

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

May 2005

Welcome to the May 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.

The NM Teen Pregnancy Coalition Encouraging Teens to Stop, Think, and Take Action

The New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition has joined the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy for the **National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy**. On May 4, 2005 teens will be asked to stop, think, and take action by taking the National Day quiz.

New Mexico teens are invited to join teens around the country in taking a fun, interactive, confidential, online "quiz" that can be accessed at www.teenpregnancy.org. Unlike most quizzes teens have to take, this one includes a series of scenarios and storylines that will prompt teens to decide how they would act in risky situations involving relationships and sex. The message is simple: teens need to think about the importance of postponing pregnancy and parenthood until they are adults, and they should make a personal commitment to do so.

Why a National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy? Despite recent declines in the teen pregnancy rates, four out of ten teen girls get pregnant at least once by age twenty. Many teens still think "it can't happen to me." The National Day quiz provides a concrete activity to help break through this wall of denial and help young people understand that it *can* happen to them.

New Mexico has the 3rd highest teen birth rate in the nation. Over 4,500 New Mexico teens gave birth in 2002. Approximately 1/3 of all NM families begin with a birth to a teen parent. Babies born to teen mothers are more likely to:

- have health and developmental problems
- be physically abused, abandoned, or neglected
- have problems in school
- live in poverty
- sons are more likely to do time in jail and daughters are more likely to become teen mothers

The National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is being supported by more than 140 prominent national organizations, media outlets, businesses, associations, and youth groups. This diverse list includes founding partners *Teen People* magazine and Teen People Online, in addition to the American Medical Association, National Educational Association, American School Health Association, National League of Cities, the National Council of La Raza, March of Dimes, the National Fatherhood Initiative, Procter & Gamble, and the WB Network – to name just a few.

For more information about the New Mexico National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, contact the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition at 254-8737 or www.nmtpc.org

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NATIONAL RESOURCES

1. New from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

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A. National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Reminder: The National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is May 4, 2005. To view or take the online quiz and to download the quiz discussion guide for both teens and parents, please go to www.teenpregnancy.org.

The National Campaign encourages you to email a brief update (one – two sentences) on your plans for the National Day to sla@teenpregnancy.org. We would like to capture all the creative and exciting activities conducted across the country.

Update:

Thanks to the hard work of our National Day partners, state and local community groups, committed individuals, and teens themselves, we are happy to report that over 250,000 have already taken the 2005 National Day Quiz. We are pleased with the response so far and thank you for your efforts in making the National Day a success.

As a reminder, the National Day Quiz remains up and operational for the entire month of May. Please continue your efforts and encourage teens to take the online quiz at www.teenpregnancy.org/national/ between now and the end of the month.

Thanks again from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

A List of Story Ideas for the National Day 2005

www.teenpregnancy.org/national/pdf/2005/storyideas.pdf

A List of What Teens Can Do to Support the Day:

www.teenpregnancy.org/national/pdf/WhatTeensCanDo.pdf

B. National Campaign's Youth Leadership Team

The National Campaign is pleased to announce the 2005-2006 class of the Youth Leadership Team (YLT). Comprised of outstanding young people from around the country and nominated by organizations nationwide, the YLT advises the National Campaign on many aspects of our work and gives voice to the unique perspectives of teens. We are proud to welcome the following members to our fifth YLT. For more about the YLT, please go to

www.teenpregnancy.org/about/staff/taskforces/youth/default.asp

2. New from Advocates for Youth

- A. Take Positive Action for Responsible Television
- B. From Research to Practice: Parent-Child Communication
- C. Are You An Askable Parent?
- D. Cyber Cafes, A How-to Manual: Including Designing a Web Site and Implementing an Online Peer Education Program
- E. Job Opening at Advocates for Youth: Program Associate, GLBT Initiatives

A. Take Positive Action for Responsible Television

Applaud 8 Simple Rules and The Bernie Mac Show for Their Honest, Accurate Depictions of Adolescent Sexual Health on TV

Take P.A.R.T. (Positive Action for Responsible Television) provides you, an important member of the television viewing audience, with an opportunity to let broadcasters and the FCC know that you applaud their efforts to depict adolescent sexual health in an honest, accurate, and responsible manner.

Take P.A.R.T. offers positive reinforcement to the creative industry and gives a voice to a community that understands the power of entertainment and its effects on the social attitudes and behaviors of young people.

The Take P.A.R.T. action alert for April 2005 recognizes **8 Simple Rules** and **The Bernie Mac Show** for their honest, accurate depictions of adolescent sexual health on TV. Write to the broadcasters and the FCC to express your support of their programming.

8 Simple Rules' "The After Party" showed the power of straight youth to offer compassion and raise awareness of gay and lesbian youth. To send a letter in support of 8 Simple Rules to ABC and the FCC, visit <http://capwiz.com/advofy/issues/alert/?alertid=7432776>

The Bernie Mac Show's "Manchild in Vanessaland" showed the power of an adult's talking about dating, personal responsibility, and values with a teen he cares about. Let the broadcasters and the FCC know you support The Bernie Mac Show. To send a letter in support of The Bernie Mac Show to Fox and the FCC, visit <http://capwiz.com/advofy/issues/alert/?alertid=7432556>

B. From Research to Practice: Parent-Child Communication

From Research to Practice is Advocates' easy-to-read series that shows how to translate research into practical, science-based practices to prevent teen pregnancy, HIV, and other sexually transmitted infections. Two updated briefs are now available in this series. Resources for Families on Parent-Child Communication - provides a selected list of resources and materials to help parents begin talking with their children about sex. Resources are arranged under: 1) Web sites for parents, 2) Web sites for young people, 3) books and videos, and 4) organizations. Online at www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/frtp/resources.htm

C. Are You an Askable Parent? Discusses what it means to be an askable parent as well as provides tips for parents in talking with young people, with young children, and with teens about sexuality. Online at www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/frtp/askable.htm

D. Cyber Cafes, A How-to Manual: Including Designing a Web Site and Implementing an Online Peer Education Program

This guidebook is divided into nine easy-to-read chapters. The chapters build so that those readers who feel less able to use a computer can increase their base of knowledge as they read each chapter. The guidebook describes: the benefits of a cyber cafe and its potential for a positive impact on the lives of young people and adults; the steps in setting up and operating a cyber cafe; the basics of computers and computer networks; the basics of the Internet; the basics of designing a Web site; online peer education as a key to providing youth-friendly information and support via the Internet; and the importance of including opportunities for youth to learn and practice job related computer skills. Available online in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Online at www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/cybercafe.htm

E. Job Opening at Advocates for Youth: Program Associate, GLBT Initiatives

Advocates for Youth works to provide sexual health information and to reduce isolation among lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) young people. Advocates for Youth conducts an online intervention by and for GLBT youth, produces information and materials for youth service providers, conducts trainings and workshops around GLBT sensitivity issues; and develops advocacy campaigns which are inclusive of GLBT youth issues.

Advocates for Youth seeks a Program Associate for GLBT Initiatives to expand and deepen Advocates' work on GLBT youth issues and sexual health. Activities will include expanding, developing, and maintaining internet interventions for GLBT youth and youth service providers; developing material for the online interventions; recruiting, training, and supervising online peer educators; assisting with an electronic youth activist campaign around GLBT advocacy issues; and conducting workshops and trainings for local, regional and national audiences.

For more information, visit www.advocatesforyouth.org/about/employment.htm#glbt

3. New from Center for Law and Social Policy

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) held an Audio Conference: May 6, 2005, 12:30-1:30 ET

"Connecting Disconnected Youth and Disconnected Systems: Innovative Community Approaches"

Through Youth Opportunity Grants (YOG) and other programs, communities are connecting systems and blending resources to address the needs of youth in some of the most distressed neighborhoods. What ways have YOG communities broken down system silos to improve services for disconnected youth?

What do youth say are their priority concerns? Can comprehensive services be delivered in an era of dwindling social service dollars? The guest host for this audio conference was Linda Harris, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Law and Social Policy. Guests included: Clyde McQueen, President, Full Employment Council, Kansas City, Missouri; Toyce Newton, Executive Director, Phoenix Youth and Family Services, Inc.; and Conny Doty, President, Boston Jobs and Community Services.

For more information on this audio conference, please go to: www.clasp.org/confdescriptions.php#16

4. New from the Iowa FutureNet

It's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month!

Three Great Resources Available!

NUMBER ONE! A new FutureNet news release is focusing on the connection between prom and teen pregnancy AND recent data from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy that shows fewer Iowa teens are in poverty today because of the reduction in teen births and pregnancies. To download or share a copy of this news release click here or cut and paste this address in your browser: www.iowafuturenet.org/Poverty%20Rates%20Decline%20in%20Iowa%20Youth.pdf

NUMBER TWO! Advocates For Youth has a planning guidebook available for National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Download a PDF copy by clicking here or cut and paste this address into your browser: www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/ntppm.htm

NUMBER THREE! The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is back with its annual teen pregnancy quiz. To take the quiz yourself, [click here](#). You can also download and print copies to share with youth in both English and Spanish. If you can't link to the National Campaign website on these links, copy and paste this address into your browser: www.teenpregnancy.org.

Recent News

New Information on How Emergency Contraception Works: Disrupts Ovulation, Not Fertilized Egg Implantation - Download article as a PDF file here: www.popcouncil.org/pdfs/popbriefs/pbmay05.pdf

5. Announcement

Funding Opportunity from the Administration for Children and Families: Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) Targeted Capacity Building Program

Application is due May 31, 2005

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS) will award funds to help build the capacity of Faith-based and community organizations that address the needs of distressed communities. A "distressed community" is defined as a neighborhood or geographic

community with an unemployment rate and/or poverty rate equal to or greater than the state or national rate. Priority areas of need include at-risk youth; the homeless; marriage education and preparation services to help couples who choose marriage for themselves develop the skills and knowledge to form and sustain healthy marriages; or social services to those living in rural communities.

For more information, please go to www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2005-ACF-OCS-IJ-0036.html.

"A Look at Immigrant Youth: Prospects and Promising Practices" from the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL)

With over one million arrivals per year, immigrant students are entering public schools in record numbers. This paper explores promising practices for serving this population including teen pregnancy prevention programs.

To view the paper, please go to www.ncsl.org/programs/health/forum/CPIimmigrantyouth.htm

NOTICE

Santa Fe Community Foundation is calling for nominations for the 2005 Piñon Awards.

For 18 years, the Piñon Awards have been a symbol of excellence because of the exceptional quality, creativity, and professionalism of the recipient organizations. A total of 97 awards have been made to extraordinary nonprofit organizations or programs since the awards were established in 1987, and many other equally worthy groups have been nominated.

We invite you to take part in the 19th annual Piñon Awards process by nominating an organization for consideration this year. You may nominate your own nonprofit or another. Past recipients of our prestigious Piñon Award are also encouraged to nominate a deserving organization. Guidelines and a nomination form, as well as a list of previous awardees, are attached. The deadline for receipt of nominations is 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 10, 2005.

This year's ceremony will take place at 6 pm, Thursday, October 6, 2005, at The Lensic, Santa Fe's Performing Arts Center with video tributes and cash awards to the five exceptional Piñon Award recipients. A reception will follow at the Eldorado Hotel. As always, both events are free and open to the public.

The Piñon Award is the only honor reserved exclusively for nonprofit organizations. We encourage you to take this opportunity to nominate one of the hundreds of extraordinary groups that make our region such a special place to live and work.

For more information, an application or the list of prior Piñon Awards, email droybal@santafecf.org or phone (505) 988-9715, ext. 2.

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

RACIAL AND ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES

What are the root causes? How can communities address historical and institutional inequality? What do race, ethnicity, and racism have to do with health?

Training Sponsored by: Anti-Racism Training Institute of the SW, Institute of Public Law – UNM School of Law & Catholic Health Initiatives St. Joseph Community Health

When? June 4 & 5, 2005 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM

**Where? THE NEWHEART CENTER
601 Lomas NE Albuquerque**

Undoing Racism - Presented by the People's Institute for Survival & Beyond

This internationally recognized training is for health care providers, advocates, and community members interested in eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities. Participants will develop a foundation for understanding relationships between race, ethnicity, racism, and health in order to design effective strategies for community wellness. Topics include the impact of institutionalized inequality on community health; the dynamics of internalized racism; gatekeeping and accountability; institutional culture; and the history of the political and social construction of race in the United States and New Mexico.

Faculty: Ron Chisom, Executive Director and Co-founder of the People's Institute, has been a community organizer for over thirty years. When Ron was a researcher at Louisiana State University Medical School he worked with heroin addicts who wanted help, but were afraid to turn to existing health care providers and social services. Starting with neighborhood clean-up campaigns, Ron mobilized the community against the conditions that encourage addiction and violence. Today he leads a national organization with over twenty trainers and community organizers that conduct workshops from coast-to-coast and internationally.

Diana Dunn has been a core trainer with the People's Institute since its inception in 1980. Prior to joining the Institute, Diana taught clinical microbiology and immunology at Wright University School of Medicine where she developed an innovative interdisciplinary program for medical technology students.

To Register: Email, fax, or mail the following information: Name, Address, Phone and Organization to: Vicki Plevin, IPL, 1117 Stanford NE , Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131. Phone: 505-277-8771; fax 27705483; Email: plevinvi@unm.edu.

Fee: \$50.00.

Scholarships provided through the generous support of St. Joseph Community Health for people who cannot afford the registration fee.

If you are able to pay the registration fee, please make the checks payable to: New Mexico Council of Churches

SHINING STARS

The New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition has been providing support services to pregnant and parenting teens since its inception in 1989. Scholarships have been given to teen parents to help them continue their education since the early 1990s. Each month one or two teens will be spotlighted as ***Shining Stars*** who have made the most of opportunities made available to them.

This month's Shining Stars are the recipients of the NMTPC \$500 Scholarships awarded to NM teens who are graduating from NM high schools, have been accepted at post secondary schools, and submitted applications to NMTPC. This year, we received thirty-two applications from both Categories 1 (pregnant and parenting teens) and Category II (teens who have been active in pregnancy prevention activities). All of the applicants are successful teens and deserve congratulations on their achievements.

2005 Scholarship Winners – all from Category I (Pregnant or Parenting)

Sarah Nazorek
Rio Rancho High School

Vanessa Michelle Anaya
New Futures High School

Maria Campos
Highland High School

Lorene Wright
Rio Rancho High School

The winners of the 2005 Art and Video Contest are also May Shining Stars. For more information or view the winning entries, go to www.nmtpc.org

Art Winners - \$100 prize to the student

Moises Cordova
West Mesa HS
Age: 14 Grade: 9
Slogan: Same Night, Same Age, Different Choices!

Mauro Raul Chico
Gadsden HS
Age: 18 Grade: 11
Slogan: Some Stains Are Permanent

Abraham Mendoza
West Mesa HS
Age: 17 Grade: 11
Slogan: Waiting is NOT in Vain to Avoid the Drama and Pain

Video Winner - \$500 prize to sponsoring organization

West Mesa Health Education Department
Attn: Ron Meurer
Albuquerque, NM
"Secrets"

Message from the New Mexico Young Fathers' Project

The New Mexico Young Fathers Project is participating in the upcoming 3rd Annual Embracing Fatherhood Conference to be held at the Albuquerque Marriot Uptown on Thursday, May 19th, 2005 from 8 am to 4 pm. We will be presenting a panel on the "Challenges of Young Fathers" staffed by two young fathers: Ray Garcia Salas and Hiram Tizol, David Breatt, L.I.S.W. of the Father and Family Center and Carl Dellinger M.A., NMYFP Director. Hiram will also be part of a luncheon panel.

For further information on this conference please visit the web site at www.embracingfatherhoodinstitute.org or contact the following conference coordinator at:

New Mexico PTA	Phone: 505-881-0712
3315 Louisiana Blvd. NE	Fax: 505-884-0793
Albuquerque, NM 87110	Email: nmpta@aol.com

RESOURCE: Check out the National Center for Fathering -- fathers.com website!
FYI- Info under what's new and Hall of Fame
Please visit National Center for Fathering -- fathers.com today!
If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:
<http://support.fathers.com/>

If you know of a young father who needs assistance with paternity issues, wants to learn to be a good father, or needs to talk to other young fathers for mutual support, please call Carl Dellinger, the YFP manager, at the main number in Albuquerque at the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition (505) 254-8737 or go to the New Mexico Young Fathers Project web page – www.youngfathers.org.

Services are being provided in the following cities: Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Springer, Las Cruces, Gadsden, and Silver City. Both individual and group services are available on a weekly basis to clients with an emphasis on helping these young men gain the tools to be responsible, dependable, competent fathers. For more information or the location nearest you, please call Carl.

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

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

Honoring May as National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, the NM Teen Pregnancy Coalition and the NM Department of Health, Family Planning Program held a press conference to update the state on the status of teen pregnancy in New Mexico. This year's event was held at the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce on May 6, 2005 from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. The final information on which counties are on target to meet the Challenge 2005 goal of reducing teen pregnancy by 20% in their county was presented. Attorney General Patricia Madrid, and Cabinet Secretaries Michelle Lujan Grisham of the Department of Health, and Dr. Veronica Garcia of the Public Education Department, spoke to the representatives of programs statewide which address teen pregnancy prevention in New Mexico, and representatives of the fourteen counties being acknowledged for achieving a 20% reduction in teen pregnancy in response to Challenge 2005.

The fourteen counties meeting the Challenge 2005 goal of reducing teen pregnancy by 20% are: Catron, Chaves, Colfax, Eddy, Grant, Guadalupe, Los Alamos, Luna, Quay, San Miguel, Sierra, Socorro, Torrance and Union. Congratulations to these counties for all of the hard work over the last five years to achieve this goal.

Seven additional counties achieved a 10% or better reduction in teen pregnancy. These counties are: Cibola, Lea, Lincoln, McKinley, Otero, San Juan, and Santa Fe.

Now is not the time to lose interest in further reducing teen pregnancy. Policymakers, community leaders, parents, and youth need to continue to work together to provide our youth the opportunity to reach their full potential.

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

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