

A WORD FROM THE EXPERTS

Teen Outreach Program® (TOP®)

Interviews with Developers of Evidence-Based Programs for Teen Pregnancy Prevention



This webinar was developed by Child Trends under contract #GS-10F-0030R for the Office of Adolescent Health; US Department of Health and Human Services as a technical assistance product for use with OAH grant programs.

Inclusion on the HHS Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review does not indicate HHS or OAH endorsement of a program model.

Teen Outreach Program (TOP)



Real Teens. Real Life. Real Results.

Christina Donald

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Teen Outreach Program®

TeenOutreachProgram.com

Program goals:

- Healthy Behaviors
- Life Skills
- Sense of Purpose

Target population:

- Teens from 6th to 12th grade

Key components:

- Positive Adult Guidance and Support
- Implementation-Ready Curriculum

- Community Service Learning

Delivery methods:

- Weekly sessions with 25:1 teen/facilitator ratio
- Approx. 60 min. sessions that includes high teen talk time, and reflection
- Teen-led community service (minimum of 20 hrs per teen)

Previous evaluation results

Risk of Teen Pregnancy, Course Failure and School Suspension is substantially lower for TOP Participants than for Control or Comparison groups



- Study #1 (Allen et al., 1997)
 - ✓ Grades 9-12; males and females; majority African-American
 - ✓ 42% lower risk of school suspension; 39% lower risk of course failure; 41% lower risk of pregnancy
- Study #2 (Allen & Philliber, 2001)
 - ✓ Grades 9-12; males and females, racially/ethnically diverse
 - ✓ 52% lower risk of school suspension; 60% lower risk of course failure; 53% lower risk of pregnancy; stronger findings for subgroups

- Evaluated populations
 - Evaluated with diverse populations

- Target populations
 - Teens in grades 6-12
 - Female, male
 - All races/ethnicities
 - Immigrant
 - Urban, rural
 - Tribal



- Evaluated settings
 - In-school high school
 - In-school middle school
 - After school
- Other settings
 - Community-based
 - Clinic-based
 - Juvenile detention
 - Out-of-home settings for foster care youth
 - Other specialized settings, such as residential facilities



- Potential adaptations
 - Delivering all the core components in a shorter timeframe (less than 9 months)

Note: TPP grantees must obtain prior approval from OAH for any adaptations.



■ Staffing considerations

- Max of 1 trained staff per 25 youth
- Bachelors degree in related field or equivalent work
- Minimum 1 year experience working with teens



■ Training considerations

- 5-day Train the Trainer (TOT) Model (Master Training)
- Min. 1 person attends TOT then trains facilitators
- Technical Assistance & Data Evaluation Tools provided
- On-going implementation support provided by Partner Services staff member

Challenges and strategies for success

- Common challenges

- Clear communication and buy-in across all levels of a partner's network

- Strategies for success

- Start early in the process to ensure there is time to meet with all key stakeholders
- Prepare a presentation for all staff, teachers and involved community members to introduce them to the program and its requirements
- If implementing in school, request to participate in summer curriculum planning sessions with the teachers



Recent or planned curriculum revisions

- Spanish-language
- Stronger focus on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Youth Inclusivity
- Updates to maintain cultural relevancy

- **HHS Teen Pregnancy Prevention Evidence Review**
 - <http://tppevidencereview.aspe.hhs.gov/>
- **Link to implementation report**
 - <http://tppevidencereview.aspe.hhs.gov/document.aspx?rid=3&sid=237&mid=1>
- **Link to developer's website**
 - <http://wymancer.org/nationalnetwork/top/>

Thank you!

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