



At-a-Glance

Teen Success is an award-winning program with a 20-year history of supporting pregnant and parenting teens and encouraging them to maintain their family size, complete their education and develop future goals. Teen Success is a theory-supported group intervention that focuses on developing assets, skills, and resiliency among members through a strong program of education, support, and linkage to clinic services. It has been successful in delaying a second pregnancy until participants complete their high school, GED or vocational education. Over the program history, 96% of members have maintained their family size. Since 2004 when the replication began, **99%** have achieved this outcome.

Teen mothers meet weekly to:

- *Learn information, skills, and behaviors to prevent an additional pregnancy,*
- *Develop skills that build assets to cope with parenthood and adolescence,*
- *Receive encouragement from their peers and the adult leaders to successfully finish education*

What Does the Teen Success Program Staff Do?

- Facilitates and guides the group
- Provides a nutritious snack (fruit, cheese and crackers, etc.)
- Ensures free childcare is available during group meetings
- Gives participants a \$10 incentive at the completion of each weekly group and bonuses at the end of each 25 weeks attended
- Assists participants in setting and working toward achieving their goals for the future
- Promotes easy access to family planning services
- Measures short and long-term progress of participants

What is a Teen Success Member Expected to Do?

- Maintain her current family size
- Remain (or enroll) in school
- Attend all meetings and call her facilitator, if she cannot attend
- Commit to at least one year (40 weeks) of participation
- Follow group rules about attendance, behavior, and support of other members
- Set future goals and work toward accomplishing these goals

What does a Teen Success group cost?

There are 12 teens in each group, and the cost of a typical Teen Success group is approximately **\$40,000**. Cost varies based on actual salaries, occupancy, and other expenses in a geographic area. Most Teen Success groups are supported by contributions from individuals and foundations, although some public funds have also been secured.

What have been the results of the Teen Success program?

In 2009, Teen Success was awarded the Planned Parenthood Federation of America *Affiliate Excellence Award for Community Education*. Further, Teen Success is a unique program aimed



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at prevention of second pregnancies. **Teen Success members have a repeat pregnancy rate of 1-2% as compared to the national statistics of 20% or more.**

According to The Guttmacher Report, Volume 3, No. 3, June 2000, *repeat births represent more than one in five births to teenagers...Almost **one in three** women whose first birth occurred before age 17 has a second birth within 24 months.... These repeat births come at a great cost to teenage mother themselves, their children and society at large. Indeed, research shows that teenagers who have subsequent births – particularly closely spaced births – are less likely to obtain a high school diploma, and are more likely to live in poverty or receive public assistance, than those who have only one child during adolescence.*

Other sources, such as “Whatever Happened to Childhood” (The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, May 1997) that states, “**About one fourth of teen mothers will have a second child within two years,**” echo dire predictions for the outcome for teen mothers and their babies.

Where are the current Teen Success groups?

For 2010-2011, there will be a total of 45 Teen Success groups. 21 are within the PPMM service area and three new groups will be added this year:

- Central California – Bakersfield (1), Fresno (1), Madera (1)
- Monterey/Santa Cruz – Salinas (1), Greenfield (1), Watsonville (1)
- Silicon Valley – Eastside San Jose (2), Central San Jose (1), Santa Clara (1), Gilroy (1)
- Sacramento – Sacramento (4), Woodland (1), Yuba City (1)
- San Joaquin/Stanislaus – Stockton (1), Merced (1),
- Nevada – Reno (2)
- Alameda and San Mateo - tba

This year, there will be 13 committed replication partner sites (21 groups) including:

- Planned Parenthood Southeastern Pennsylvania – Norristown (1), Chester County (1)
- Planned Parenthood Los Angeles – Los Angeles (2)
- Planned Parenthood Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties – Santa Barbara (1), Ventura (1), Santa Maria (1), Paso Robles (1)
- Planned Parenthood of East Central Iowa – Clinton (1)
- Planned Parenthood of Southern Finger Lakes (NY) – Elmira (1)
- Planned Parenthood Pasadena & the San Gabriel Valley – Pasadena (3)
- Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest – Cathedral City (1), San Diego (1)
- Six Rivers Planned Parenthood – Crescent City, CA (1)
- Planned Parenthood Montana – Billings (1)
- Planned Parenthood Association of Utah – Salt Lake City (1)
- Youth Services, Inc. – Philadelphia, PA (1)
- Florence Crittenton Center for Pregnant & Parenting Teens – Helena, MT (1)
- Families First – Atlanta, GA (1)

Additional replication partners are added as funding is available.