Taking a 360° Approach to Supporting Positive Relationships

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Healthy Teen Network

Pregnancy Assistance Fund Grantee Conference
Opening Doors: Engaging and Embracing Young Fathers
July 13-14, 2015
Healthy Teen Network

Making a difference in the lives of teens and young families

- National membership organization focused on adolescent sexual & reproductive health
- Networking & information sharing
- Research & evaluation
- Capacity-building assistance
- Policy & advocacy

National membership organization focused on adolescent sexual & reproductive health
Disclaimer

- Educational or instructional materials referenced during this presentation are for informational purposes only.

- Presenters' references to these materials do not constitute endorsement by HHS.

- Any statements expressed are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the views of HHS.
Objectives

Describe factors that play a role in the relationships that teen parents cultivate.

Identify elements that contribute to the changing dynamics of teen parents’ relationships.

List successful strategies when helping teen parents foster healthy relationships.
Teen Parents

What do they need to thrive?
To Thrive, Teen Parents Need...
To Thrive, Teen Parents Need...
What Helps Teen Parents Grow & Thrive

Community Connection
- Safe & Stable Housing
- Personal Health Care
- Parenting Skills

Education & Employment Support
- Sexual Health Care
- Healthy Children
- Healthy Relationships

Pregnant and parenting teens are extremely motivated to offer their children a good life, and with the right supports, they can be successful adults and parents.
Teen Parents’ Relationships
Characteristics & Importance
Teen Parent’s Relationships
Teen Parent’s Relationships

- Why is this relationship important to them?
- How this relationship looks like?
- Who influences this relationship?
- What influences this relationship?
- How can we support this relationship?
Relationships

Teens need trusted adults to help them develop:
- Trusting bonds with baby
- Strong communication skills
- Child development knowledge
- Self-identity
Teen parents need peers and adults who help them not feel isolated and develop skills for:

- Healthy friends, family, and romantic relationships
- Conflict resolution
- Co-parenting
Co-Parenting

Influential Factor
Two or more individuals working together to raise a child.
Co-parenting is not...

- A legal contract;
- Equal division of labor, responsibilities, or tasks;
- Romance, sex or companionship; or
- Adult security.
Positive Co-parenting

Direct and positive impact on behavioral outcomes for children and teen parents

Consistent predictor of positive father involvement
Co-parenting is impacted by...

- Research;
- Media;
- Policies, programs & institutions; and
- Family and peers
Supporting Teen Parents

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Strategies
Teen Parents’ Relationships

What strategies have worked for you?
# Building Blocks of Strategies

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Young Family BDI Logic Model

- Comprehensive logic model to address the diverse needs of pregnant/parenting teens

- BDI Logic Model
  - Behaviors
  - Determinants
  - Interventions

Youth 360° Frame

- A frame for presenting youth development which incorporates social determinants of health

Available online at www.HealthyTeenNetwork.org

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Healthy Relationships section of the OAH Adolescent Health Library
http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/resources-and-publications/publications/healthy-relationships.html

Together We Can: The Important Role of Co-parenting for Expectant and Parenting Teens and Young Adults
Cited Works


Cited Works


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Thank You!

Please feel free to contact me!

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