

# **NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION**

## **NEWS FLASH**

**May 2009**

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.

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## **MESSAGE FROM SYLVIA RUIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

NMTPC would like to thank all of you who attended this year's Conference. I hope the information offered will be of value to you as you serve New Mexico teens and their families over the next year. It is always good to hear other perspectives and learn about some of the latest initiatives to help hone our skills and increase the weapons in our arsenals in dealing with the myriad of problems faced by youth and families in New Mexico.

It is also good to see all of you and have an opportunity to share some of our successes with each other. Thanks to all of you for the work you do and your support services to teens and families in New Mexico.

The preliminary teen birth rates are in and New Mexico's rates are down slightly, but this is not the time to be complacent. We should continue the efforts which have contributed to the decrease. We know what works and must continue and expand on the current efforts. We must continue to fund prevention programs, and expand the current efforts. If we don't, our children and communities will continue to pay a huge price

Hasta Luego,

Sylvia Ruiz

Executive Director

New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition

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## **[1. New from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancies](#)**

### **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program Budgets - Fact sheet now available**

In late 2008, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy informally surveyed state and local program leaders to determine whether funding for teen pregnancy prevention had increased or decreased. We received responses from 20 states and several communities. Fully half of the responding states reported cuts from both public and private funding sources. Other programs received flat funding year after year, even though program costs have risen with inflation.

Read the entire fact sheet at

[http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/Briefly\\_TPPP\\_Budgets.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/pdf/Briefly_TPPP_Budgets.pdf). Also, please feel free to be in touch with us about developments in your state and community programs; we realize this fact sheet is not an exhaustive list and will do our best to include information about your efforts in future materials.

### **Virginia Department of Health's Partners in Prevention Program: Ball Talk in Fredericksburg**

The Virginia Department of Health's Partners in Prevention program focuses on unplanned pregnancy prevention among 20-29 year-olds. This builds on an ongoing effort in the state to reduce non-marital births by funding ten local grantees who are reaching out to individuals through community colleges and vocational schools, parole and probation offices, subsidized housing, and family planning clinics. Two of the sites currently funded reach large numbers of young men through basketball leagues. As a condition of participating, the men must complete an educational session on family planning, healthy relationships, and male-responsibility before the games begin.

You can view highlights from the recent matchup between the teams from the Bragg Hill Family Life Center and the Twin County Prevention Coalition and learn more about the

Partners in Prevention Program on the Campaign's YouTube page:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeeqUHbXPhY&feature=channel\\_page](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeeqUHbXPhY&feature=channel_page)

### **Call for Nominations: National Campaign Youth Leadership Team**

The National Campaign is now accepting applications for the 2009-2010 Youth Leadership Team (YLT). Applications must be submitted by June 22, 2009. Download the YLT application packet at <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/about-us/PDF/YLT-application-packet.pdf>.

The YLT is a select group of 14- to 17-year-olds from across the nation who work with The National Campaign in a variety of ways. In the past, YLT members have:

- \* had their opinions published in publications which reach thousands of other teens and adults each year;
- \* served as teen spokespeople for media and press outlets such as USA Today, The New York Times, MTV, and The Washington Post;
- \* visited Capitol Hill and met with their Senators and Representatives to talk about teen pregnancy prevention; and
- \* developed creative teen pregnancy prevention projects in their own communities.

YLT members must be:

- \* 14-17 years of age as of June 22, 2009;
- \* committed to working in their community to prevent teen pregnancy during and between YLT meetings;
- \* able to travel at least two times over an 18-month period to attend YLT meetings in Washington, DC and other Campaign-sponsored events;
- \* interested in talking to local and national media about the role of teens in teen pregnancy prevention; and
- \* willing to work respectfully with others.

We invite you to nominate any teens who you believe would make a positive contribution to our work. This is a unique, fun, and valuable learning experience, as well as an impressive addition to a college resume. Feel free to nominate teens directly or to forward our [YLT Application Packet](#) to an organization or individual that might want to nominate a teen.

### **New Polling Data on Latino Teens Now Available**

Latino teens cite their parents more than any other source when asked who most influences their decisions about sex. These and other findings are in a new survey commissioned by The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and the National Council of La Raza (NCLR).

\* Download the Full Report  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=xVaVL3PDpgp5emMc5BYqAA..>

\* Download the Press Release  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=JQuUDXwRNFFYdyLxjMEn7w..>

\* Download a 1-Pager on the Report  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=hnMHI0oTpO-jyirARDHg5g..>

\* Get more demographic info from the survey

[http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=XStPsVdkGHmW\\_IIBglusNg..](http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=XStPsVdkGHmW_IIBglusNg..)

\* Get data on Latino teen sexual activity, contraceptive use, pregnancy, and childbearing

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=bCf2w0WFGjUX4pY3q1zwhQ..>

Visit the Latino Initiative webpage for more.

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=owffBLE3miSwv9IAvYGWjA>

### **An Announcement from the Latino Initiative**

The Latino Leaders Network Issue Hour was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 from 10-11 A.M. in Room 202-203 of the U.S. Capitol Visitors Center on the Hill. There was a panel discussion with issue experts on “Teen Pregnancy in the Latino Community.”

The Issue Hour planned to highlight a new poll commissioned by The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) that examines differences and similarities among key subgroups within the Latino community about teen pregnancy.

To view an at-a-glance summary of the key results from the survey, please click [HERE](#).

The discussion was moderated by Mickey Ibarra, founder of the Latino Leaders Network and included the following speakers:

- The Honorable Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator, New Jersey (invited),
- The Honorable Ben Luján, U.S. Congressman, New Mexico's 3rd District,
- The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard, U.S. Congresswoman, California's 34th District,
- The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez, U.S. Congresswoman, New York's 12th District,
- The Honorable Ana Sol Gutierrez, State Delegate, Maryland's 18th District,
- Maria Rosa, DrPH, PhD, National Council of La Raza, Vice President, Institute for Hispanic Health,
- Alma Morales Riojas, President/CEO, MANA, A National Latina Organization, and
- Ruthie Flores, Senior Manager, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

### **Budget Update**

Earlier this month, President Obama released his budget for FY 2010. Proposed measures include a total of \$178 million for teen pregnancy prevention. This includes competitive grants for evidence-based programs, research and evaluation, and an authorization for \$50 million in new mandatory teen pregnancy prevention grants to states, tribes, and territories. More information on the President's budget can be found here including:

\* Statement from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=Bmc2rDm2MgoeSpEBzPtoDg..>

\* Teen Pregnancy Prevention in the President's FY 2010 Budget.

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=OqfCzORO640IM9P8T3CltQ..>

\* The HHS Budget in Brief provides an overview of the HHS budget and how the budget supports the major initiatives of the Department.  
[http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=nx-MqAmsPgKwomQQEpG\\_Ig..](http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=nx-MqAmsPgKwomQQEpG_Ig..)

\* Relevant text from the President's budget and the budget appendix (see pages 490-491).  
[http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=AqI7\\_rqBYC6NISNhDdUfG..](http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=AqI7_rqBYC6NISNhDdUfG..)

\* Relevant text from the Congressional Justification for U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (see pages 94-95). Full ACF language can be found here.  
[http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=6gWRitrLKdFu5c\\_xWeyEyg..](http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=6gWRitrLKdFu5c_xWeyEyg..)  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=uHaBwsaG-mtUBpXKPrjleg..>

\* Summary of teen and unplanned pregnancy prevention-related funding.  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=Ys2OYG2I00YcJftRimA4Mg..>

Visit the Policymakers webpage for more.  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=COL17RKHEeKNjXwZKIOxkA..>

### **MTV's 16 & Pregnant - Don't Miss MTV's "16 & Pregnant" Premiere**

MTV's new documentary series "16 & Pregnant" debuts next month. It provides an unforgettable, intimate, and realistic look at teen pregnancy and parenthood. In collaboration with The National Campaign, MTV will provide discussion guides and other online resources to enhance the viewer experience and maximize educational opportunities. Copies of the series will also be made available to programs, practitioners, classrooms and other groups who want to use it to spark discussions about teen pregnancy. Stay tuned to The National Campaign's website for more information and tune in to MTV Thursday June 11 at 10pm ET/PT.

Read MTV's "16 & Pregnant" press release.  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=ck6bC4joBoM3HjcYWNbW5A..>

### **The 5% Solution**

The National Campaign recently hosted a summit that explored ways to reverse the rise in the teen birth rate. Video from the event --- that included state and local experts, leaders in digital media, talk show host Maury Povich, actress Kristen Alderson and others ◆C is now available on the Campaign's website.  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=2OKBp6Fj37rAB1aBGf30yg..>

Read a brief exploring why the teen birth rate is increasing.  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=8wLcAtBe5yUJ6fLdQTjDTA..>

### **Withdrawal Method?**

The June issue of Contraception includes a commentary from Rachel Jones of the Guttmacher Institute on withdrawal as a method of contraception. In the article Jones notes: "Withdrawal is sometimes referred to as the contraceptive method that is 'better than nothing.' But, based on the evidence, it might more aptly be referred to as a method that is almost as effective as the male condom—at least when it comes to pregnancy prevention." <http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=10PwKBe-OHTIMWY1JsFjSg..>

### **The National Day is a Success!**

The eighth annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy took place on May 6, 2009. Thanks to the hard work of National Day partners, state and local community groups, committed individuals, and teens themselves, we are happy to report that teen nationwide are getting the message about teen pregnancy prevention. We are thrilled with the response so far and thank you for your efforts in making the National Day a success.

Some highlights from this year's event:

\* After just eighteen days, more than 300,000 teens have already participated in online National Day activities, including the National Day Quiz and the Relationship Reality Pop Quiz Contest.

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=R2ZLv0rzAx4kjQAWteGqA..>

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=IG82YOGvaStsKezo6YB4Ng..>

\* Teens from every state and the District of Columbia have taken the quiz and added the Relationship Reality Pop Quiz Contest widget to their personal online profiles and websites.

\* According to Nielsen BuzzMetrics, which scours Twitter, Facebook, MySpace and dozens of other websites to quantify our nation's current online fixations, the National Day was the third most buzzed about topic online on May 7th.

\* President Barack Obama spoke out with a message about the National Day. Read his message and learn about other National Campaign policy activities here.

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=fQsrI3WnJpsUBusGZqJL1w..>

\* More than 200 national partners -- media outlets, health sector leaders, education leaders, businesses, youth-serving groups, groups representing elected officials, fatherhood and male involvement groups, faith-based groups, and other prominent national organizations -- promoted the National Day to their members, affiliates, customers, audiences, and contacts in ways the National Campaign could never have afforded or accomplished on its own. See our complete National Day partner list here.

<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=FHMuL6O4cmtqGMB8oUgstg..>

\* A diverse group of media partners -- including FOX Broadcasting Co., NBC, Maury, Seventeen, The N, CWTV.com, and more -- supported the National Day. Learn more about our National Day media partnerships.

[http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=TpepIL-8LP8RTyIbFXI\\_Kg..](http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=TpepIL-8LP8RTyIbFXI_Kg..)

Remember, the National Day Quiz will be online throughout May, so it's not too late to help spread the word about the National Day Quiz. Need some ideas? Check out our Tips for

Getting Involved. For more information, visit the National Day section of our website.  
<http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=SUKozF0jS2inDovxr64Axw..>  
[http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=BGdG\\_cvDZaoHp4KuBZYgDg..](http://store.thenationalcampaign.org/site/R?i=BGdG_cvDZaoHp4KuBZYgDg..)

## **FY2010 Budget Proposals for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative**

As we noted in this space yesterday, the Obama-Biden Administration has now released its FY2010 budget. The budget proposes a new Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative. Specifically, the budget provides a total of \$178 million in funds for teen pregnancy prevention programs.

According to a Budget Overview from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), “funds will support State, Tribal, Territory, and community-based efforts to reduce teen pregnancy using evidence-based models as well as promising programs that require further evaluation.” At the same time, the budget eliminates funding for Community-Based Abstinence Education (which was funded at \$90 million in FY 2009) and the Mandatory Title V Abstinence Education grants to states, which has been funded at \$50 million annually, but is set to expire June 30, 2009.

The National Campaign has prepared a synthesis of key points from several different budget documents to provide the fullest possible picture of the Administration’s proposal regarding teen pregnancy. Readers are encouraged to visit The National Campaign’s website soon for updated information on funding in the President’s budget for related issues.

It is important to keep in mind that Congress still needs to act on the President’s request. In addition, once Congress appropriates funds for competitive grants, HHS will develop application guidelines that will likely provide further specificity.

- Read the synthesis document
- Read a statement from The National Campaign
- HHS Budget in Brief
- Relevant Text from the President’s budget and budget appendix
- Relevant text from the Congressional Justification for the U.S. Department of health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

President Obama released his FY 2010 budget today and called for at least \$164 million in funding for a new teen pregnancy prevention initiative. This includes competitive grants for evidence-based programs, research and evaluation, and an authorization for \$50 million in new mandatory teen pregnancy prevention grants to states, tribes, and territories. The budget eliminates funding for Community-Based Abstinence Education and the mandatory Title V Abstinence Education program. Based on an initial reading of the budget, the National Campaign released the following statement:

“Regarding teen pregnancy, President Obama’s budget is just right— it emphasizes good science, encourages research and innovation, and increases the overall investment in teen

pregnancy prevention,” said Sarah Brown, CEO of The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

“During an economic downturn and at a time when the teen birth rate is on the rise after 14 straight years of decline, it is particularly important that public dollars be devoted to those interventions that have evidence of success. The President’s budget does just that.

We also appreciate that 25% of what the President proposes in his budget is devoted to carefully testing innovative approaches to preventing teen pregnancy. If we are to make continued progress in preventing teen pregnancy and childbearing, it is clear that we will need fresh new approaches that, for example, help underserved populations and that employ new technology to reach young people. This will continue to expand the roster of effective approaches that states, tribes, and communities can use to prevent too-early pregnancy and parenthood.”

Please visit <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/> for language from the President’s budget, as well as related and relevant information and updates.

### **Funding for Teen Pregnancy Prevention: We need your help**

As you know, President Obama recently released his [proposed budget for 2010](#), which would include more than \$170 million in funding for teen pregnancy prevention. This is an important first step, but there’s still work to do.

Right now, Congress is considering whether to include the President’s proposed Teen Pregnancy Prevention initiative in its Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill.

Given the recent increase in the teen birth rate, investing in programs that work is more important than ever. Tell Congress: We need funding for evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs!

If you are able, please call these key Members of the House Appropriations Committee to let them know that funding for evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention should be a priority:

Chairman David Obey (D-WI) - (202) 225-3365 Ranking Member Jerry Lewis (R-CA) (202) 225-5861 Representative Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) (202) 225-6216 Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA) (202) 225-2661 Rep. Dennis Rehberg (R-MT) - (202) 225-3211 Rep. Rodney Alexander (R-LA) - (202) 225-8490 Rep. Jo Bonner (R-AL) (202) 225-4931 Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) (202) 225-6165

These Members of the House of Representatives need to hear from you NOW, especially if you’re from their home state or Congressional District! Let them know how much your state, community, or local programs would benefit from this much-needed funding. Here are a few suggested talking points for your call:

At a time when the teen birth rate is increasing, investing in programs that work to prevent teen pregnancy is more important than ever.

In 2004 alone, the United States spent \$9.1 billion dollars on teen childbearing. Investing in teen pregnancy prevention not only improves the lives of young people, it saves money. The U.S. saved \$6.7 billion in 2004 because of the progress it made in reducing the teen birth rate over the last decade. Take a look at [The National Campaign's state cost data](#) to see how much your state spent on teen childbearing in 2004.

In these tough economic times, it's important to use our scarce resources on programs with strong evidence of success. The President's proposal does that, and [REPRESENTATIVE] should support including funding for effective teen pregnancy prevention programs in the Labor H appropriations bill.

Teen pregnancy is closely linked to a host of other critical social issues poverty and income, overall child well-being, out-of-wedlock births, responsible fatherhood, health issues, education, child welfare, and other risky behavior. By investing in programs that work to prevent teen pregnancy, we can make progress on a number of other issues that [REPRESENTATIVE] cares about, such as improving academic achievement, decreasing drop out rates, and reducing child poverty.

If you are unable to lobby your legislator on this issue, we still need your help! Here are some other ways you can reach out:

Update your Member of Congress on your teen pregnancy prevention efforts. Educating your legislator about ongoing work in his/her District or state is a great way to raise awareness about the issue. Find out who your Representative is if you don't already know.

Let The National Campaign know about your work. We love the opportunity to highlight the exciting work of our state and local partners in our outreach to Members of Congress, and we will pass along any information you give us to your Members. <<mailto:sla@thenc.org>>

Invite your Representative to events you are sponsoring. If you are holding events in your community, be sure to invite your state and federal legislators to attend. Most Members of Congress are scheduled to be back in their districts over the next week for Memorial Day recess, so this is a great time to reach out.

As this legislation advances, we will continue to be in touch to update you on its progress and to ask for your help in building support for this important program.

We know that many of you have already been in touch with your Members and others in your state's Congressional delegation, and your support is already making a difference!

Thanks for all that you do,

The National Campaign

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

### **News You Can Use**

#### **Victory: Obama Budget De-Funds Abstinence-Only Education!**

A statement from Advocates' president James Wagoner

The Obama administration deserves praise for bringing science and evidence back to public health policy and jettisoning the ideological earmark known as abstinence-only. Now the ball is clearly in the court of the Democrats in Congress--most notably Speaker Pelosi and House Appropriations Chairman Obey (D-WI). The President has made it clear that he wants no more congressional funding for failed abstinence-only programs.

President Obama's budget also provides \$173 million for new pregnancy prevention programs. Unfortunately, by failing to provide funding for comprehensive sex education programs, the President missed an opportunity to address young people's health in a holistic way. Rather than the more narrow pregnancy prevention framework contained in the budget, comprehensive sex education provides tools for young people that help them avoid HIV and STD's as well as pregnancy and develop positive sexual health behaviors. We must address the decade of denial and disinformation under abstinence-only-until-marriage programs by targeting a significant part of our effort on schools--where the vast majority of young people gather every day. Many school districts will continue their abstinence-only policies even with the termination of federal funding for these failed programs, and we should be providing incentives for these schools to switch to evidence-based programs.

We look forward to building on the President's budget with Congress as we take the next step in the policy process. We are counting on the Democratic leadership to eliminate failed abstinence-only programs; ensure that there is no "back door" route for these programs to receive funding under the Obama plan; and broaden the focus of these important efforts to include comprehensive sex education that addresses not only teen pregnancy but also the prevention of HIV, STD's, and the promotion of sexual health.

**Take Action: Tell Congress to End Funding for Abstinence-Only Programs!**

<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856691/goto:http://www.advocatesfor-youth.org/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&Itemid=819](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856691/goto:http://www.advocatesfor-youth.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=819)>

### **Victories For GLBTQ Youth and their Allies (But Challenges Remain)**

The past month has seen several states enact marriage equality for same-sex partners. Vermont, Maine, Iowa, and the District of Columbia now permit or recognize same-sex marriage! In addition, the Matthew Shepard Act, a bill that would add sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and disability to existing hate crimes legislation, and strengthen federal hate crime laws by allowing the Department of Justice to assist local authorities in the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes cases, passed the House. Meanwhile, New Hampshire's marriage equality bill is has been passed by the legislature, and awaits action from the state's governor. <http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856693/goto:http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hJiMhk1BSE6hQdV1D-eA1cgrBCCwD9819OUG3>

But the work isn't done yet! The Matthew Shepard act has not yet passed the Senate, and far-right groups are going to absurd lengths to bring it down.

<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856696/goto:http://www.amplifyyourvoice.org/u/AFY\\_Joe/2009/5/6/The-AFA-lobbies-against-the-Pedophile-Protection-Act](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856696/goto:http://www.amplifyyourvoice.org/u/AFY_Joe/2009/5/6/The-AFA-lobbies-against-the-Pedophile-Protection-Act) And of course the majority of states still have amendments banning same-sex marriage - with another amendment effort recently introduced in North Carolina, and campaigns launching in Iowa and Maine to rescind the legalization. Those who support GLBTQ youth must remain vigilant. Take action today!

\* Urge New Hampshire's Governor Lynch to sign the Marriage Quality act  
<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856697/goto:http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2009/05/06/details\\_of\\_new\\_hampshires\\_gay\\_marriage\\_law/](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856697/goto:http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2009/05/06/details_of_new_hampshires_gay_marriage_law/)>

\* Urge your Senator to support the Matthew Shepard Act!  
<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856698/goto:http://www.advocatesfor-youth.org/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&Itemid=826](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856698/goto:http://www.advocatesfor-youth.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=826)>

\* North Carolinians: Urge your legislators to vote against the Marriage Discrimination Act!  
<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856699/goto:http://www.advocatesfor-youth.org/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&Itemid=820](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856699/goto:http://www.advocatesfor-youth.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=820)>

### **FDA To Allow Sale of Plan B to 17-year-olds**

The Food and Drug Administration has announced that it will allow the non-prescription sale of the emergency contraceptive Plan B to individuals ages 17 years and older, in compliance with a federal judge's March 23 ruling that the agency's 2006 decision to limit access to women ages 18 and older was politically motivated and scientifically flawed. U.S. District Judge Edward Korman had ordered FDA to make Plan B available to 17-year-olds within 30 days and to re-examine other restrictions, including if non-prescription access should be available to young women of all ages. Plan B consists of a two-pill regimen that, when taken within 72 hours of sexual intercourse, is highly effective at preventing pregnancy. The new changes will allow women and men ages 17 and older to obtain the drug at pharmacies, hospitals and clinics after showing proof of age.

While Advocates applauds the court decision, the age adjustment still ignores the body of research that has proven that Plan B is safe and effective for all women. Sign the petition

<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856700/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&Itemid=493](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856700/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=493) demanding that the FDA rescind its decision to limit the over-the-counter sales of EC

Learn more about Plan B and the court decision

<<http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856701/goto:http://www.fda.gov/CDER/drug/infopage/planB/default.htm>> .

## **New Research**

Read more in Advocates' Recent Research Blog

<[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856702/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogcategory&id=108&Itemid=737](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856702/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=108&Itemid=737)>

!

## **Effective Curriculum-Based Sex and STD/HIV Education Programs for Adolescents Child Development Perspectives, Volume 3 Issue 1, 2009**

Douglas Kirby is well known for his extensive study of teen pregnancy prevention and STD/HIV prevention programs and what characteristics effective programs share. (Read Kirby's Emerging Answers <<http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856703/goto:http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/EA2007/>> ) In this most recent paper he examines curriculum-based HIV/STD prevention programs that have been rigorously evaluated and provides his findings.

- \* Two-thirds of the programs had a significant impact on behavior.
- \* None of the programs hastened the initiation of sex or increased the frequency of sex.
- \* Effective programs gave clear messages about behavior, typically one that stressed the importance of abstinence as well as the importance of using condoms and contraception to protect from pregnancy and STDs if the young person chooses to have sex.
- \* The programs that had the strongest evidence for success included ones profiled in Advocates' own guide to effective programs, Science and Success <[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856704/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=367&Itemid=177](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856704/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=367&Itemid=177)> . Learn more about these effective programs: Safer Choices <[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856705/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=1128&Itemid=177](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856705/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1128&Itemid=177)> ; Making Proud Choices! <[http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856707/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=1143&am](http://e2ma.net/go/2020310082/1846952/68856707/goto:http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1143&am)