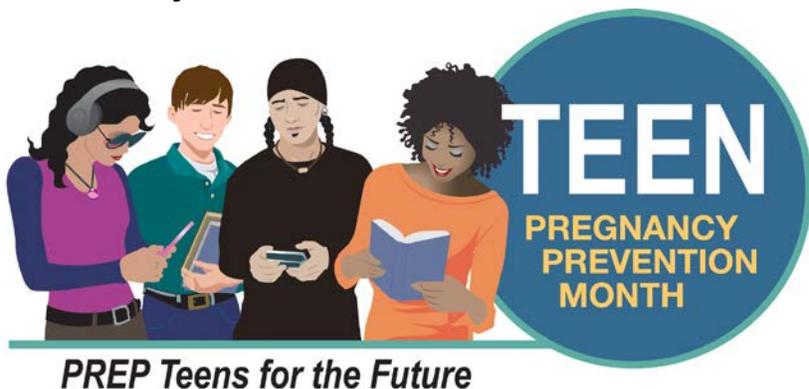


[Organization] Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Proclamation May 2014

Every May, communities around the country observe Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month to encourage service providers and families to work with youth to lower teen birth and pregnancy rates.



Work to prevent teen pregnancy in the United States is making a positive impact.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the teen birth rate has dropped 19 percent since 2000. Even with the declining teen birth rates there continues to be disparities among various racial and ethnic groups.

WHEREAS: Preparing teens to avoid teen pregnancy remains urgent, as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found the teen birth rate in the United States has declined over the past several years, but still remains the highest of the industrialized world; and

WHEREAS: According to The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, in 2010, teen pregnancy and childbirth cost nearly \$9.4 billion per year for increased health care and foster care, increased incarceration rates among children of teen parents, and lost tax revenue because of lower educational attainment and income among teen mothers; and

WHEREAS: Young people are more likely to get pregnant or get someone pregnant if they live in poverty, are the child of a teen parent, come from a single-parent home, live in a home with a lot of family conflict and other risk factors; and

WHEREAS: Young people are *less* likely to get pregnant or get someone pregnant if they have certain protective factors, to include: open communication with adults about contraception; supportive parents; and accurate knowledge about sexual health, pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and the option of abstinence;

THEREFORE: I, _____ [Official's name], [Official's Title (e.g. Governor, Mayor, CEO, etc.)] of [Location or Organization] do hereby proclaim May 2014, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month throughout [Location or Organization]. I urge you to work to continue the momentum to further decrease teen pregnancy by promoting the theme "PREP Teens for the Future," implementing effective abstinence and contraceptive educational programs, engaging youth in programs that enhance their development, and empowering youth to make healthy decisions.

(Date)

(Signature)