services (DHS) in collaboration with the District of Columbia Public Schools and the Student Support Center are implementing the New Heights program for pregnant and parenting teens in 14 high schools within the District of Columbia. The New Heights program offers a range of services in schools for pregnant and parenting teens, including case management, referral services, and educational workshops. The goals of the program are to support pregnant and parenting teens by incorporating components which will: increase school attendance rates, increase high school graduation rates, decrease repeat pregnancies, increase public/community awareness and support, and increase knowledge of information about resources available. In addition, DHS has partnered with the University of the District of Columbia to implement a public awareness campaign to inform the public about issues pregnant and parenting teens face and available resources.

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Indiana

Indiana State Department of Health

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Public Awareness and Education

Indiana's State Department of Health's Maternal and Child Health Division (MCH) is responsible for the Pregnant and Parenting Adolescent Support Services (PPass) program. PPass targets services for pregnant and parenting teens in high schools and community services centers through sub-awards. Sub-grantees will implement evidence-based programs that leverage existing services, open lines of communication with traditional and non-traditional partners, and achieve measurable outcomes. The goals of the PPass program include: strengthening infrastructure for pregnant and parenting teens; reducing subsequent pregnancies; and decreasing high school drop out rates. MCH reviewed several research documents that explore evidence-based programs and the characteristics that are effective for the pregnant and parenting adolescent population. Sub-grantees will select specific evidence-based program models from that review and ensure that the key effective elements are in place. In order to further strengthen the overall efforts of the PPass program and to reduce the fragmentation of existing services, sub-grantees will work with multiple partners to develop and implement programming to build stronger community efforts to address the needs of pregnant and parenting teens.

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Massachusetts

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, in conjunction with a variety of public and non-profit partners is implementing the Massachusetts Pregnant and Parenting Teen Initiative, targeting pregnant and parenting teens (ages 14-20) in high schools and at community centers in five cities: Chelsea, Holyoke, Lawrence, New Bedford and Springfield. The project is creating an integrated service structure to formally link teams of qualified service providers in the five cities to address the broad needs of pregnant and parenting teens. These teams are operating out of schools and community-based organizations to provide teen mothers, young fathers and their children with wraparound services including medical care, health education, and social and emotional support services. Teams are trained on a common service model across the five sites, though site specific adaptations can be made to address local needs and resource availability.

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Michigan

Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Public Awareness and Education

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. is developing the Support for Network for Anishinaabe Pregnant and Parenting Teens (SNAPPT) project, which aims to provide support, assessment, education, and referral services at Community Service Centers across 20 counties, including two major urban areas in Michigan. The main strategy involves building upon the existing successful perinatal/postpartum home visiting case management infrastructure through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)/Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) Healthy Start project. This project is developing specialized intense outreach and support services focused on pregnant and parenting American Indian teens. In addition, there are public awareness and education activities, which include brochures, posters, and the use of other media outlets. The goals of the SNAPPT project are to promote the health and long term socio-economic status of American Indian teen parents, promote the long term health and well-being of American Indian children born to teen parents, and to increase public awareness of the availability of supports and services for pregnant and parenting teens and information about how to access them.

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Minnesota

Minnesota Department of Health Treasurer

Program Model/Strategy Institutions of Higher Education; Public Awareness and Education

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), as the authorized representative collaborating with their Maternal Child and Health Section, is implementing a project which aims to (1) increase the number of institutions of higher education providing student parent support services, and (2) plan, implement and maintain a state-wide system infrastructure model of web-based and other technology resources for pregnant and parenting teens, young women and fathers. MDH solicited proposals from institutions of higher education to implement or expand student parent support services. MDH had two competitive grant processes; one for start up of new or limited student parent programs, and a second for expansion of current student parent programs for institutions that have well established parent centers. MDH will develop and evaluate a web-based infrastructure to provide coordinated communication statewide. The web-based system will include a wide variety of culturally and age appropriate media tools such as pod casts, social media like Facebook, video testimonies of student parents and microblogs.

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Montana

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services implementing the Montana Healthy Teen Parents project to provide support for pregnant and parenting teens in high schools and community service organizations across the state. The Department is conducting a needs assessment to identify gaps in services specifically for Native American teen parents in the state. The Department is implementing core services for pregnant and parenting teens in the state which includes flexible schooling, case management, parenting and life skills education, referral and linkage to prenatal care and quality child care. At least 50% of funds are targeted to services for Native American youths.

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New Mexico

New Mexico Public Education Department

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Services;

New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) will connect with key state organizations to develop a service delivery model that provides a comprehensive array of services to support the academic, economic, social, and health needs of pregnant and parenting teens and their children. NMPED will leverage existing resources invested in Graduation Reality and Dual Role Skills Program (GRADS), school-based health centers and domestic violence programs to enhance and expand the current GRADS program. The new service delivery model will be called GRADS: Making Connections for Success. NMPED will partner with GRADS, the NM Department of Health, the NM Alliance for School Based Health Care and the NM Attorney General's Office in order to: strengthen and expand a replicable school-based model that integrates services and collaboration between school health care and pregnant and parenting teen programs in public schools; connect current GRADS program sites to school-based health centers and expand to new sites; establish a state teen dating/domestic violence program; and create public awareness campaigns targeting teens, the general public, school administration and other key stakeholders about the importance of high school completion and other needs of pregnant and parenting teens.

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North Carolina

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Services;

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is implementing Young Moms Connect: Communities Supporting Young Families for pregnant and parenting teens and young women in five high need counties in North Carolina - Bladen, Nash, Onslow, Rockingham, and Wayne counties. The goals of Young Moms Connect are to 1) incorporate evidence-based practices, strategies, and models into existing county programs for pregnant and parenting teens and their families; 2) provide comprehensive and high quality support services that are easy for pregnant and parenting teens to access and that meet their needs; 3) create effective local systems of care for pregnant and parenting teens and their families; 4) improve the health and well-being of pregnant and parenting teens and their families; and 5) identify lessons learned from local initiatives that can be implemented statewide to improve the health and well-being of pregnant and parenting teens throughout North Carolina. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is also partnering with North Carolina Healthy Start to conduct a public awareness campaign for the Young Moms Connect program. The campaign includes a community video project, website, facebook page, twitter service, text messaging responder service, and cinema and TV advertisements□□

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Oklahoma

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Public Awareness and Education

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is a Federally-recognized American Indian Tribe. The Choctaw Nation will directly serve 600 pregnant and parenting youth through community service centers and public awareness and education efforts. The Choctaw Nation is trying to break the negative cycles of poverty, lack of education, and teen pregnancy that exist for their members. The Choctaw Nation plans to offer culturally relevant services and engage the community to provide the support necessary to comprehensively address the needs of local pregnant and parenting adolescents. The goals for this project are to improve health, education, and social services for the targeted pregnant and parenting teens. The tribe will implement evidence-based and culturally appropriate curricula and materials using Parents as Teachers (PAT), Positive Indian Parenting (PIP), and InJoy (specific education on prenatal, delivery, and post-partum phases). These materials have been used in the past to enhance parenting skills for this population. The project will include monthly home visits and regular group trainings to educate the target population and reinforce positive messaging. The Choctaw Nation will conduct a more intensive needs assessment to revise and refine their goals and implementation plan for providing support to pregnant and parenting teens through community service centers with the help of multiple stakeholders and partners in the community.

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Oregon

Oregon Department of Justice

Program Model/Strategy Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Services

The Oregon Department of Justice is implementing the Violence in Pregnancy and Parenting Intervention Project, which is co-locating Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) advocates in multiple DHS child welfare and /or self-sufficiency centers statewide. The goal of the project is to improve screening and referral to IPV services for pregnant and parenting women who are clients of social services and public health agencies. The Oregon Department of Justice has co-located IPV advocates on a limited scale since 2009, and its internal evaluation indicates that this is a successful model for ensuring linkage to IPV services.

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Tennessee

State of Tennessee Department of Health

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Public Awareness and Education

The State of Tennessee Department of Health is coordinating with community service organizations in Shelby County, Tennessee for the Pregnancy and Parenting Success project. Pregnancy and Parenting Success provides health, education, and social services for pregnant and parenting teens in the Shelby County area. Pregnancy and Parenting Success will establish group prenatal programs at area high-schools, provide vouchers for concrete resources for pregnant and post-natal teen mothers, and place outreach workers in high-need neighborhoods to promote the availability of services and encourage pregnant and teens to stay in school and participate in early intervention and prevention programs.

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Vermont

State of Vermont

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers

The Vermont Department for Children and Families Child Development Division are addressing support for pregnant and parenting teens at high schools and community services centers by implementing the Learning Together program. The Learning Together program is a statewide initiative with a particular focus on areas of the state with the highest need for support for pregnant and parenting teens. The department works with community based organizations as program partners to reach pregnant and parenting teens and women by providing intensive pre-vocational, interpersonal and parent training. The Learning Together program focuses on components of building self-esteem, communication skills, and job readiness including high school completion and parenting skills for pregnant and parenting teens. The goal of the program is to provide these teens with services and opportunities to move forward with their lives while making invaluable contributions to their families and the community.

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Virginia

Virginia Department of Health

Program Model/Strategy Institutions of Higher Education; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Services; Public

The Virginia Department of Health is focusing on supporting pregnant and parenting students at institutions of high learning; improving services for pregnant and recently pregnant women who experience domestic violence, sexual assault or violence, or stalking; and strengthening the public's response to the challenges of pregnant and parenting teens through increased knowledge and awareness. The Virginia Department of Health's strategies include the implementation of evidence informed peer counselor programs and an office of pregnant and parenting student services at targeted institutions of higher learning; enhancement of Virginia's system to identify and refer pregnant victims of sexual and domestic violence and stalking for services; and the development and implementation of a public awareness program to inform the public and link parenting and pregnant students to needed services.

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Washington

Washington State Department of Health

Program Model/Strategy High schools/Community Service Centers; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Services;

The Washington Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the state K-12 education agency, is supporting pregnant and parenting teens by working with the Graduation, Reality and Dual Skills (GRADS) Program, which includes high school classes, outside supports, and practicum experience for pregnant women and teen mothers and fathers. This project will improve effectiveness of the GRADS program by increasing teacher training and support, updating the curriculum to align with national and state standards. The project will also increase enrollment in the program through outreach and the addition of new sites. DOH will work with the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) to improve services for pregnant victims of violence and stalking. In this project, two statewide coalitions will advance training for law enforcement, legal, health and social service providers. A public/private partnership will develop and promote practice guidelines that apply across disciplines to assure the best care and service is provided to pregnant teens and women who are victims of sexual and domestic violence and/or stalking. All activities will be augmented and supported by an awareness and linkage campaign that conducts market research and uses the information from the GRADS needs assessments to create outreach materials. The program will emphasize electronic and newer forms of media and communication, such as text messaging and other social media.

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