

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

December 2007

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.

MESSAGE FROM SYLVIA RUIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Seasons Greetings!

The CDC has issued a Press Release, included in this News Flash, on the increase in teen birthrates nationally. The news is not good, but as we end 2007, I want to focus on what we have accomplished in New Mexico this year, and our hopes for the coming year.

In the November issue of the News Flash, I listed a short summary of initiatives NMTPC and our partners including the NM Department of Health, NM Children, Youth and Families Department, and foundations are involved in, to combat too early child bearing and its negative impact on the teens involved, and their families. Included were:

- **Doña Ana County Initiative**
- **Plain Talk/Hablando Claro** in Albuquerque's South Valley and South East Quadrant, Mesquite, Vado, Salem, Hatch, Del Cerro and Rincon.
- **New Mexico Young Fathers Program**
- **New Mexico Integrated Schools Initiative, and**
- **Teen Outreach Program**

With the extra funding from the Legislature this year and involvement of State

and National Foundations, New Mexico has more services to teens and families in place to improve the lives of families and improve the outcomes for youth than ever before.

Let's continue to work together to improve outcomes for youth, availability of services to those in need, and provide hope to families in New Mexico during the coming year.

Thank you for all you do in support of New Mexico Families. Happy Holidays!

NMTPC Annual Conference

Our Annual Conference this year will be on May 2, 2008! Stay tuned for details.

Our Silent Auction is back and this year we will be holding 2 Silent Auctions, which will be held at our Annual Conference, May 2, 2008 and at the Head 2 Toe Conference in April 2008. Proceeds provide scholarships to parenting teens or teens involved in adolescent pregnancy prevention to continue their education. We are collecting donations for our silent auction. Please call our office at 254-8737 if you would like to help. Help us in our efforts to continue to have a positive impact for generations to come by providing donations of time shares, massages, hair cuts, art work or jewelry.

Hasta Luego and Muchicimas Gracias,

Sylvia

Sylvia Ruiz

Executive Director

New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition

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NATIONAL RESOURCES

1. New from the National Center for Disease Control

The CDC National Center for Health Statistics Office of Communication released the following information.

Teen Birth Rate Rises for First Time in 14 Years

**Contact: CDC National Center for Health Statistics Office of Communication
(301) 458-4800**

E-mail: nchsquery@cdc.gov

Births: Preliminary Data for 2006. NVSR Volume 56, Number 7. 18 pp. (PHS) 2008-1120.

State-specific detailed tables for 2006

The teen birth rate in the United States rose in 2006 for the first time since 1991, and unmarried childbearing also rose significantly, according to preliminary birth statistics released today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The statistics are featured in a new report, "Births: Preliminary Data for 2006," prepared by CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, and are based on data from over 99 percent of all births for the United States in 2006. A final report to follow will have more detailed data.

The report shows that between 2005 and 2006, the birth rate for teenagers 15-19 years rose 3 percent, from 40.5 live births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years in 2005 to 41.9 births per 1,000 in 2006. This follows a 14-year downward trend in which the teen birth rate fell by 34 percent from its all-time peak of 61.8 births per 1,000 in 1991.

"It's way too early to know if this is the start of a new trend," said Stephanie Ventura, head of the Reproductive Statistics Branch at CDC. "But given the long-term progress we've witnessed, this change is notable."

The largest increases were reported for non-Hispanic black teens, whose overall rate rose 5 percent in 2006. The rate rose 2 percent for Hispanic teens, 3 percent for non-Hispanic white teens, and 4 percent for American Indian or Alaska Native teens.

The birth rate for the youngest teens aged 10-14 declined from 0.7 to 0.6 per 1,000, and the number of births to this age group fell 5 percent to 6,405. The birth rate for older teens aged 18-19 is 73 births per 1,000 population -- more than three times

higher than the rate for teens aged 15-17 (22 per 1,000). Between 2005 and 2006, the birth rate rose 3 percent for teens aged 15-17 and 4 percent for teens aged 18-19.

The study also shows unmarried childbearing reached a new record high in 2006. The total number of births to unmarried mothers rose nearly 8 percent to 1,641,700 in 2006. This represents a 20 percent increase from 2002, when the recent upswing in non-marital births began. The biggest jump was among unmarried women aged 25-29, among whom there was a 10 percent increase between 2005 and 2006.

In addition, the non-marital birth rate also rose sharply, from 47.5 births per 1,000 unmarried females in 2005 to 50.6 per 1,000 in 2006 -- a 7-percent 1-year increase and a 16 percent increase since 2002.

The study also revealed that the percentage of all U.S. births to unmarried mothers increased to 38.5 percent, up from 36.9 percent in 2005.

The report contains other significant findings:

The preliminary estimate of total births in the U.S. for 2006 was 4,265,996, a 3 percent increase -- or 127,647 more births than in 2005.

Birth rates increased for women in their twenties, thirties and early forties between 2005 and 2006, as well as for teenagers.

The cesarean delivery rate rose again in 2006, to 31.1 percent of all births, a 3 percent increase from 2005 and a new record high. The percentage of all births delivered by cesarean has climbed 50 percent over the last decade.

The preterm birth rate rose slightly between 2005 and 2006, from 12.7 percent to 12.8 percent of all births. The percentage of births delivered before 37 weeks of gestation has risen 21 percent since 1990.

The low birth weight rate also rose slightly in 2006, from 8.2 percent in 2005 to 8.3 percent in 2006, a 19 percent jump since 1990.

As a result of the increases in the birth rates for women aged 15-44, the total fertility rate -- an estimate of the average number of births that a group of women would have over their lifetimes -- increased 2 percent in 2006 to 2,101 births per 1,000 women. This is the highest rate since 1971 and the first time since then that the rate was above replacement -- the level at which a given generation can replace itself.

[2. New from The Advocates for Youth](#)

In This Issue:

- **News You Can Use:** *Democrats Finalize Massive Increase for Abstinence-Only Funding, World AIDS Day is December 1st! and IYLC Members Blog Women Deliver*
- **Take Action:** *Support the HIV Prevention Act and the PATHWAY Act*
- **New at Advocates:** *Apply for the Anti-Homophobia Project, the Urban Retreat and Advocates receives new grant from the Office of Minority Health*

News You Can Use

Democrats Finalize Massive Increase for Abstinence-Only Funding

James Wagoner blogged about the Democrats' approval of an increase in abstinence-only funding.

The Democratic controlled Labor HHS Appropriations conference committee report includes the full \$28 million **increase** requested by President Bush for failed abstinence-only-until-marriage-programs. The Democrats have now granted the president and his anti-sex education zealots a whopping \$141 million dollar budget for abstinence-only programs -- something they could never achieve even under a conservative Republican Congress!

With one breathtakingly cynical move, the Democratic leadership has now stamped its brand on one of the biggest ideological boondoggles in congressional history. More disturbingly, they have placed the health and safety of young people at risk by promoting programs that spread ignorance in the era of HIV/AIDS. Placing politics before public health and ideology over science have now become bipartisan follies.

Read the full blog here: http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/news/blogs/110107_jw.htm

World AIDS Day is December 1st!

Twenty-five years into the HIV/AIDS pandemic, HIV and AIDS continue to be a dire threat to global public health. More than half of all new HIV infections occur among people ages



IYLC Members Blog Women Deliver

The **Women Deliver Conference** brought together almost 2,000 participants from 109 countries to create the energy, the commitment, and the knowledge to fundamentally shift how women's health and women's contributions are viewed in the global agenda. Advocates' International Youth Leadership Council (IYLC) members participated in the conference and blogged about their experiences.

[Shaping the Future](#) - By Brian

[The Power of Youth at Women Deliver](#) - By Brian

[Support for Youth Lacking at Women Deliver](#) - By Lesley

[Youth Panel at Women Deliver Presents](#) - By Brian

[Deliver for Youth](#) - By Andrew

Take Action

In honor of World AIDS Day, Advocates for Youth urges you to send letters to your Congressional Representatives on two bills addressing global HIV and AIDS:

The HIV Prevention Act is a bill that would remove a funding restriction which requires 33% of U.S. foreign aid spent on HIV prevention be spent on abstinence-only-until-marriage programs and allow funds to be used as they were intended: to help prevent new

publications and materials on HIV/STI and teen pregnancy prevention programming for GLBTQ youth; strategic technical assistance and training; and a seed grant in the amount of \$7,000 to create safe spaces for GLBTQ youth of color 13-24 years old and redress homophobia within the local community, including schools and agencies. The deadline to apply is December 6, 2007.

Visit <http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/about/antihomophobia.htm> to learn more and download the application.

Urban Retreat

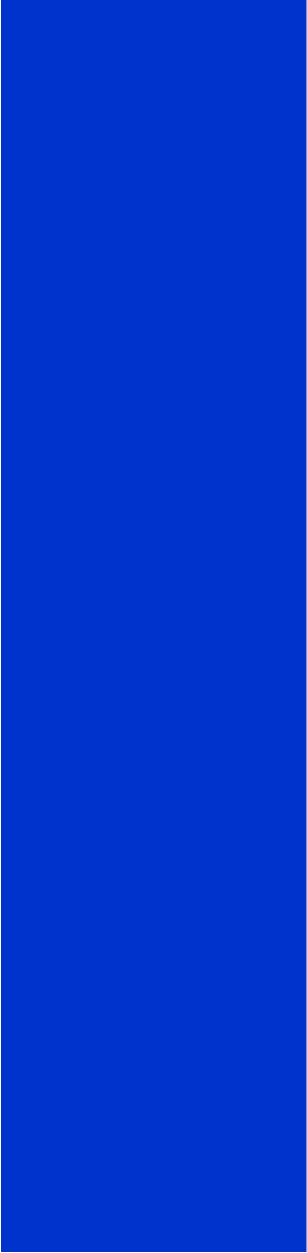


In early October, Advocates for Youth hosted the 6th annual Urban Retreat. This year we had 65 young people ages 14-24 attend the 3 day intensive training. They learned about adolescent reproductive and sexual health, comprehensive sex education, HIV prevention, and domestic and international policy. They were also trained on how to work with the media, how to how to conduct workshops, and how to be effective peer educators and youth activists. Thirty-four of the participants stayed an extra day to lobby for comprehensive sex education on Capital Hill - they visited 67 congressional offices to advocate for youth reproductive and sexual health!

This year, youth from Advocates programs included the [10 Campus Organizers](#), [5 High School Organizers](#), [10 International Youth Leadership Council Members](#), [7 MySistahs Online Peer Educators](#), [12 State Activists](#), [16 Young Women of Color Leadership Council Members](#) and [7 Youth Resource Online Peer Educators](#).

Advocates receives new grant from the Office of Minority Health

With a three year cooperative agreement from the Office of Minority Health (OMH), Advocates for Youth will work with five historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to empower young African American/black women ages 17 to 24 to acquire HIV risk



health centers at Alabama A&M University, Benedict College, and South Carolina State University with information, technical assistance, training, and seed grants to improve/expand their HIV prevention services for young women. In partnership with the student health centers, Advocates will also create a campus-based Young Women of Color Leadership Council to mobilize young women and other student organizations to conduct HIV prevention education for young women on campus as well as develop and disseminate a youth-friendly education campaign. Two additional HBCUs will be selected in year two of the project.

Advocates for Youth is dedicated to creating programs and advocating for policies that help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. Advocates provides information, training, and strategic assistance to youth-serving organizations, policy makers, youth activists, and the media in the United States and the developing world.

Effects on Violence of Laws and Policies Facilitating the Transfer of Youth from the Juvenile to the Adult Justice System

A Report on Recommendations of the Task Force on Community Preventive Services

The Community Guide is a series of reports that addresses preventive public health topics. This report reviews studies of laws or policies that facilitate the transfer of juvenile offenders from the juvenile to the adult criminal justice system. The findings indicate that, in general, transfer policies often result in increased arrests of juveniles for subsequent crimes.

full text <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5609a1.htm?s_cid=rr5609a1_e>

CDC Homepage <http://www.cdc.gov/?s_cid=mmwr_home_e>

<<http://www.cdc.gov/>>

3. New From Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina

What Does an AHAD Event Look Like?

With an Adolescent Health Advocacy Day (AHAD) event, the sky is the limit! It can be anything from an awareness raising walk for parents and teens to an indoor picnic for supporters and community members or it can be as simple as inviting community members and

local officials to your offices to discuss your programs and the good it can do. The sky is the limit and creativity is your friend. People love local charm, so if your town is famous for Barbeque, have a cookout! If you're famous for furniture, have a sit-in! If you're famous for the beach, have a beach party! The important part is getting the word out and making sure that you're heard.

What Do I Do?

1. First of all, what is your message? Do you want to tell people about why your program is necessary or do you want to educate people on why science based practices are better than a stab in the dark approach to sex education? Once you have your message, your approach will seem much clearer.
2. Get the word out! Send press releases to local news, local newspapers and anyone else you can think of. Invite politicians, teens, parents, anyone who might have a stake in the process.
3. Plan ahead. Make sure that you've got all your bases covered. Do you have enough copies of briefings/statistics? Do you have enough snacks? (Nothing gets people out faster than food!) Is there a good spot for people to gather? Can the speakers be heard everywhere? The plan's the thing!
4. On the day of the event, relax! Take a deep breath. Make sure you greet everyone who comes and make sure they feel welcomed. Assign someone to be a liaison to the politicians and officials and make sure they've arrived and are ready to go.
5. Enjoy! At this point, you've done all your prep work and are ready to enjoy the fruits. Be sure to take lots of pictures and send them to us!

Advocacy Trainings:

Introduction to Advocacy: Advocating for Your Cause Legally and Effectively!

December 11: 10a-3p
APPCNC Offices
Cost: \$25, lunch included
www.appcnc.org to
register!

Where can I go for more help?

Resources are out there for advocates like you. Here are some good sources to check out:

[Advocates for Youth's Advocacy Kit](#): a 41 page PDF that gives a great introduction to the world of advocacy.

[Healthy Teen Network's Advocacy Resources](#): HTN has guides that cover most adolescent health issues. If you need guidance, here it is.

[APPCNC's Advocacy Aid Brochure](#): If you need a quick primer on what to do, this is it.

[NC Center for Nonprofits' Advocacy Page](#): here you'll find links, resources and policy alerts about what's happening in North Carolina and beyond. It's a great site to browse.

Advocacy News in Brief

[Virginia Becomes 14th State to Reject Federal Abstinence Only Funding](#): Virginia Governor Timothy M Kaine has added Virginia to the list of 13 other states that have cut funding for abstinence-only sex education programs. In cutting the \$275,000 from the state budget that is required to match federal abstinence-only funding, Kaine cited recent studies that found abstinence-only programs to be ineffective, reports the Washington Post.

[Robeson sex education classes at issue](#): LUMBERTON - Robeson County health officials are campaigning for a comprehensive sex education curriculum in the public schools.

[Point of View: Sex-ed funds N.C. should abstain from](#): CHAPEL HILL - In the past decade alone, the federal government has wasted more than \$1 billion on wishful thinking. What's the wish? That if we tell today's teenagers to wait to have sex until they are married, we will be able to protect them from pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

[Event lets teens, families talk sex](#): For 12 hours tonight and into the wee hours of Saturday, Wake County teenagers will be locked in and talking about sex. It's all supervised by trained Wake County public health professionals, part of an effort to stem what they call the alarming rate of teen pregnancy in North Carolina.

[Novel program aims to prevent HIV among runaways](#): NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Researchers are encouraged by results of a pilot test of a one-of-a-kind program aimed at preventing HIV infection among runaway adolescents, chiefly by concentrating on a troubled teen's strengths as opposed to his or her weaknesses.

Kay Phillips, Executive Director
(919) 226-1880

[4. New from the Annie E. Casey Foundation](#)



In the Spotlight



Tell Us What You Think of Our Site!

We enhance and update our website regularly to meet the needs of our users. Take our brief survey and let us know how to make our site even better!



Foundations ask Presidential Candidates What They'll Do for America

Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity is an initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and other major national foundations to move the issues of poverty and opportunity in America to center stage during the 2008 presidential campaign and beyond. Visit SpotlightonPoverty.com to learn more about the presidential candidates' views on poverty and find daily updates, opinions, research and data, and links to blogs on poverty and hunger.

New from KIDS COUNT



KIDS COUNT Data Snapshot: The Growing Problem of Preterm Births

One in eight babies was born preterm in the United States in 2004. This represents more than half a million infants — the highest number ever recorded. Learn more about this growing problem and find out how your state ranks with data from the Annie E. Casey Foundation's [KIDS COUNT](#).

New State-Level Child Poverty Rates and Rankings

Create customized maps and graphs of more than 100 state-level indicators of child well-being, including new income, earnings, and poverty data released in August by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Resources on Juvenile Detention Reform



Beyond Detention: System Transformation Through Juvenile Detention Reform

The latest edition of the Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Pathways series documents the ways in which detention reforms in general – and JDAI's comprehensive reform model in particular -- stimulate and support a broad array of other juvenile justice system improvements.

[More from Casey's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative >>](#)

Profiles from the Field



2007 Family Strengthening Award Winners

Each year, the Annie E. Casey Foundation provides grants to national organizations that in turn make awards to exemplary local family strengthening programs. Learn how these programs are making a difference in the lives of children and families.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Dads Make A Difference

9th Annual National Fatherhood & Families Conference
Phoenix, Arizona
March 4-7, 2008
Sheraton Crescent Hotel Phoenix



Join us for the 9th Annual National Fatherhood & Families Conference "Dads Make A Difference" - March 4-7, 2008 - Phoenix, Arizona for the full conference booklet [click here](#). Consider this national conference to hear what professionals, researchers, and community leaders around the country are sharing about the importance of the role that fathers contribute to the development of children with over 46 planned sessions.

This is the premiere national conference for those working with fathers and families, incarcerated parents, multicultural programs, networking, emerging strategies for capacity building and opportunities to develop a national network of practitioners. We have been honored to host thousands of colleagues from as far as Africa, Japan, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, UK and every state in the nation and hope you will join us in March at an incredible new host hotel, Sheraton Crescent in Phoenix.

Visit us at www.azffc.org for more information on how to register, vendor opportunities, and scholarships. In addition we have some very special events that include our Inaugural Golf Tournament, National Honorable John S. Martinez Leader of the Year Award, Honorable John S. Martinez and Stanley Seiderman Father of the Year Award and other opportunities. Hotel Early Registration ends February 8th so please reserve a room early by going to our home page to locate the Host Hotel linkage

We look forward to hosting you!

Call us at 800-603-9309 or email us at info@azffc.org

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Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-495-8845 or 1-800-603-9309
Fax 602-252-3598

www.azffc.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 this 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**.*

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

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 Cathy Ahiyite, Fax (505) 254-8741 or email to nmtpc@nmtpc.org, in the **Albuquerque Area**. If you are in the **Las Cruces area**, send the referral form to Gary Madrid, gm.nmtpc@sbcglobal.net or call (575) 532-1536. If you are in the **Santa Fe area**, send to Mr. Barry McIntosh, kamac@cybermesa.com or call (505) 428-1412.

For information on the Young Fathers' Project please call:

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