

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

June 2006

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

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NATIONAL RESOURCES

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

National Campaign E-Gram

New Research on Parent/Child Communication

Over two decades of research suggests that parents can play a critical role in their children's decisions about sex. A new Science Says research brief from the National Campaign explores

parent-child communication about sex and related issues. Drawing on data from the 2002 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), the research brief sheds light on what parents say and don't say to their kids about such topics as how to say no to sex, methods of birth control and where to get them, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Among some of the key findings:

- Some two-thirds of teens say they have had some discussion with their parents about sex and related issues but what parents discuss with teen girls differ from what they discuss with teen boys.
- For example, about six in ten teen girls have talked with a parent about how to say no to sex, compared to less than half of teen boys.
- Surprisingly, younger teens are more likely than older teens to say that they have discussed sex and related issues with a parent.
- Hispanic teens are less likely to discuss sexual topics with their parents than their non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic white peers.

This new analysis was conducted by the National Campaign and prepared with support from the Office of Population Affairs (OPA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the National Campaign, however, and do not necessarily represent the official views of OPA.

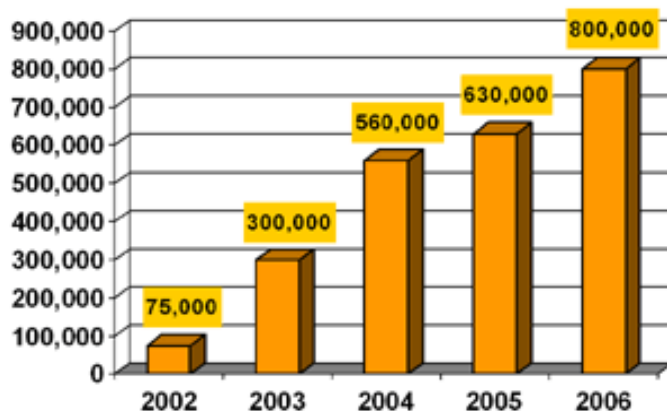
[Download Science Says #25: Parent-Child Communication About Sex and Related Topics](#)

800,000 Participate in the 5th Annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Thanks to the work of individuals in communities, coalitions, and programs across the country, more than 200 national organizations and media outlets who served as official National Day partners, and 21st century word-of-mouth (the Internet), approximately 800,000 people participated in the 5th annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (up from 630,000 in 2005). A more thorough accounting of the National Day will be available in the near future. Until then, the National Campaign wishes to thank all of those responsible for making the National Day such a success.

National Day Quiz Takers, 2002 - 2006

In 2006, approximately **800,000** people took the National Day Quiz — up from 75,000 in 2002. Participants were able to take the quiz online, download a print version from the National Campaign's web site, or take the quiz printed in the pages of Teen People magazine.



More Advice for Parents

Among other things, the National Campaign's tips for parents advises parents to discourage early dating among young teens and to take a strong stand against adolescents dating someone two or three years older. The Guttmacher Institute's new issue of the journal Perspectives contains interesting new research and commentary supporting both of these contentions. Research by Barbara VanOss Marin and colleagues notes that having a boyfriend or girlfriend, especially on older one, is associated with increased sexual risk in early adolescence. A related commentary by Lisa Lieberman encourages parents and programs to directly address these two issues with young people and to provide them with guidance on healthy and developmentally appropriate dating relationships. (See the recent National Campaign publication, [Making a Love Connection](#) on this topic.)

2. New from Advocates for Youth

New from Advocates for Youth

The new RFP for the Youth of Color Initiative is ready to be distributed. Through the Youth of Color Initiative, organizations may receive culturally relevant publications and materials on HIV/STI and teen pregnancy prevention programming, strategic technical assistance and training, and seed grants in the amount of \$8,000 to implement HIV/STI and teen pregnancy prevention projects, made possible through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Adolescent and School Health. Services offered through this initiative are tailored to fit the needs of organizations, so that they may receive what they need and not a duplication of resources.

The announcement can be viewed at www.advocatesforyouth.org/about/yoc.htm

The application form and/or proposal are due by July 7, 2006, 5:00 p.m. EDT.

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3. New from the Center for Disease Control

The July issue of Preventing Chronic Disease (PCD) is now available! Please visit our site at www.cdc.gov/pcd where you will find downloadable articles and information on PCD.

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[A71: It Constitutes Itself: Health and Community](#)

Lynne S. Wilcox

[A74: The Changing Shape of the Body Mass Index Distribution Curve in the Population: Implications for Public Health Policy to Reduce the Prevalence of Adult Obesity](#)

Alan D. Penman, William D. Johnson

[A76: The Role of Race and Poverty in Access to Foods That Enable Individuals to Adhere to Dietary Guidelines](#)

Elizabeth A. Baker, Mario Schootman, Ellen Barnidge, Cheryl Kelly

[A77: Validation of a Food Frequency Questionnaire for Hispanics](#)

Gladys Block, Patricia Wakimoto, Christopher Jensen, Shelly Mandel, Robin R. Green

[A95: Development and Reliability of Brief Dietary Assessment Tools for Hispanics](#)

Patricia Wakimoto, Gladys Block, Shelly Mandel, Norma Medina

Many more topics available on the website www.cdc.gov/pcd

[4. New from Family Matters](#)

Just before the Congressional Memorial Day Recess on May 18th, the U.S. House passed its budget by a vote of 218-210. (To see how your member voted, follow this link- clerk.house.gov/evs/2006/roll135.xml) House leaders had been forced to cancel two previously scheduled votes on the budget because of opposition by members who were against further cuts to programs that help children and families.

The House budget will result in billions of dollars being cut from important children's programs, including child care support, after-school, child abuse prevention and treatment, child health, and more. For more information on the House's budget, see:

-CBPP's House budget analysis, follow this link: www.cbpp.org/3-29-06bud.htm

-CHN's overview and analysis of the House budget, follow this link: www.chn.org/humanneeds/060519b.html

What's Next:

Typically the next step in the budget process would be for the Senate and House to work out the differences between their respective budgets and agree on an overall budget blue print. Most policy analysts, however, are skeptical that this will happen because the Senate budget does not cut programs nearly as deeply as the House budget. (For details on the Senate's budget, follow this link: www.chn.org/humanneeds/060317a.html). Instead, they are predicting that the Senate and House will each adopt "pieces" of the budget, and then try to work out the differences between their respective smaller pieces of the budget in Senate-House conference negotiations. These Senate-House negotiations will give us another opportunity to fight cuts in children's programs.

[4. New from the Kaiser Family Foundation – kaisernetwork.org](http://kaisernetwork.org)

Unintended Pregnancy Rate Increasing Among Poorer Women, Decreasing Among More Affluent; Overall Contraception Use Down, Report Says

U.S. women with incomes below the federal poverty level in 2001 were four times as likely to have an unintended pregnancy and three times as likely to have an abortion as women with incomes above 200% of the poverty level, according to a Guttmacher Institute report released Thursday, the Christian Science Monitor reports. The report, which gathered data primarily from the National Center for Health Statistics' National Survey of Family Growth, finds that the rate of unintended pregnancies from 1994 to 2001 "remained stable" at about 49%, but the contrast between income groups has grown since 1994, according to the Monitor (Feldmann, Christian Science Monitor, 5/5). The unintended pregnancy rate from 1994 to 2001 increased by 29% among women with incomes below the poverty level and by 26% among women with incomes between 100% and 200% of the poverty level, the report says. In addition, the unintended pregnancy rate during the same time decreased 20% for women with incomes higher than 200% of the poverty level, according to the report (Boonstra et al., "Abortion in Women's Lives," May 2006).

Additional Findings

The report also finds that the percentage of sexually active women who were not intending to get pregnant and did not use contraception increased from 7% in 1994 to 11% in 2001, the New York Times reports. Among women with annual incomes below the poverty level, the rate increased from 8% in 1994 to 14% in 2001 (Zernike, New York Times, 5/5). The abortion rate and the pregnancy rate among women of childbearing age from 1994 to 2001 decreased slightly, the report says. However, the report finds that the abortion rate increased among poorer women, while it decreased among women with higher incomes, the Washington Post reports. The report also finds that women who underwent abortion did so earlier in pregnancies, and a higher percentage of women who had unintended pregnancies decided against abortion (Kaufman, Washington Post, 5/5). Heather Boonstra, the lead author of the report, said, "With few exceptions, evidence does not show that abortion restrictions, such as waiting periods, have a significant impact on the number of abortions" (McEnery, Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/5). According to the Guttmacher Institute, there are about three million pregnancies annually in the U.S., about half of which are unintended and about 1.3 million of which are aborted (New York Times, 5/5).

Reaction

"Sadly, a two-tiered system is already emerging in our country," Sharon Camp, president and CEO of the Guttmacher Institute, said, adding, "Wealthier women have quick, convenient access to contraceptives and safe, early abortions, while poor women are less able to prevent pregnancies through contraception and are then forced to jump over a series of obstacles in order to obtain an abortion" (Guttmacher release, 5/4). The authors of the report said that in recent years several federal and state reproductive health programs have been restricted or experienced funding cuts. According to the Post, some analysts also said more state and federal programs are decreasing their emphasis of contraception and instead are promoting abstinence, which could lead to more unintended pregnancies. Leslee Unruh, president and founder of the Sioux Falls, S.D.-based Abstinence Clearinghouse, said the report shows sex education programs that include contraception instruction are not working, adding, "Programs for poor women are often so condescending, even degrading. ... They teach [women] how to put on a condom rather than how to take control of their lives" (Washington Post, 5/5).

[6. New from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#)

Administration for Children and Families

HHS PUBLISHES FATHERHOOD MANUAL

Find out the Top-Ten Tips to Be a Better Dad

The Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today released a guide for child welfare workers to help fathers have a positive impact on their children's lives. "The Importance of Fathers in the Healthy Development of Children" is the first guide for professionals that focuses specifically on how they can more effectively engage fathers whose children come to the attention of the child welfare system.

"Fathers play a crucial role in the healthy development of their children," said HHS Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, Wade F. Horn, Ph.D. "This manual gives fathers practical advice about their responsibilities to their children as providers, protectors and mentors."

The guide includes practical advice about these topics and more:

- Tips for dads: caring for new moms
- How to handle a crying baby
- Ten ways to be a better dad
- Twenty long distance activities for dads living at a distance
- How to work with special needs children

To view this manual, along with others in the User Manual Series, available from the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information, log on to:

www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/usermanual.cfm

Responsible Father Clearinghouse Contracting Opportunity

Please note that a new contracting opportunity will soon be available. The Responsible Father Clearinghouse pre-solicitation notice has been posted in [FedBizOpps](#). Please go to www.fedbizopps.gov for further information regarding this requirement. All questions pertaining to the current notice as well as future notices regarding this requirement should be directed to the Contract Specialist, Anita L. Nearhoof, at anita.nearhoof@psc.hhs.gov.

HHS Announces 1000th Victim of Human Trafficking Certified

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced that 1,000 victims of human trafficking have been certified since the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) was signed into law in October 2000. As a result of the legislation, HHS' Trafficking in Persons office was created to fulfill a congressional mandate entrusted to HHS' Secretary in certifying victims of human trafficking.

"Today is an important milestone in the Bush Administration's campaign to rescue and assist those who have fallen victim to human trafficking," said HHS Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, Wade F. Horn, Ph.D. "Even with 1,000 victims getting the help they need, there's much more work to be done to end this modern day form of slavery."

Certification of victims of human trafficking enables them to receive federally-funded or

administered services or benefits including safe housing, food, Medicaid, welfare cash assistance, employment as well as assistance from state-specific programs.

In April 2004, HHS launched its rescue and restore campaign to increase public awareness of human trafficking. Since then, the number of certifications has been increasing each year. The campaign relies on a coalition of those likely to encounter victims: law enforcement officials, health care providers, faith-based communities and other first responders. A key component of the campaign is a toll-free, 24/7 human trafficking hotline (1-888-3737-888) that connects victims and those who know of victims to grantees and other assistance providers.

A victim of human trafficking may be identified by signs of being controlled, an inability to move or leave a job, bruises or other signs of battering, fear or depression, lack of a passport, being non-English speaking or having recently been brought to this country. For more information, go to: www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/

In addition, HHS and the U.S. Departments of Justice, Homeland Security and Education are involved in confirming eligibility for federal student financial assistance for human trafficking victims. More information on this effort will be available at www.studentaid.ed.gov.

7. New from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

OJJDP News @ a Glance, March/April 2006

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has published "OJJDP News @ a Glance," March/April 2006. The bimonthly newsletter provides readers with news about OJJDP activities, publications, funding opportunities, and events.

This issue's lead article features the Office of Justice Programs' release of OJJDP's "Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report." The issue also reports on recent conferences, 2006 training opportunities, and Teen Dating Violence and Prevention Week.

2006 National Report

Assistant Attorney General Regina Schofield announced the release of the Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report at the 33d National Conference on Juvenile Justice, held March 26-29, 2006, in Denver, CO (see related article). This OJJDP Report presents a comprehensive, reliable, user-friendly account of juvenile offending, victimization of juveniles, and the justice system's response to these problems.

The 260-page, full-color National Report compiles the latest available statistics from a variety of sources to answer questions frequently asked by juvenile justice professionals, policymakers, the media, and concerned citizens. The authors, Howard Snyder and Melissa Sickmund of the National Center for Juvenile Justice, present the data in hundreds of easy-to-read tables, graphs, and maps, accompanied by analysis in clear, nontechnical language.

"The policies and programs we create must be based on facts, not fears. Too often, the facts are unknown or not readily available. This Report is designed to remedy, at least in part, that information gap....It is an indispensable resource for professionals who strive to shape the juvenile justice system today."

—J. Robert Flores, OJJDP Administrator

Some Facts from the National Report

- Juvenile violent crime arrest rates have declined consistently from 1994 to 2003, although the female proportion of juvenile violent crime has increased.
- In 2002, homicide was the third leading cause of death for juveniles ages 12-17 and the fourth leading cause for children ages 1-11. An estimated 1,600 persons under age 18 were murdered in the United States that year—about 10 percent of all murder victims. Of the 46,600 juveniles murdered between 1980 and 2002, half were killed with a firearm.
- The national Relative Rate Index (RRI) measures levels of racial disparity at various decision points in the juvenile justice system. The RRI for 2002 showed more disparity at arrest and detention than at other decision points; however, the RRI declined between 1992 and 2002, especially for arrests and waivers to criminal court.
- The number of youth committed to juvenile residential facilities increased 28 percent between 1991 and 2003; however, after peaking in 1999, the number began to fall—for the first time in a generation.

National Report readers will find baseline information on juvenile population trends; patterns of juvenile victimization, including homicide, suicide, and maltreatment; the nature and extent of juvenile offending, including data on antisocial behavior and arrest rates; and the structure, procedures, and activities of the juvenile justice system, including law enforcement agencies, courts, and corrections. The Report also offers the latest information on topics such as school crime, missing children, youth gangs, racial disparity in the juvenile justice system, reentry, and recidivism.

The print report is available free of charge through the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (www.puborder.ncjrs.gov). The expanded online version, which includes data points and PowerPoint slides for all graphs, can be accessed through OJJDP's Statistical Briefing Book.

Report Provides Snapshot of Mentoring in America

MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership has published "Mentoring in America 2005: A Snapshot of the Current State of Mentoring."

In 2002, MENTOR conducted a national poll that measured the attitudes, motivations, and behaviors of active and potential mentors. In 2005, working with a group of advisors led by Dr. Jean Rhodes, University of Massachusetts, Boston, and Dr. David DuBois, University of Illinois at Chicago, MENTOR conducted a second poll to assess the state of mentoring in America.

Among its key findings, detailed in the report, are the following:

- Since 2002, three million adults have formal, one-to-one mentoring relationships with young people, an increase of 19% from the first poll.
- The overwhelming majority (96%) of current mentors would recommend it to others.
- Some 44 million adults who are not currently mentoring a young person would seriously consider it.

Resources:

To access "Mentoring in America 2005," visit: www.mentoring.org/leaders/files/pollreport.pdf

Resources:

"OJJDP News @ a Glance," March/April 2006, is available online at:
www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojjdp/news_at_glance/213462/index.html

To subscribe to this online newsletter, visit the OJJDP Web site at ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice.

LOCAL RESOURCES

Article from the **Albuquerque Tribune**

Race Matters - Panel of youth mulls pregnancy, race, policy

By Megan Arredondo
Tribune Reporter
May 17, 2006

BY THE NUMBERS

Racial disparities among young people of color include:

- 55 percent of children in New Mexico's foster care system are Hispanic. The state's population of Hispanic children is 43 percent.
- Black children are 2 times more likely to enter foster care.
- Two-thirds of detainees in the nation's juvenile detention system are children of color.
- More than two-thirds of teens 13 to 19 diagnosed with AIDS are black and Hispanic.
- The teen birth rate is 2 to 3 times higher for black, American Indian and Hispanic youth than white youth.

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation

Andrea Garza was home schooled. When it came to sex education, she was taught that sex was something that was "sacred and special." She became pregnant at age 18. "It wasn't until then that I learned about comprehensive sex education," said Garza, now 22.

Garza was one of six young people who participated in a panel discussion about race and sexuality among youth at a conference Tuesday. The first of its kind in the state, the conference had about 300 participants discussing racial disparities in reproductive health care, juvenile justice and child welfare. Dubbed "Race Matters," the event was held at the University of New Mexico.

Garza moved to Albuquerque as a teen and now works with the non-profit organization Young Women United, based in Southeast Albuquerque. She said young women of color, particularly Hispanics, are at a crossroad when it comes to pregnancy. Abortion and contraception, she said, are often against the young girls' religious beliefs. Even if they wanted to pursue those options, they wouldn't know where to get information about it and they wouldn't have money, she added.

Sex isn't a topic among many Hispanic families, said 18-year-old Martin Martinez, another panelist in the sex education discussion. "In a Mexican family, it's usually about pride - getting your education and being a responsible person in society," said Martinez. "When you have to tell your parents you got your girlfriend pregnant, you feel like you're letting them down." Seven of his 10 male cousins are teen fathers, he said. They didn't know about contraceptives or where to get them, Martinez said, nor did they think they needed to. "When it comes to being sexually active, none of these things crossed their mind because they didn't think it could happen to them," he said.

A recent graduate of South Valley Academy, Martinez couldn't recall sex education during school. "It was taught, but it never went into detail," he said. Martinez works with the South Valley Male Involvement Project educating youth about sex education.

Kay Monaco wanted to host an event that would make people aware of the racial disparities among youth. She's the executive director of New Mexico Voices for Children - a nonprofit organization that works to improve the health and well-being of New Mexico's children, families and communities. That group sponsored Tuesday's conference with the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Monaco said the conference was "about policies, not individuals." Among other issues, the conference touched on:

- Why Hispanics tend to serve more time for lesser offenses than whites in the juvenile detention system.
- Why young Hispanic women have a higher birth rate than other racial groups.
- Why more blacks are involved in the child welfare system and tend to spend more time in foster care than other racial groups.

"The purpose is to look closely and decide if we don't want to be racist and we really care about the children, how do we develop policies that take race out of the equation?" she said. One policy that came up was "zero tolerance," which speakers said inadvertently targets races and often leads to racial profiling.

Donovan Abeita, an American Indian who attends RFK Charter School in Albuquerque, said he fell victim to this policy in middle school when he was caught with drug paraphernalia. He was taken to juvenile detention and put on probation, while other non-American Indian students who committed the same offense either before or after his incident were only suspended. "It's not right," said Abeita, 17.

Joby Wallace, who works with the city of Albuquerque's Office of African American Affairs, said more needs to be done to reach out to and educate communities. For example, she said, Hobbs has a large black population without access to health care. "A lot of them suffer from diabetes or drug problems," Wallace said. "There's also a high rate of pregnancy."

Wallace said no one is reaching out to the community and because of the black culture, the community won't seek out the information. "We need to hold people accountable and get the community involved," she said.

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Year of the Girl Events

On Monday June 12, KOAT TV7 aired a documentary about What Young Women Face in Today's World. The interactive documentary was created by Christopher Productions, LLC with input from dozens of girls throughout New Mexico, and was sponsored by the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women, NM Public Education Department, NM Department of Health, ValueOptions New Mexico and NM Children, Youth and Families Department. The documentary will be aired again on KRWG in Las Cruces in July, date TBA.

It addresses some of the issues young women face today such as teen pregnancy, substance abuse, body image, date violence and depression. A website is now up and ready to take girls responses to the videos about the five issues...just log on to <http://www.yearofthegirl.com/>, plus you can view the original videos from the high schools who created stories about these issues. Parts of those stories are in the documentary as well.

From New Mexico Voices for Children

A Veto Too Far?

Last year Alaska Senator Ted Stevens got a \$453 million slab of ham out of a highway funding bill, in part to build the now-infamous 'bridge to nowhere,' which connects an island of fewer than 50 people to the rest of civilization. Or as close as Alaska gets to civilization. Oklahoma Senator Tom Coburn thought that money might be better spent repairing Katrina-damaged Interstate 10. You remember I-10, the only road out of New Orleans when the 'big one' hits. When the Senate threatened to cut Stevens' pork project, Stevens threatened to resign. Sadly, neither happened.

But since then, the idea of giving the president a line-item veto has been a popular one. And it would be a good way to cut pork out of bloated budgets -- if it stopped there. Unfortunately, the line-item veto bill under consideration this week by the Senate Budget Committee (S. 2381), does that and a whole lot more. Too much more.

As written, S. 2381 would allow the president to veto funding from children's programs such as Head Start, childcare, or child-abuse prevention. He would also have the power to rewrite any improvements that Congress makes to entitlement programs (Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, etc.) that increase costs. And while the president would have the power to pick and choose where to use his veto pen, Congress would be limited to overriding the entire package of cuts -- not a specific veto or two.

It's an all-or-nothing approach that consolidates too much power within one branch of government. Fortunately for us New Mexicans we have an "in" with the Senate Budget Committee -- Senator Pete Domenici. Write or call the senator, tell him your concerns over such a broad bill, and ask that he recommend narrowing its scope to just so-called pork projects.

Email (via the website): domenici.senate.gov

Call: 202-224-6621

Write: The Honorable Senator Domenici, 328 Hart Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

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From the Albuquerque Community Foundation



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 2006

Contact: Nancy Johnson
Program Director
(505) 883-6240
njohnson@albuquerquefoundation.org

ALBUQUERQUE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR “GIRAFFE AWARD”

Albuquerque-Albuquerque Community Foundation is seeking nominations for the 3rd annual Linda Estes “Giraffe” Award. This \$1,250 cash award is given to someone who has taken personal or professional risks in order to stand up for his or her beliefs—someone who has found the courage to “stick their neck out” to make a difference. Last year’s Giraffe Award was given to Captain Marie Miranda of the Albuquerque Police Department.

A letter of nomination including contact information on both the nominee and nominator, (not to exceed two pages) must be postmarked by August 1, 2006 and mailed to: Linda Estes Giraffe Award, c/o Albuquerque Community Foundation, P.O. Box 36960, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87176. Self-submissions should also include a letter of recommendation from a third party.

The Giraffe Award Endowment Fund was established in honor of **Linda Estes**, former Associate Director of Athletics at the University of New Mexico. Linda stuck her neck out to champion women’s equality in athletics and other areas. Linda chaired the New Mexico Governor’s Commission on the Status of Women, which fought to enforce the equal opportunities for women and girls in athletics mandated by federal law under Title IX. She is credited with turning women’s athletics into the successful program that it is today.

Abuquerque Community Foundation is a nonprofit publicly supported philanthropic institution that manages a pool of permanent charitable funds used to benefit the community in grants to local organizations, educational institutions, and scholarships.

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 and Special Events

❖ **The New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative** is pleased to announce the

"Early Childhood Mental Health Services Summits: Best Practices & Community Based Systems of Care"

- Monday, June 26, San Juan College, Farmington, NM
- Wednesday, June 28, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM
- Friday, June 30, TVI Workforce Training Center, Albuquerque, NM from 8:30- 4:00 p.m.

What is in it for your community? Come find out! Featured Early Childhood Mental Health national and local experts and topics include:

1. Behavioral Health Systems Changes in NM: Jack Callaghan, CYFD
2. National Systems of Care in Early Childhood Mental Health: Neal Horen, Georgetown University
3. Best Practices in State Implementation Models: Mary Claire Heffron, Oakland Children's Hospital
4. The Vision for New Mexico: Steve Johnson, Behavioral Health Planning Council Children's Sub-committee and All Faith's Receiving Home
5. Ideas & Next Steps: The Public Asks the Experts
6. Featured Best Practice in NM, Deborah Harris, Las Cumbres Early Childhood Mental Health Institute & NM Association for Infant Mental Health
7. The Vision for NM: ValueOptions Role in Behavioral Health, Chris Carson, ValueOptions

The Summits are free, CEU's and refreshments will be provided and you can enter to win a \$200.00 gift card from Southwest Airlines.

Please RSVP to: Regina Dickens at: solutions4teams@msn.com and in the subject line enter either: Farmington, Las Cruces or Albuquerque Summit or phone (505) 858-3372

From your email or call you will receive a confirmation of your RSVP, a detailed agenda, directions and presenter's bios.

We look forward to seeing you there!

With all that is going on in June, why should you try to attend a Summit? New Mexico has received funding to "transform" its behavioral health system. One of the first steps being taken

in this transformation is to try to better address the behavioral health needs of young children (birth to 5) and their families. YOU have important knowledge, expertise and experience to share in this effort! It truly does take a village to support families to raise healthy children.

If you are able to attend a summit this summer, you'll have the opportunity to learn about New Mexico's early childhood mental health efforts as well as successful models from around the country. Even more importantly, you will have the opportunity to begin thinking and speaking on behalf of your community about how to better meet the behavioral health needs of the children and families you care so much about.

It often feels as if we have an "ocean" of early childhood mental health needs in our state and yet only a few drops of service to meet the needs. You KNOW the families with young children in your community and understand their needs. Early childhood behavioral health transformation needs that knowledge and understanding. Please come to share in this effort if you possibly can!

❖ **The New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition (NMSPC) sponsored by DOH Office of School Health** held a two day workshop: Suicide Prevention: Community Core Competencies Course Offered by The SPRC-Suicide Prevention Resource Center on June 8 & 9, 2006 in Albuquerque.

The New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition is dedicated to reducing the incidence of suicide in New Mexico. In this effort, we brought together people from around the state to discuss ways to put an end to these tragic losses of life. Northern New Mexico community members who are concerned about the problem of suicide in the region had an opportunity to discuss the needs of their communities and explore solutions; share their strengths and insight; and help the NMSPC work on setting goals and objectives for the coming years. For more information:

Call the NMSPC at 505-401-9382
Email: suzanne@nmsuicideprevention.org

Or:
NMSPC
PO Box 3631
Albuquerque, NM 87190
Fax 505-888-5978

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

The New Mexico Young Fathers Project is collaborating with the Bernalillo County Community Health Council in a media campaign to help convey the challenges and successes young father participants enjoy in their role as parents. Several participants were filmed two weeks ago, some of them holding and talking to their children. Although they have striven to become better parents than they had in many instances, they were keenly aware of the consequences attached to risky behavior such as having unprotected sex. They were philosophical as they recounted the changes they experienced from the shock of finding they were expectant fathers to the bliss of watching a new life come into the world to wrestling with bills and massive

responsibilities. The conclusion they reached may evolve into a tag line for the TV and radio spots which should air in the next few weeks was basically as follows "Here's the truth, ready for the consequences?"

The New Mexico Young Fathers Project continues to provide needed information and services to young men age 26 and younger in several cities across New Mexico including Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Springer, Las Cruces and Anthony. The project works with approximately 120 young men per month providing case management and group services.

For information on the Young Fathers' Project please call:

Carl W. Dellinger
Project Director
(505) 254-8737
Fax (505) 254-8741

Danny Marquez
Albuquerque Case Manager
(505) 254-8737
(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

Gilbert Ramirez
Clinical Oversight
(505) 254-8737

Larry Maxey
Therapeutic Visitation Program
(505) 489-3034

Dave Breault, LISW
Clinical Oversight
(505) 266-6334

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

Saludes!

As another fiscal year comes to a close, I have paused to reflect on the accomplishments of our Coalition

Challenge 2005 came to a close. 14 Counties achieved a 20% reduction in teen births over a period of five years. We applaud and honor their accomplishments. Stay tuned for research and promotion of the interventions implemented to accomplish reductions. Our hope of course is to replicate these models in other counties in our fine State! The New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition and the New Mexico Department of Health, Family Planning Program has issued a new challenge for the State of New Mexico. Challenge 2010 is to reduce teen births in New Mexico by 15% from 2006-2010.

Our New Mexico Young Fathers Project is thriving and continues to promote valuable services to an underserved population. Thanks to the incredible staff of our project and to the Children,

Youth and Families Department, Teen Parent Services for the vital funding. We look forward to serving more young fathers in need in 2007 and to promote the development of policies in our State to better support young fathers.

The exciting addition of Plain Talk in the Albuquerque South Valley is unprecedented in our State. Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Public Private Ventures, the New Mexico Department of Health, Family Planning Program, Health Promotion Program, School Health Unit, and the New Mexico Department of Human Services, Medical Assistance Division.

Plain Talk is a primary intervention program as a neighborhood-based initiative targeted at helping adults, parents, and community leaders develop the skills and tools they need to communicate effectively with young people about reducing adolescent sexual risk-taking.

Veronica Plaza, MD, MPH District 1 - Public Health Division, with the New Mexico Department of Health, is serving as the project Director and we are thrilled to have Kelly Garrido, serving as the Project Coordinator. To reach Veronica or Kelly for further information call 505-873-7448 or by email at: hablando_claro_sv@hotmail.com or Veronica.Plaza@state.nm.us

In collaboration with the New Mexico Coalition to Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education, NMTPC has received funding from the Ms. Foundation. Look for the development of this project in the coming year. Muchimas Gracias goes out to the Ms. Foundation for targeting New Mexico and joining us to reduce teen births!

My position as Chair of the Bernalillo County Community Health Council is coming to a close. The Bernalillo County Community Health Council is staffed by Leigh Mason, who is Coordinator and oversight is provided by Kitty Richards, Program Manager for the Education, Epidemiology, and Evaluation team of the Bernalillo County Office of Environmental Health.

The Council this past year has accomplished a great deal! Four quadrant councils are funded in Bernalillo County to support our priorities, teen pregnancy and access to health care. Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless, Young Women United, Southwest Improvement Council and the Community Coalition to for Health Access have made inevitable strides this past year! Kudos to the Council for serving as the catalyst. I will continue to be involved as a council member and look forward to another exciting year. For more information on the Bernalillo County Community Health Council call Leigh Mason at 505-314-0319 or visit the Council website at www.berncohealthcouncil.org

The Local Behavioral Health Collaborative continues to thrive and advocate for substantially increasing funding for voluntary quality client central non-residential services. For more info on the Collaborative go to www.state.nm.us/hsd/bhdwg/ or contact our co-chair, Sarah Couch by email: crabbiecake@hotmail.com or Peter Cubra, member – pcubra@earthlink.net or Gay Finlayson, member – gfinlayson@salud.unm.edu.

Thank you for all of your successful, hard work on behalf of NM teens, and especially for your continued support.

Sylvia Ruiz
Executive Director
New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition
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Mil Gracias

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