

Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program (Tribal PREP) FACT SHEET



Family and Youth
Services Bureau



The mission of the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) is to promote safety, stability and well-being for people who have experienced or been exposed to violence, neglect or trauma. FYSB achieves this through supporting programs that provide shelter, community services and prevention education for youth, adults and families.

PURPOSE

Through the Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program (Tribal PREP), FYSB awards grants to Tribes and Tribal communities to develop and implement comprehensive adolescent pregnancy prevention programs. FYSB conducted extensive consultation with Tribes in 2010 to inform the development of Tribal PREP in a culturally appropriate manner.

Tribal PREP programs are authorized for funding through FY 2014 and include a planning year as well as three implementation years. Programs are encouraged, to the extent possible, to use models (or elements of models) of existing adolescent pregnancy prevention programs that have been proven by scientific research to be effective in changing behavior. In other words, the model programs have been shown to delay sexual activity, increase condom or contraceptive use for sexually active youth, or reduce pregnancy among youth. If existing models cannot be adapted for a particular Tribe or Native community, programs must show how new strategies are likely to be effective based on the unique cultural needs of their youth and relevant theories of behavior change. This “practice-based evidence” may be drawn from prior experiences, practices, or customs from an array of “promising” youth-serving programs.

HISTORY

On March 23, 2010, the President signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Act amended Title V of the Social Security Act to include Tribal PREP.

SERVICES

Tribal PREP programs target youth, ages 10-19, who are the most high-risk or vulnerable for pregnancies. This group includes, but is not limited to, youth in or aging out of foster care, homeless youth, youth with HIV/AIDS, pregnant and/or parenting youth who are under 21 years of age, and youth who live in areas with high adolescent birth rates. In addition to educating youth about abstinence and contraceptive use, Tribal PREP projects also prepare young people for adulthood by addressing three or more of the subjects below:

- Healthy relationships, including development of positive self-esteem and relationship dynamics, friendships, dating, romantic involvement, marriage and family interactions;
- Positive adolescent development, including promotion of healthy attitudes and values about adolescent growth and development, body image, racial and ethnic diversity, and other related subjects;

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- Financial literacy, to support the development of self-sufficiency and independent living skills;
- Parent-child communication skills;
- Education and employment preparation skills; and
- Healthy life skills, such as goal-setting, decision making, negotiation, communication and interpersonal skills, and stress management.

There are 16 Tribal PREP grantees from nine states, representing both Tribes and Tribal organizations. Grantees are exploring the selection of a variety of program curricula, such as Fourth R, Draw the Line/Respect the Line, Carrera, ¡Cuídate! and Teen Outreach Program.

Grantees may also refer youth to pregnancy prevention-related health care services and may help enroll eligible youth in public assistance programs, like Medicaid, CHIP, or any other federal or state assistance program for which they may be eligible.



MEASURING EFFECTIVENESS

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will oversee evaluation efforts to measure the effectiveness of each project. Performance measures established by HHS include:

- The number of youth served and hours of service delivery;
- Fidelity to the program model or adaptation of the program model for the target population;
- Community partnerships and competence in working with the target population;
- Reported gains in knowledge, changes in behavioral intentions and changes in self-reported behaviors of participants; and
- Community data, like birth rates and the incidence of sexually transmitted infections.

GRANT AWARD PROCESS

FYSB solicited applications for Tribal PREP by posting funding announcements on the Grants.gov website. Applications were competitively reviewed by peer panels and successful applicants received four-year grants. In FY 2013, 16 Tribes and Tribal organizations received a total of \$3.1 million.

CONTACT US



National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth
5515 Security Lane, Suite 800, North Bethesda, MD 20852



TEL: 301.608.8098
FAX: 301.587.4352



ONLINE

NCFY: ncfy.acf.hhs.gov FYSB: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb

E-MAIL: ncfy@acf.hhs.gov TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/ncfy>

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/NationalClearinghouseonFamiliesandYouth