

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

November 2010

Welcome to the November issue of the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition's

NEWS FLASH

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MESSAGE FROM THE YOUNG FATHERS PROGRAM

MESSAGE FROM SYLVIA RUIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings Colleagues,

Last month The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) released preliminary 2008 state data on teen births. In addition, NCHS has also released new analysis of state disparities in teen birth rates based on 2007 teen birth data.

Number of Teen Births

Statistic	New Mexico	United States
Number of Births to Girls Age 15-19, 2007	4,720	444,899

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. VitalStats: Birth Data Files.
www.cdc.gov/nchs/vitalstat

According to our friends, at the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy:

Some of the primary findings include:

- State teen birth rates continue to vary widely according to the preliminary 2008 data-from 20 per 1,000 15-19 year-olds in New Hampshire to 66 per 1,000 in Mississippi.
- As a general matter, teen birth rates in 2008 were lowest in the Northeast and upper Midwest and highest in Southern states.
- It has been widely understood that some of this variation is attributable to state-level differences in the racial/ethnic makeup of the population.
- However, NCHS analysis of 2007 birth data (the most recent data with state-level detail by race/ethnicity) show that even within racial/ethnic subgroups, there are great differences across states. For example, some states with lower rates of *overall* teen births rank among those states with the highest rates for some racial/ethnic groups.
- As a general matter, birth rates for non-Hispanic white teens are highest in the Southeast, birth rates for non-Hispanic black teens are highest in the Southeast and upper Midwest, and birth rates for Hispanic teens are highest in the Southeast.

"The report is yet another reminder that the problem of teen pregnancy and childbearing in the United States remains deep, wide, and urgent," said Sarah Brown, CEO of The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. "The national declines in too-early pregnancy and parenthood have stalled and racial/ethnic differences in teen pregnancy and childbearing remain profound. The Obama Administration's investment in preventing teen pregnancy has been an important step forward. We now call on other sectors to recognize the challenge at hand and do what they can to help young people avoid unplanned pregnancy."

We have made progress in New Mexico! However we are not finished by any means if we are to reach the goal of ***Reducing low birth weight, infant and maternal diseases and mortality by reducing pregnancies in adolescents.***

To that end, during these difficult economic conditions, we send out a PLEA to public officials, key decision makers within state and local governments and private benefactors, to remember the importance of preventing too early parenting! TOO MUCH IS AT STAKE!

The cost of Teen Childbearing to New Mexico in 2004 was \$590 million!

If we in New Mexico, had for ONE Year not experienced a single teen pregnancy, we could have taken care of the budget shortfall our state faced!

Thank you to every last one of you, who contribute to this very difficult but important work. We must continue to strive, so that indeed we positively impact generations to come!

A very special thank you goes out to Mary Raje, from San Fidel, New Mexico who has been a long time supporter of NMTPC

Best wishes to everyone, from our Honorable Board of Directors and staff during this holiday season!

Hasta Luego,

Sylvia

P.S. It's time to renew your annual membership with us, membership form is attached to this edition of our Newsflash

[From the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancies](#)

16 and Pregnant: Tuned-In Teens Are Turned Off by Teen Pregnancy By Bonnie Rochman

The U.S. teen birth rate dropped a smidgen between 2007 and 2008, but still, on average, three of every 10 girls get pregnant at least once by the time she turns 20. It's long been a public health crisis, with experts scratching their heads over how to preach safe sex so teens will listen.

The most recent figures, released this week, show that the 2008 teen birth rate decreased to 41.5 births per 1,000 15-to-19-year-old women. The rates fluctuate wildly by region, from a low of 19.8 per 1,000 in New Hampshire to 65.7 per 1,000 in Mississippi. Although the numbers have declined significantly from the early 1990s, when they hovered at 62 per 1,000 teens, they're still far higher than other developed nations.

Nudging the numbers down more is an even greater challenge in an era when Bristol Palin dances with the stars, and Jamie Lynn Spears regularly lands in the pages of glossy magazines, two examples of teenagers raising babies without seeming to skip a beat.

Exactly to what degree media portrayal of teen pregnancy influences teens' behavior is a question the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy has wrestled with for years. The non-profit regularly fields calls from reporters asking if television shows like "16 and Pregnant" — and its counterpart, "Teen Mom," both produced by MTV — glamorize teen pregnancy. "According to their website: "Although research has documented an association between exposure to sexual content on television and teen pregnancy, little research has been conducted to better understand how media might also have positive effects. Can the media, for example, decrease risky sexual behavior and promote healthier decisions among teens?" They decided to commission a study to find out.

What they concluded, says chief program officer Bill Albert, is that "while MTV is not in the teen pregnancy prevention business, we firmly believe they have developed two shows that are probably among the most powerful interventions you're likely to see." Say what? "We really need new and innovative ways to reach teens," says Albert. "This might be the best teen pregnancy public service announcement ever made." Far from sensationalizing being a teen and a mom at the same time, "16 and Pregnant" tends to drive home to viewers just how difficult it is to raise a child.

Researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) and Durham, N.C., research firm iRT divided 162 teens in Boys and Girls Clubs in North Carolina into groups that watched three episodes of "16 and Pregnant" and groups that didn't. Separately, 1,008 teens answered a national public opinion poll. Both groups indicated that watching the show made the idea of pregnancy and parenting more real to them. Among the group of teens who watched the show, 82% said the program helped them better understand the challenges of teen pregnancy and early parenthood and how to avoid getting into such a situation; 15% said they thought the show glamorized teen parenthood.

What impressed Jane Brown, a UNC journalism professor involved in the research, was that teen

viewers were more likely to talk to parents and friends and even their girlfriends' boyfriends about teen pregnancy than teens who hadn't seen the show. "At least it provides an opportunity for parents — if parents seize the opportunity — to talk with their children about what would happen if their child got pregnant," says Brown. Although researchers did not know what exactly was discussed in these conversations, they do know that those teens who talked about what they'd seen were more likely to say they didn't want to get pregnant and that they thought pregnancy would be harder than they had before they'd seen the show.

- For more information, go to: www.thenationalcampaign.org

[From Building Partnerships for Youth](#)

Upcoming Events and Funding Opportunities

Building Partnerships for Youth - E-Newsletters

The Building Partnerships for Youth E-Newsletter is issued monthly, to our ever growing list of subscribers. Each issue contains the latest information, research and updates from the field, often including information about funding opportunities, trainings and webinars, key resources and more. Issues are archived below for viewing at any time, or you may [subscribe](#) to be among the first to receive the news! [Click here to receive the e-newsletters.](#)

2010 E-Newsletters

- [November 2010](#)
- [October 2010](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)

2009 E-Newsletters

- [Building Program Capacity and Access - December 2009](#)
- [2010 Cohort Announced - November 2009](#)
- [Youth Development News - October 2009](#)
- [New Resources and Communication Tools - September 2009](#)
- [Continuing the education path beyond high school - August 2009](#)
- [Introduction E-Newsletter - July 2009](#)

Issue 08 - Youth Development and Prevention: Bridging the Gap

The fields of youth development and prevention have traditionally operated on parallel yet separate tracks. Prevention professionals generally focus on developing and implementing programs and policies that encourage young people to avoid "problem" behaviors, often operating through funding streams that make it difficult to provide a holistic approach and address broader issues of adolescent well-being (National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth, 1996; Pagliaro & Klindera, 2001)....[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 07 - Citizenship and Contribution

With the recent U.S. presidential election, the topic of citizenship and contribution may be in the forefront of many people's minds. Citizenship is a complex concept that can be defined in many ways. Youth tend to define it as acting appropriately, obeying laws, adhering to authority, being a voter, etc. While most people regardless of age would probably agree with this definition, researchers working within the field of youth development hold a broader view and define it as a set of abilities that give youth the capacity to "move beyond one's individual self-interest and to be committed to the well-being of some larger group of which one is a member" (Sherrod, Flanagan, and Youniss, 2002)....[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 06 - Positive Youth Development and Academic Success

Academic success is strongly linked to the positive outcomes we value for young people. Not surprisingly, research shows that adults with high levels of education are more likely to be employed and earn higher salaries (National Center for Education Statistics, 2001; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1999)....[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 05 - Younger Youth and Positive Youth Development

Younger youth between the ages of nine and thirteen are a key age group to focus on when thinking about and developing positive youth development programs. Positive youth development approaches are particularly appropriate for helping preadolescents and early adolescents build the confidence and competencies they need to become increasingly autonomous and successful within widening social contexts (Eccles, 1999; see also Quinn, 1999). Moreover, recent research tells us that positive youth development approaches with younger youth are among those methods that are most effective at preventing negative health outcomes, such as sexual risk behavior and unintended pregnancy (Kirby, 1999)...

[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 04 - Stakeholder Involvement as a Means of Promoting Adolescent Health and Well-being

Stakeholder involvement is based upon the belief that expertise does not lie solely with program professionals. Stakeholders are persons or organizations that have investments in the content of a program, in the dissemination and evaluation of a program, and the outcome of adolescent health and well-being (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1999). Over the last several years the interpretation of stakeholder involvement has changed as programs have focused not just on individuals and families, but the broader environment including neighborhood, workplace, schools, places of worship, communities and the society. Stakeholders offer important insight into each phase of program planning, implementation and evaluation which may contribute to program success...[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 03 - Promoting Adolescent Health Through Cross-Age Teaching

[Cross-age teaching](#) engages teens as teachers for pre-teens or younger children, typically in nonformal educational settings. In many communities, cross-age teaching has been a useful strategy to influence and educate younger youth. Preadolescents and young children look up to and want to emulate teenagers. At the same time, research shows that teenagers can have a positive impact on the knowledge, attitudes and behaviors of children as well as their same-age peers (Meyer, Nicholson, Danish, Fries, & Polk 2000) by taking an active role in program implementation and leadership...[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 02 - Promoting Adolescent Health Through Youth-Adult Partnerships

[Youth-adult partnerships](#) are relationships between youth and adults where there is mutuality in teaching, learning, and action (Zeldin, McDaniel, Topitzes & Lorens, 2001). The mutuality of these

relationships is what distinguishes youth-adult partnerships from parent-child, student-teacher, and mentoring relationships (Camino, 2000). Youth-adult partnerships focus on collaboration and emphasize youth and their contributions rather than their problems...

[html version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Issue 01 - Youth Development and Abstinence: Understanding the Link

Most will agree that it is a valuable and necessary endeavor to help prevent nine to thirteen year olds from engaging in sexual intercourse. However, preventing intercourse alone may not be sufficient. Many practitioners and policymakers have recently recognized the need for a more holistic approach to prevention that provides young people with the knowledge, skills, and assets needed to become healthy and productive adults ([National Research Council](#), 2002)...[html](#)

[version](#) | [pdf version](#)

Building Partnerships for Youth is part of the [John and Doris Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences](#), in the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) at the [University of Arizona](#), and gratefully acknowledges the hosting of this website by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

[From the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#)

Presenters Sought for National Conference on Juvenile and Family Law

On March 27-17, 2011, the [National Conference on Juvenile and Family Law](#) will be held in Reno, NV. Sponsored by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the conference will provide presenters with a forum to address a multidisciplinary audience of professionals working in America's juvenile and family courts.

Further information about the conference, including registration, will be posted on JUVJUST as it becomes available. If you are not a subscriber, enroll at https://puborder.ncjrs.gov/listservs/subscribe_JUVJUST.asp.

The [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) is a component of the [Office of Justice Programs](#) in the [U.S. Department of Justice](#).

[Online Resources](#)

- The **STD Curriculum for Clinical Educators**
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/>-- the curriculum is the first highlighted item
- **"Counseling Clients in the Standard Days Method"**
<http://www.irh.org> to register for this interactive course
- The **STD Communications Database** developed by DSTDP, this tool is designed to help public health practitioners **create specialized STD health communication prevention interventions**.
<http://www.cdc.gov/std/commdata/>
- **Online Chlamydia training**

http://www.stdhivtraining.org/educ/training_module/index.html

- **STD fact sheets in a variety of languages**
<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/stds/index.html>
- A helpful site on **Hepatitis C**
<http://www.hepatitis.va.gov/>
- **Improving the Health of Adolescents and Young Adults:** A Guide for States and Communities. This publication from HRSA and the CDC is available free of charge at:
<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/NationalInitiative>
- **"Parent Power: What Parents Need to Know and Do to Prevent Teen Pregnancy"** Designed specifically for parents, an easy-to-use guide that brings together all the latest research on the influence of parents and provides specific advice based on that research. View results of the survey or read the guide, visit
<http://www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/reading/parentpower>.
- **Sex Education:** Needs, Programs and Policies
http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/ed_slides.html
- **Infant adoption training** is happening throughout the year. Learn more about the trainings and to check out dates.
<http://www.infantadopt.org/>
- **Practitioners Handbook for managing patients with STDs**
<http://www.stdhandbook.org>

*Each month the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition provides a review of the research and policy reports distributed by National and Local Resources for your information only. The information, and comments expressed in the News Flash as well as any of the information distributed do not necessarily reflect the position of the NMTPC or its funders. Therefore, NMTPC assumes no responsibility for the concepts expressed in this **NEWS FLASH**.*

Local Events & Notices

From the New Mexico Department of Health

The Department of Health – Family Health Bureau has partnered with “**text4baby**” to promote a bilingual service that sends reliable health information by cell phone to pregnant women and new mothers.

Women can sign up by texting **BABY** to **511411** for the English version or **BEBE** for the Spanish version.

The women are prompted to enter their due date or their baby’s birth date. Based on that, advertisement- free health messages arrive three times a week that are relevant to the

mother's stage of pregnancy or baby's development during the first year.

This **free** service is an educational program of the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition. (Note: all messages from text4baby are free! Even if moms don't have a text messaging plan, they can get these messages for free. If they have limited texting per month, text4baby won't take away from their total amount of messages).

You can go to www.text4baby.org for more information or contact Jaymi McKay, the Maternal Health Program Manager 505-486-8908 or Elizabeth Matthews, Family Health Bureau Medical Director at 505-476-8904.

Please encourage pregnant women and new mothers to sign up for this great service.

[From Bernalillo County Community Health Council](#)

7th Annual Health Policy Legislative Forum

Wednesday, December 1, 2010
Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel

Go to www.nmpa.org for more information and online registration.

Network with people around the state working in policy.

Learn about policy proposals for the 2011 Legislative Session.

A highlight of the conference will be our keynote speaker, sponsored by the New Mexico Health Equity Working Group,

Angela Glover Blackwell

Founder and CEO of Policylink, who will speak about ways in which we can address institutionalized racism through policies and practices.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Bernalillo County Community Health Council - www.berncohealthcouncil.org

Bilingual directory of social service and health resources - www.mycommunitynm.org

[From the Los Alamos National Laboratories Foundation](#)

The **Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation** is pleased to sponsor renowned educator, Dr. Ruby Payne, who will present "**A Framework for Understanding Poverty**" a powerful workshop training providing tools for educators to improve the education of children from poverty. Designed for educators at all levels, this seminar provides practical, real-world support and guidance for overcoming barriers and helping others succeed.

Following Ruby Paine's seminar, the conference will broaden the inquiry of "overcoming barriers", to the question of funding public education in the midst of the "Great Recession of 2008-2011?" Conference participants will also hear the NM State legislators and School Superintendents share their perspectives on challenges and strategies to overcoming barriers.

Where: Buffalo Thunder Resort and Conference Center

When: Monday, January 3, 2011 from 8:00AM to 3:00PM MST

Please contact Patricia Valerio if you have any questions about the event or how to register. 505 753-8890

[Please contact tricia@lanfoundation.org](mailto:tricia@lanfoundation.org)

[Register Now!](#)

Note: Special registration options are available for:

1. [ISEC \(Inquiry Science Education Consortium\)*teachers](#)
2. Teachers sponsored and registered by School Districts

*Click on link to [learn more about ISEC](#)

[From the Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity](#)

Community Members we have an exciting event on December 4th at 7PM at the UNM Johnson Center. We would like to offer YOUR organization free tickets to attend the event and support Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity and the community in welcoming the Harlem Ambassadors for a game against our Habitat Hometown Heroes! This is a great event for family and children of all ages!

Please indicate how many tickets you would like and we will have them ready for you in our office to pick up by Thursday 5PM

Our office is located at:

204 San Mateo Blvd SE Ste E

Albuquerque, NM 87108

505-265-0057

Reply to donahu@hotmail.com with the following:

YOUR NAME

COMPANY NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

FAX

NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUESTED

[Message from the Young Fathers' Program](#)

Our Program continues to deliver services to young men who are the biological fathers or are in a parenting role and are under the age of 26.

Our expert staff is available to provide trainings on male involvement to community providers.

Contact information is listed below.

Referral form for the New Mexico Young Fathers Project

If you know a struggling young father under the age of 26 – We can help! [Download the form](#) and send your referral to Jessica Tafoya, Fax (505) 254-8741 or email to comm-lia@nmtpc.org, in the **Albuquerque Area**. If you are in the **Las Cruces area**, send the referral form to Gary Madrid, gj02madrid@yahoo.com or call (575) 532-1536

For information on the Young Fathers' Project please call:

Albuquerque
Jessica Tafoya
Community Liaison
(505) 254-8737
(505) 254-8741 Fax

Gary Madrid
Dona Ana County
Director of Programs
(575) 532-1536

Gilbert Ramirez, MSW
Clinical Consultant
(505) 254-8737

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NEWS FLASH is funded by grants from
New Mexico Department of Health Family Planning Program