

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

December 2005

Welcome to the December issue of the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition's
NEWS FLASH

If you would like to be removed from the **NEWS FLASH** list, please use the connection at the end of this issue to communicate with us.

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NATIONAL RESOURCES

[1. New from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy](#)

New Report on Foster Care Youth From the National Campaign and UCAN

Foster care youth are at significant risk for teen pregnancy. One recent study of youth transitioning out of foster care found that nearly half the girls had been pregnant by age 19. Even so, practitioners report that much of the focus in the foster care system to date has been on helping parenting teens and their children while much less effort has been focused on helping foster care youth avoid getting pregnant in the first place. In an effort to help foster care youth avoid too-early pregnancy and parenthood, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and UCAN (Uhlich Children's Advantage Network) have collaborated on a new report, *Fostering Hope*:

Preventing Teen Pregnancy Among Youth in Foster Care.

The 28-page report provides

- (1) quantitative research on the high rates of teen pregnancy among foster care youth,
- (2) important new qualitative research presenting findings from Chicago-area focus groups in which foster care youth (some who are already teen parents) and foster parents were asked about their perspective on teen pregnancy, and
- (3) results of an online survey of Chicago-area child welfare service providers.

The report is available to purchase or download from the National Campaign's website: www.teenpregnancy.org. For more information about UCAN, please visit, www.ucanchicago.org.

In addition, the transcript from the "Teen Pregnancy Prevention for Youth in Foster Care" conference call on September 28, 2005 is available on the National Campaign's website at www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/reading/foster_care/default.asp

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A. Advocates for Youth's Youth of Color Initiative

Feature: Young Men of Color

Males' health is important because young men matter and because a gender gap exists in health outcomes. In 1920, men and women in the United States had an equal life expectancy suggesting that there is no inherent, biological life span difference between men and women. Yet today, as in the past eighty years, men in the United States die sooner than women.

Today, men's life expectancy is almost six years less than women's and men have a higher mortality rate than women for all 15 leading causes of death. The disparity is even greater for black men. For example, suicide rates in the last two decades have increased most rapidly among young black men. Half of all new HIV infections in men occur among black men. Additionally, African American and Latino young men who have sex with men (YMSM) are more likely than other YMSM to be infected with HIV. In 2001, the chlamydia rate among African American males ages 15 to 19 was 12 times higher than that among white males (1,550 and 128 per 100,000, respectively). Recent data document rising rates of syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia among young men

who have sex with men. These differences are not biological, but more than likely behavioral and reinforced by societal concepts of how men should behave.

To address these inequities in health outcomes, young men of color need culturally specific programs that:

- Provide culturally appropriate, gender-specific sexual and reproductive information
- Promote a positive self-concept, including self-esteem, self-efficacy, self-respect, and life skills
- Build skills in communication, negotiation, and refusal
- Provide confidential clinical care and health services
- Involve young men as equals in the implementation and evaluation of programs for men.
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For information on young men of color and on sexual health programs and service especially designed for young men, please check out the resources at the end of this Monthly Monitor.

References:

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* This feature is a summary of an article published in *Advocates for Youth's Transitions* in January 2001, "Masculinity: contributing to health disparities for young men of color," by Thomas M, Boss M, and Kaggwa E.

B. Capacity Building & Professional Development

* Supporting Networks of HIV Care Is Now Accepting Applications for Technical Assistance

This project provides technical assistance and training to small or medium sized nonprofit community- and faith-based organizations. Agencies are eligible to apply for assistance through this project if they are:

- Committed to providing primary health care or related support services to people of color;
- Physically located in or near a community whose make-up is predominantly racial or ethnic minorities living with or at risk for HIV infection;
- Able to demonstrate financial need for the requested assistance; and
- In need of technical assistance to expand, implement, or improve HIV primary care and support services to people of color or to build networks and links to care.

Organizations can apply by filling out a Request for Service form. The three remaining application deadline cycles are December 15, 2005; February 28, 2006; and May 1, 2006. Visit SNHC online, <http://www.hivta.org>, or call 1.800.861.5640 for details.

Organizations that do not currently provide HIV and AIDS services or that do not currently receive HIV and AIDS funding are eligible to receive assistance through this project. Organizations that receive funding directly from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to provide HIV and AIDS primary care are not eligible; however, subcontractors of directly funded HRSA grantees are eligible.

* Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions (DEBI): Sistas Informing Sistas on Topics of AIDS (SISTA) is sponsored by the National Minority AIDS Council, National Black Alcoholism & Addiction Council, and the Community Wellness Project of Saint Louis University.

The Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions (DEBI) project brings science-based, community- and group-level HIV prevention interventions to community-based service providers and state and local health departments. The goal is to enhance state and local providers' capacity to implement effective interventions, to reduce the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and to promote healthy behaviors.

The SISTA project is a group-level, gender- and culturally-relevant intervention designed to increase condom use among sexually active African American women. Based on social learning theory and the theory of gender and power, SISTA consists of five peer led group sessions that focus on ethnic and gender pride, HIV knowledge, and building skills regarding sexual risk reduction behaviors and making decisions. The program is scheduled for 02/27/2006 through 03/03/2006 in Chicago, Illinois. The deadline to register is February 1, 2006. For up-to-date information, including registration, visit:

www.nmac.org/programs_services/treatment_education_trainings/regional_trainings/903.cfm

C. Funding Opportunities

Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention, Procurement and Grants Office

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2006 funds for cooperative agreements to establish a national program to prevent behaviors and unhealthy environments that place elementary school through college-aged young people at risk for a myriad of health problems. The goal of the national program is to improve the health and well-being of youth and prepare them to be healthy adults in stable families and safe communities.

Funds are designated for content areas of:

- HIV prevention
- Asthma
- Tobacco use prevention

CDC will award cooperative agreements to national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that will become an integral part of a broad national strategy to prevent and reduce health problems among youth. To achieve the broad national strategy, grantees with appropriate experience, talent, and constituents for each category will work at activities specified in the separate funding categories.

Eight-component coordinated school health programs, including physical education, nutrition services, and counseling and psychological services were consolidated into this program announcement to support capacity building in ten separate funding categories, including

- Preventing HIV infections by providing capacity building assistance (CBA) to state and local education agencies;
- Preventing HIV Infections by providing CBA to state and local health agencies;
- Preventing HIV Infections by providing CBA to organizations that serve youth at high risk for HIV infection;
- Improving disease prevention and health promotion programs to prevent HIV infections and/or tobacco use by providing CBA to institutions of higher education;
- Promoting sexual abstinence by providing CBA to organizations that serve youth and parents;
- Reducing the burden of asthma by providing CBA to state and local education agencies and to state and local health agencies;
- Preventing chronic diseases by providing CBA to state and local education agencies;
- Promoting coordinated school health programs by providing CBA to state and local education agencies;
- Promoting school mental health services by providing CBA to state and local education agencies; and
- Providing professional development for other DASH-funded NGO partners funded under this program announcement.

For more information, visit www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HHS/CDC/PGO/CDC-RFA-DP06-601/Grant.html

CDC announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2006 funds to create a national network of sexually transmitted diseases (STD)/human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention training centers (NNPTC). These prevention training centers (PTCs) will provide innovative, high-quality, comprehensive STD/HIV training across the United States. The NNPTC will consist of three types of PTCs:

Part I PTCs will provide STD medical and laboratory services training.

Part II PTCs will provide training on behavioral interventions.

Part III PTCs will provide training on STD/HIV partner elicitation and referral, and on STD counseling and case management.

Parts II and III will also provide training to strengthen health department STD/HIV prevention programs. Each PTC will be responsible for training in a designated coverage area (HHS region or quadrant, see appendix A). Parts II and III will also provide training in areas of the nation outside of their designated coverage areas.

Each PTC must be a partnership between:

- 1) an organization--such as an academic institution--that can bring state-of-the-art research findings to the development of STD/HIV prevention education and training courses and materials for health care professionals, prevention specialists, and STD/HIV prevention programs; and
- 2) an organization--such as a state or local public health department--that can deliver the resulting STD/HIV prevention education and training courses and materials to health professionals, prevention specialists, and STD/HIV prevention programs.

Additionally, each PTC must be staffed by health professionals with demonstrated expertise in STD/HIV prevention training. The PTCs are intended to be dynamic, flexible, and collaborative in order to assess and meet the training needs of STD/HIV health professionals across the nation. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/PS06-606.htm

D. Announcements

BET Programming Lineup as Part of the Rap-It-Up HIV and AIDS Public Education Initiative

BET and the Kaiser Family Foundation announce a lineup of special HIV-themed programming to mark World AIDS Day on Thursday, December 1, 2005, as part their Rap-It-Up HIV and AIDS Public Awareness Initiative. New interactive content will also be available on both <http://www.bet.com> and <http://www.rap-it-up.com> Web sites. Launched in 1998, the initiative informs and raises awareness about HIV and AIDS, a

pandemic that disproportionately impacts African Americans. Since 1998, BET has partnered with the Kaiser Family Foundation on Rap-It-Up. To date, the Initiative has helped over 8,000 people nationwide to get tested for HIV; received over 1,000,000 calls to its toll free hotline; distributed over 360,000 brochures with information on HIV and AIDS, and hosted community forums in over 29 cities for at least 9,000 young adults.

The Council of Chief State School Officers, School Health Project Announces the Availability of Three New Fact Sheets on HIV and AIDS

- What Education Leaders Should Know about HIV and AIDS--describes the basic facts of HIV and HIV transmission; background and differences between HIV and AIDS; and the impact of HIV and AIDS among school-age youth.
- What Education Leaders Should Know about HIV and AIDS and School-Aged Youth--provides information on why school-age youth are at risk for HIV; lists school-based prevention strategies; and describes the roles of family and community in addressing school-based prevention.
- What Education Leaders Should Know about Forming Partnerships to Prevent Sexual-Risk Behaviors in School-Aged Youth--describes the collaboration process; gives examples of potential partners; and shows how top level education officials can support and improve interagency partnerships.

To download, visit:

www.ccsso.org/projects/School_Health_Project/Project_Publications/HIV_AIDS_Fact_Sheets/. These fact sheets were developed as part of CCSSO's cooperative agreement with the CDC. For additional information please contact Nora Howley 202.336.7033 or norah@ccsso.org or Stephanie Yun at 202.336.7038 or stephaniey@ccsso.org.

E. Resources

For resources on sexual health services for young men of color, please check out the following:

- Advocates for Youth at www.advocatesforyouth.org/yoc.htm
- Alan Guttmacher Institute--In Their Own Right: Addressing the Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs of American Men; executive summary available online at www.guttmacher.org/pubs/summaries/exs_men.html
- Urban Institute--Involving Males in Preventing Teen Pregnancy: A Guide for Program Planners, available online at www.urban.org/pubs/inv_males/
- Urban Institute--Nurturing Young Black Males: Programs that Work; order online at www.urban.org/expert.cfm?ID=RonaldBMincy
- Urban Institute--Young Men's Sexual and Reproductive Health: Toward a National Strategy: Framework and Recommendations; available online at www.urban.org/publications/310026.html

[3. New from The Center for Law and Social Policy \(CLASP\), www.clasp.org](http://www.clasp.org)

Families Will Lose \$8.4 Billion in Uncollected Support if Federal Matching Funds for Child Support Incentive Payments are Eliminated

The House budget bill makes deep cuts in federal child support funds. In recent days, there have been indications that a compromise agreement may retain part of these cuts—the prohibition on drawing down the federal match on performance incentive payments. Despite the claim that families would not be hurt, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that \$8.4 billion in child support would go uncollected over the next 10 years if the incentive match is eliminated. This short report uses Congressional Budget Office projections to show how much funding each state stands to lose and how much child support will go uncollected in each state if the cuts are enacted.

www.clasp.org/publications/incentive_payments_121405.pdf

Declining Share of Adults Receiving Training under WIA are Low-Income or Disadvantaged

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) significantly changed the way federally funded job training and employment services are structured, and has impacted who receives training under the program. In particular, the share of training recipients who are low-income or have barriers to employment has dropped since WIA was enacted. This paper examines the data, considers some possible explanations for this decline, and offers recommendations for WIA reauthorization and state and local action to increase the share of training resources directed to adults who are low-income, single parents, or have other barriers to finding and keeping employment.

www.clasp.org/publications/decline_in_wia_training.pdf

CLASP Budget Reconciliation Page

As Congress finalizes the fiscal year 2006 federal budget, it is contending with a House of Representatives reconciliation bill that includes serious cuts to programs affecting low-income families, children, and youth. CLASP has created this page to provide a clear overview of the major provisions that affect low-income families, and links to our own analyses and others available online. www.clasp.org/federal_budget/index.htm

Health Action 2006: National Conference

CLASP is pleased to co-sponsor, in cooperation with a range of national organizations, the Families USA Health Action 2006 national conference. This is a grassroots health advocacy conference, held January 26-28, 2006 at the Renaissance Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. Registration is \$275 until January 6, and \$325 thereafter.

www.familiesusa.org/conference/

CLASP Seeks Workforce Policy Analyst

The Center for Law and Social Policy's Workforce Development Team is looking for a policy analyst to undertake research, analysis, synthesis, writing, and advocacy on policies and practices that promote the advancement of low-wage workers in the changing economy, and provide technical assistance at the state and local level.

Candidates should have at least three to five years of experience analyzing workforce development or welfare-to-work policy/programs at the national, state, or local levels, and a relevant graduate degree.

For a detailed description of the responsibilities and requirements, please visit www.clasp.org/showjob.php?id=14

The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), a national, nonprofit organization founded in 1968, conducts research, policy analysis, technical assistance, and advocacy on issues related to economic security for low-income families with children. For more information about CLASP, visit www.clasp.org

4. New from the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools Weekly Insider

The Weekly Insider is a web enhanced newsletter that offers news alerts, grant announcements and general web site updates delivered directly to your email box on a weekly basis. The Center is located at the School of Public Health and Health Services at The George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, DC.

Grant alerts

International Reading Association -- Teacher as Researcher Grant

Deadline: 01/15/06)

The International Reading Association's (IRA) Teacher as Researcher Grant supports teachers in their inquiries about literacy and instruction. Upon completion of the study, the findings must be disseminated at the IRA Annual Convention.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops485.asp

Youth Service America & Youth Venture -- Youth Service Projects Grants

Deadline: 12/19/05

Youth Service America and Youth Venture are offering funding to enable young people to engage in community service and make a difference in their world. Grants will fund projects to create new, sustainable, and civic-minded organizations, clubs or businesses ("Ventures"). These Ventures must be youth-led and designed to be a lasting asset to the community.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops484.asp

Council for Corporate & School Partnerships -- National School and Business Partnerships Award. Deadline: 01/30/06

The Council for Corporate & School Partnerships created the National School and Business Partnerships Award to recognize best in class partnerships between K-12 schools and their business partners.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops483.asp

Disney Minnie Grants for Youth Service Deadline: 01/13/06

Disney and Youth Service America are seeking applications for Disney Minnie Grants to support youth service projects. Grants up to \$500 will be awarded. Applicants will be expected to develop a service project that responds to a need in the community.

Projects where youth work with adults, such as parents and teachers, are encouraged.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops482.asp

The Milagro Foundation (Deadline: Rolling)

The Milagro Foundation supports underrepresented and underprivileged children and youth in the areas of the arts, education, and health. The Milagro Foundation seeks grant applications from community-based, grass-roots organizations that work with children and youth, especially those at risk due to such factors as poor health, illiteracy, or insufficient educational and cultural opportunities.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops489.asp

Kaiser Permanente Cares for Communities Program (Deadline: Rolling)

Kaiser Permanente's (KP) mission is to make positive changes in the health of the communities it serves. KP Cares for Communities program allows KP to make donations to organizations that focus on reducing disparities in health care.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops488.asp

The Dayton Foundation -- Grants for Non-profit Organizations in Ohio (Deadline: Rolling)

The Dayton Foundation awards grants to non-profit organizations based on worthy community efforts and the greatest community need in the Dayton/Miami Valley, OH region. Projects are funded in areas of health and social service.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops487.asp

State Farm Companies Foundation -- K-12 Public School Grants (Deadline: 01/15/06)

The State Farm Companies Foundation is committed to meeting the needs of communities by focusing educational giving toward K-12 public schools. The following types of grants will be considered by the Foundation:

- 1) teacher excellence programs,
- 2) service-learning programs, and
- 3) programs that incorporate the Baldrige criteria into education systems.

www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops486.asp

News alerts

High Court Considers Parental Notification Law

The United States Supreme Court heard arguments today in a case involving whether doctors must inform the parents of a pregnant teenager before they perform an abortion. The case before the Court concerns a New Hampshire law that makes no exception from the notification requirement—which would cause a delay of at least 48 hours in performing the procedure—even if the health of the young woman is in danger.

www.healthinschools.org/2005/Nov28_alert.asp

Common Skin Cleanser Used in Head Lice Treatment

In a letter to the editors of the journal Pediatrics, Dr. Dale Pearlman has revealed that the liquid he used in an innovative approach to head lice infestations was in fact a skin cleansing lotion called Cetaphil, commonly available in drug stores at \$10 or less a bottle. Dr. Pearlman advised that after application to the scalp, the lotion should be dried with a hair blower, thereby suffocating the lice.

www.healthinschools.org/2005/dec5b_alert.asp

Parents Report on Early Interventions for Disabilities

Parents of children with disabilities who received early intervention services between birth and three years of age told interviewers that as a result of the interventions they felt more competent in caring for their children and gaining access to further supports for them. The parents believed their families were better off as the result of the interventions and said they were optimistic about their children's futures, though researchers noted that parents of minority children, single parents, and parents whose children have health problems were somewhat less positive in their reactions.

www.healthinschools.org/2005/dec5a_alert.asp

5. New from the NM Department of Health

From the US Dept Health and Human Services

"Kavanagh, Laura (HRSA)" LKavanagh@HRSA.GOV 12/8/2005

Sign up is now open at www.hsnet.net/ahrq/care4kids - Public Health Emergency Preparedness: Strategies and Tools for Meeting the Needs of Children

It is our pleasure to invite you and your Colleagues to register for a free 90-minute Web conference on strategies and tools for meeting the needs of children in the event of a public health emergency. About the Event - The Web conference is scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2006, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m., EST. This Web conference will explore some of the key issues surrounding the preparedness planning for the care of children and highlight innovative research, tools and models that can be used in developing effective preparedness strategies for addressing the unique needs of children. About the Sponsor - This Web conference is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). A Federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, AHRQ's mission is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans. As part of this mission, AHRQ translates and disseminates its evidence-based findings, providing State and local policymakers and other health systems decision makers with information and tools they can use to make more informed decisions about health care.

Web Conference Registration Information - To register to participate in this event, click

on the Register Now! link at www.hsrnet.net/ahrq/care4kids

Due to the overwhelming response to past Web conferences and to accommodate as many participants as possible, we strongly encourage you to: a) connect to the event via computer; and b) watch the event with colleagues, rather than individually, from a single computer. Alternatively, you may download and fax a completed registration form to 202-728-9469 to the attention of Maureen Ball, Health Systems Research, Inc. Upon submitting your registration, you will receive a confirmation email with further details on how to participate on the day of the Web conference. Please contact Maureen Ball at 202-828-5100 or via email at AHRQ_ULRT@hsrnet.com if you have any questions about registering for this Web conference.

If you have any substantive questions about AHRQ's bioterrorism and health system preparedness research program, please feel free to contact Sally Phillips at sphillip@ahrq.gov or

Dan Kavanaugh, MSW, LCSW-C
Director HRSA/MCHB Emergency Medical Services for Children Program
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18A-38
Rockville, MD 20857
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Each month the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition provides a review of the research and policy reports distributed by National Resources for your information only. The information, and comments expressed in this newsflash 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.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- A. Believe in NM Girls 2006 Conference
- B. National Year of the Girl
- C. Head to Toe Conference

A. Believe in NM Girls 2006 Conference

The second conference geared specifically to New Mexico girls, ages 13-18, is well into the planning stages. We are excited about the lessons learned from last year and we think this conference will be better than ever.

When: April 7 & 8, 2006

Time: Friday from 12:30PM to 8:30 PM and Saturday from 8 AM to 5 PM

Fee: \$10.00 per girl and it includes a t-shirt, 2 snacks, 1 dinner, 1 breakfast, 1 lunch, all workshops and exhibit booths. Scholarships available for those with financial need.

Where: University of New Mexico Student Union Building in Albuquerque

Co-sponsors include: Soroptimist International of Albuquerque, Office of African American Affairs, Girl Scouts of Chaparral Council, Girl Scouts of Sangre de Cristo, NM MESA, Inc., NM Coalition Against Domestic Violence, NM Teen Pregnancy Coalition, Linda Simon Consulting, NM Commission on Community Volunteerism, MADD, University of New Mexico Women's Resource Center and Women's Health Services of Santa Fe.

Hotel Accommodations for the 2006 Conference

The Days Inn (formerly the Le Baron Inn) at 2120 Menaul NE has a block of rooms for April 7 & 8 for girls and chaperones attending the conference. Single rooms are \$39.00 per night and double rooms are \$45.00 per night (plus tax). The double rooms hold 4 girls, so for \$11.25 per girl per night you can stay at the Days Inn. Rooms will be held until March 15th so call early. Their toll-free number is 1-800-444-7378.

B. National Year of the Girl

The NM Commission on the Status of Women is honored to be hosting the National Association of Commissions for Women Annual Convention in July 2008. Coupled with that program, we are also planning to invite 1000 girls from around the nation to participate in a five day conference honoring the American girl during that same time. Planning for this important event starts January 2006. If you are interested in being a part of this historic conference, please contact Kathi Brown at kathi.brown@state.nm.us We need input from all across the state of all ages – including girls!

C. The Head to Toe Conference

The Head to Toe Conference on School Health, which is sponsored by the Office of School Health, New Mexico Department of Health and School and Family Support Bureau, New Mexico Public Education Department, is seeking interesting and dynamic presentations for its 2006 conference for school nurses, counselors and social workers to be held on April 19 & 20 in Albuquerque.

Would you like to share your experience and expertise with school nurses, counselors and social workers from throughout New Mexico?

A formal Call for Presenters is issued. The call contains detailed information about the application process. Please note that the response deadline date of December 30,

2005 will be strictly adhered to so that we can notify speakers by January 20 of the selection decisions. If you have any questions, would like a copy of last year's conference brochure or would like to see a sample of a completed call,

Please direct questions to Melissa Rael at (505) 266-3451x104
or e-mail Melissa@KessJones.com.

If you know of anyone else who may be interested in presenting at Head to Toe we encourage you to forward this e-mail to him or her. We look forward with great anticipation to seeing what wonderful information you have to share with our 2006 conference attendees.

Now celebrating its 10th year, this highly respected annual conference is a unique opportunity for you to share your experience and knowledge about topics important to school health and behavioral health professionals and network with peers from throughout New Mexico. Our presenters continue a long tradition of educating others who strive every day to maintain the highest level of professionalism and improve the health and well being of New Mexico's children.

Message from the Young Fathers' Project

Barry McIntosh, the Santa Fe site coordinator for the Young Fathers' Project had an article he wrote about the joys of becoming a father and becoming involved in the care and raising of his children published in the most recent issue of Tumbleweeds. He talks of the true role of a father and how his love for his wife and children has changed his life.

From the article:

As time went on, my role as father had to change and adapt to the ever-changing family needs. I discovered that I was moving into a realm that was very different to my single days, that of the King archetype. The King is the protector of the land and his subjects, a benevolent leader and when my own father died this role immediately became more apparent and vital. I also looked back and realized that the fathers' role is unique. A father shows his children how men are in the world and mothers cannot do that. I feel that the fathers role is such an important role and sometimes it is not valued enough in our culture.

My children have been my greatest teachers and continue giving me the most wonderful lessons of life. Now I have merged my knowledge about being a father with my passion for teaching fathers and others about fatherhood. I work with The New Mexico Young Fathers Project to pass on these lessons and support these young men in their journey to fatherhood. Showing them the way to their own unique experience of becoming a father, a king and a man.

If you would like to read the full article, please contact Barry in Santa Fe, or Carl in the Albuquerque office. Congratulations to Barry on being published.

For information on the Young Fathers' Project please call:

Carl W. Dellinger, Project Director
New Mexico Young Fathers Project
540 Chama NE Suite 11
Albuquerque, NM 87108
(505) 254-8737 cell (505)450-9050
Fax (505) 254-8741

Barry McIntosh
Santa Fe Site Coordinator
(505) 699-7431

Jesus Gonzales
Santa Fe Community Coordinator
(505) 310-0310

Ramon Arroyos
Las Cruces Site Coordinator
(505) 556-1559

[Message from Sylvia Ruiz, Executive Director](#)

On Tuesday, December 6, 2005, the New Mexico Department of Health Office of School Health and Family Planning Department, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition held a press conference at the South Valley Public Health Office in Albuquerque to announce The South Valley Plain Talk Initiative. The Initiative has a three-year, \$240,000 grant to reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. The Plain Talk program has been funded in other communities with impressive results among participants. NMTPC is pleased to be a partner in this initiative.

The 2005 Teen Pregnancy Coalition Conference was held in Albuquerque on December 9, 2005. This year's theme was Teen Pregnancy in New Mexico – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Panels, speakers and workshop participants traced the development of teen pregnancy programs from their inception in the mid 80's, through the programs and services available statewide today, and to the options and services available to help us impact teen pregnancy in the future. NMTPC would like to thank all participants and presenters for a productive and informative day.

Mil Gracias!
Sylvia Ruiz, Executive Director
director@nmtpc.org

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New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition

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