



SOUTH CAROLINA  
CAMPAIGN to  
**PREVENT  
TEEN  
PREGNANCY**

# **Transforming Communities:**

**Mobilizing for Long Term Sustainability**

**Forrest L. Alton, Chief Executive Officer**

# Our Mission



**As a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, we are committed to improving the health and economic well being of individuals, communities, and the state of South Carolina by preventing teen pregnancy.**



# Our Strategic Commitments



- **INCREASE ENGAGEMENT**

to maximize impact.

- **PUSH INNOVATION**

to respond to a changing environment

- **IMPACT SYSTEMS**

to create sustainable change

- **BE ACCOUNTABLE**

to our mission and best practices



South Carolina's  
teen birth  
rate has  
decreased  
**54%**  
between 1992 - 2013.



#HalfWayThereSC



Birth rates in  
South Carolina have  
declined across:

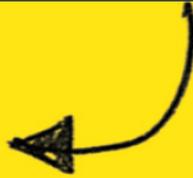
- all ages
- all races
- all counties

#HalfWayThereSC



SINCE 1992...

There's been an  
astounding **74%**  
decrease in the teen  
birth rate among African  
Americans (15-17).



#HalfWayThereSC



**PROGRESS...  
NOT SUCCESS.**

South Carolina still  
ranks **12th highest**  
in the nation  
for teen births.

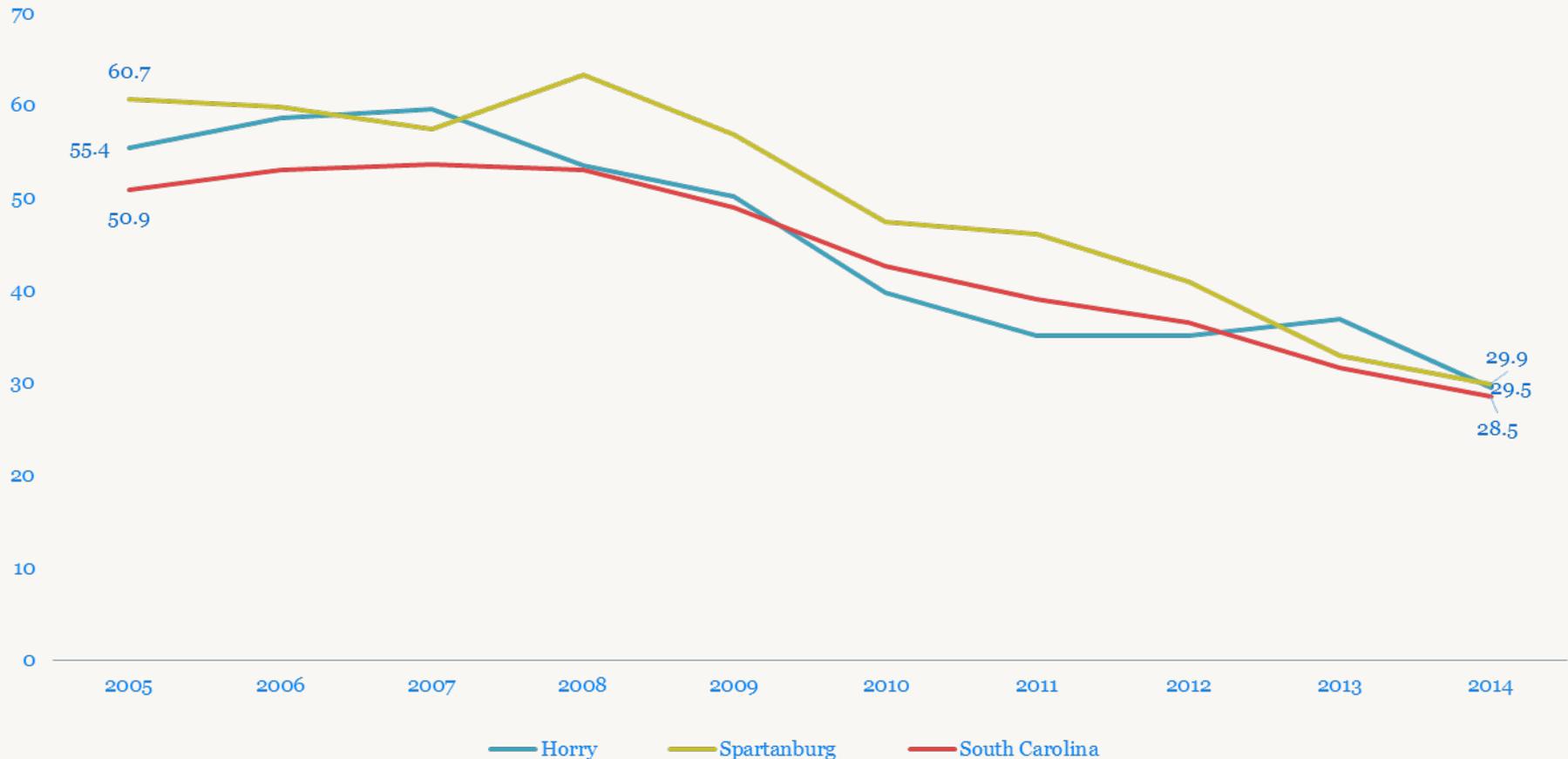
#HalfWayThereSC



# OAH Target Communities (2010-2015)



Birth Rates to Adolescents Ages 15-19  
2005-2014

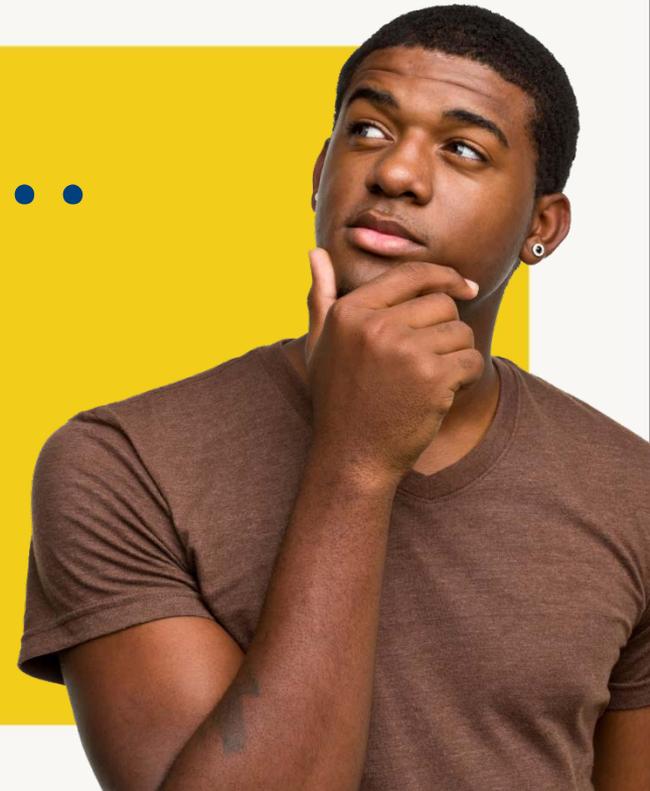




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**Five years later...**

**What have we  
learned?**



# 1) Relationships Matter



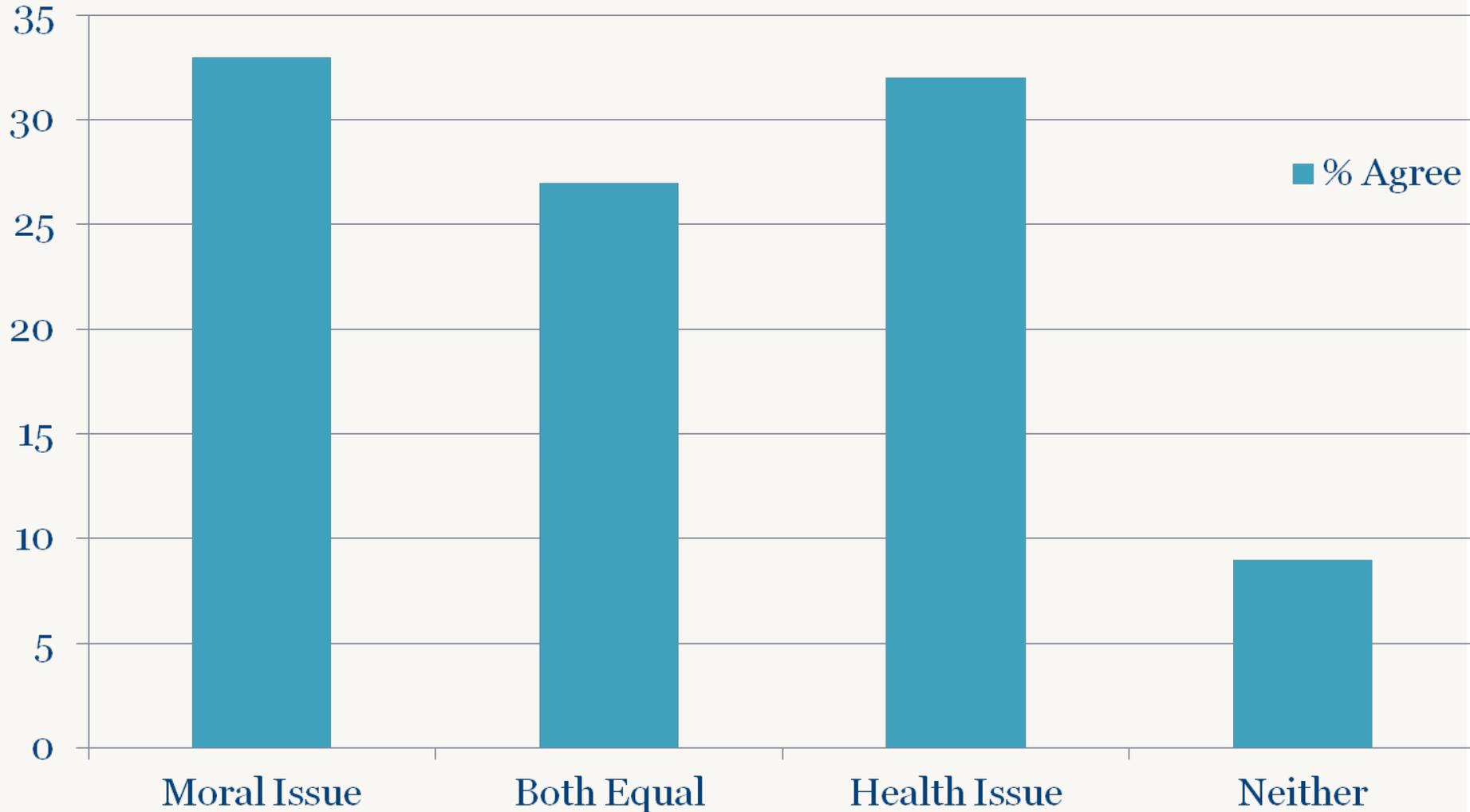
Without **RELATIONSHIPS** there is no **MOBILIZATION**. Without mobilization there is no **SUSTAINABILITY**.

- Important to build trust among key stakeholders.
- Understand community norms and readiness.
- Recognize that not everyone is good at this!





# Is teen pregnancy in SC a moral issue, a public health issue, both or neither?



Kershner, S. (2015) SC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

## 3) Create meaningful interaction

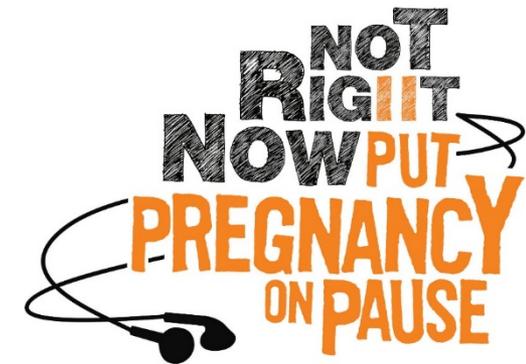
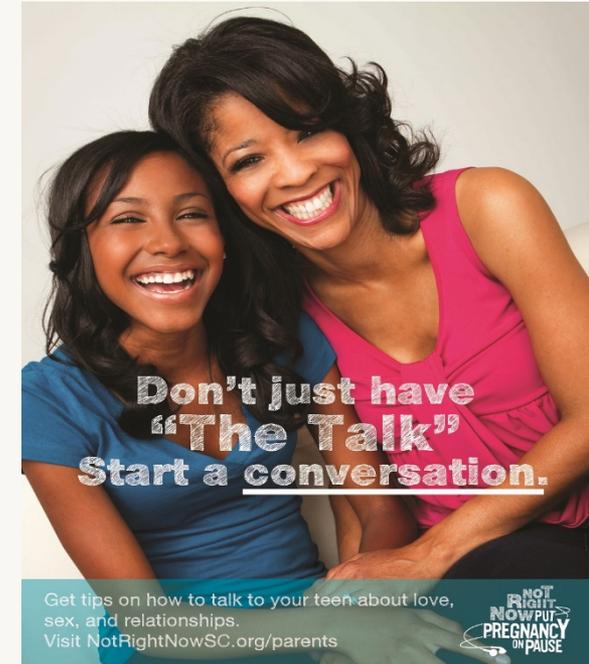


- **Community groups should intersect where/when possible.**
  - establish a clear, cohesive community voice across multiple groups.
- **The youth voice should be ON PAR with the adult voice.**
  - Are solid youth-adult partnerships in place to ensure continuity?
  - Are youth treated as part of a problem to be solved, or part of the solution?
- **Create opportunities for partner agencies to get to know each other on a personal level.**
  - Members are more than committee members.
  - Helps increase cross-program referrals.

# 4) Lead from behind



- Our role is to provide support, training, technical assistance, guidance, etc.
- Our role is NOT to be the only voice on this issue in communities.
- Sustainability requires others to use their voice – we need to help make that happen!
- 2015 grant: creation of Lead Agency to coordinate efforts in each community.



[www.NotRightNowSC.org](http://www.NotRightNowSC.org)

# 5) What are we sustaining?

- It's unrealistic to think we are sustaining projects “dollar for dollar”!
- What are the key components worthy of sustaining? How are you building infrastructure throughout the project to ensure this happens?
- Sustainability CAN NOT begin in Year 5.
- You can sustain EFFORT, INTEREST, and ENERGY... even if you can't sustain every dollar of funding.





For Additional Information:

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[www.teenpregnancysc.org](http://www.teenpregnancysc.org)

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