



PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS

**Bridging the Gaps: Eliminating Disparities in
Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Health**

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DISCLAIMER

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OBJECTIVE ONE

By the end of this workshop, grantees will be able to identify:

- At least three findings on postsecondary educational attainment and outcomes for teen parents
- At least three findings from a survey on program strategies to promote postsecondary education

OBJECTIVE TWO

By the end of this workshop, grantees will be able to:

- Describe at least three different program models to support college enrollment among pregnant and parenting teens
- Assess the relevance of these models for their programs and/or communities

OBJECTIVE THREE

By the end of this workshop, grantees will be able to list at least three strategies for improving postsecondary enrollment for the pregnant and parenting teens in their programs or communities.

PART ONE

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS

HIGHER EDUCATION AND HEALTH DECISION-MAKING

Federal Agencies point to the role of higher education as an important factor in health decision-making:

- Healthy People 2020
- OAH expert working group 2012

OUTCOMES FROM POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

- Education makes a significant difference in median lifetime earnings.
- College is a 2-generation strategy for a teen mother and her child.

Sources: Carnevale, Jayasundera, and Hanson 2012; Attewell and Lavin 2007

HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION RATES BY AGE 22

- 89% for young women without children
- 50% for teen mothers overall
- 38% for those who have child before age 18
- 60% for those who have child at age 18-19

Source: Perper, Peterson, and Manlove 2012

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE GRADUATION RATES BY AGE 30

Four year college degree:

- 2% of teen mothers age 17 and younger
- 3% of teen mothers age 18-19
- 9% of women with first child at age 20-21

Source: Hoffman 2006

COMPLETION OF TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE BY AGE 30

- 5% of teen mothers age 17 and younger
- 10% of teen mothers age 18-19
- 21% of women with first child at 20-21

Source: Hoffman 2006

POSSIBLE REASONS FOR LOW RATES OF COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

- High school performance
- Discrimination
- Insufficient supports (e.g., child care)
- Cost of college and limited financial aid

HTN SURVEY FINDINGS

- 33 organizations responded to survey
- Most common supports: child care, outreach about college, assistance with applications
- Higher percentage of students intend to enroll in college than actually enroll.

LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

- How important is college enrollment for the teen parents in your program or community?
- What are the most important barriers influencing college enrollment among teen parents?

PART TWO

PROGRAM COMPONENTS AND MODELS TO SUPPORT COLLEGE ENROLLMENT AMONG PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Quality, subsidized child care and other wrap-around services
- Strong and consistent messages about the importance of college
- One-on-one guidance, counseling, and advising from supportive adults

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Intensive academic supports
- Positive experiences with college (e.g., dual enrollment)
- Linkages to financial aid and other supports
- Access to family planning

SCHOOL-AGE FAMILIES EDUCATION PROGRAM, CALIFORNIA (CAL-SAFE)

Mainstream high schools providing:

- child care
- Title IX protections
- Early Education Specialist
- role models
- academic fairs, open houses, and college visits

CAL-SAFE: OUTCOMES

- 73% of students completed high school
- 38% of exiting students planned to enroll in a local community college
- 8% of the babies born to Cal-SAFE students were repeat births

FLORENCE CRITTENTON HIGH SCHOOL, DENVER CO

Separate high school providing:

- quality learning center and parenting training
- comprehensive wraparound services
- classes on career goals and planning
- college trips
- financial aid workshops and assistance
- dual enrollment classes and bridge to college program
- linkages to health services, including family planning

FLORENCE CRITTENTON: OUTCOMES

- 72% of eligible seniors earned a high school diploma in 2012
- 15 out of 18 planned to go to college and 3 planned to work
- At follow-up, 10 students were enrolled in community or technical college and 3 were working

GENERATION HOPE, WASHINGTON DC

Non-profit organization providing:

- assistance navigating financial aid, child care, housing, and emergency needs
- mentors who emphasize life planning, including family planning
- active outreach to teen parents through workshops and role models
- annual conference for current scholars and teen parents from area high schools

THE CARE CENTER, HOLYOKE, MA

Non-profit providing:

- strong messages about importance of college
- small class sizes for GED preparation
- dual enrollment courses with local colleges
- skilled tutors who are college students
- emphasis on athletics
- free child care on site available until age 21
- counselors to support transition to college
- Bridge to College courses
- wrap-around services including on-site nurse practitioner

THE CARE CENTER: OUTCOMES

- 14 out of 18 graduates enrolled in college in 2012
- Data for last 5 years:
 - 44% of graduates who transitioned to college completed one semester
 - half of those who completed one semester also completed a second semester

DISCUSSION

- What stood out in these four models as key to supporting enrollment in college among pregnant and parenting teens?
- What types of policies and additional resources are needed, if any, to strengthen the emphasis on college enrollment for pregnant and parenting teens?

PART THREE

Small group discussion:

- Break into three small groups
- Identify a facilitator and note-taker
- Use template to frame discussion
- Reconvene in large-group

FINAL GROUP DISCUSSION

Report from three small groups:

- Which components did the group identify as most important in supporting the transition to college for teen parents?
- What steps did the group identify to implement these components in their programs or communities?

REFERENCES

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