

OPA Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES

Thrive: Sexual Health Collective for Youth
Central Oklahoma Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Central Oklahoma Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration (the Collaboration) provides comprehensive sexual health education and improves access to teen-friendly reproductive health services in Central Oklahoma. The Collaboration follows a collective impact model to implement a comprehensive plan that outlines strategies in the education, medical, and community settings. OPA funding is being used to evaluate the collaboration’s collective impact approach, which includes leveraging funding from multiple sectors, enhancing communication among different organizations and the community, and reviewing the perceived effectiveness of peer education on teen pregnancy prevention interventions.

GOALS

1. Education: provide age-appropriate sexual health education in schools
2. Medical: ensure access to teen-friendly reproductive health services
3. Community: engage youth, parents, faith communities, and youth-serving organizations in teen pregnancy prevention efforts



“ I like how they don’t just teach us about how to stay safe but also how to be in a good relationship in general. ”

- Central Oklahoma Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration participant

PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

Population

Youth (ages 13-19) and their families

Location

Oklahoma County, OK

Partners

Kirkpatrick Family Fund, Lilyfield, Mid-Del Public Schools, Oklahoma City-County Health Department, Oklahoma City Public Schools, Oklahoma Health Care Authority, Parent Promise, Planned Parenthood Great Plains, Teen emPower!, Texas A&M University, and Variety Care

STRATEGIES

Collective impact approach

The Collaboration brings together over fifty organizations from different sectors to work toward the common goal of reducing teen pregnancy in Central Oklahoma. As a “backbone” organization, Thrive leads this public-private collaboration by providing long-term planning and convening working groups where community members, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies develop solutions to youth reproductive health challenges, with a focus on three service areas: education, medical, and community.

Sexual risk reduction education for youth and parents

OPA Teen Pregnancy Prevention Tier 2 Program funding supports two of the Collaboration’s education curricula. *Postponing Sexual Involvement (PSI)* uses a peer education model in which an adult educator teaches 7th-grade students about reproductive health and a high school student leads activities focused on resisting peer pressure. The Collaboration is also using OPA funding to pilot a parent education program called *Teen Speak*, which teaches parents to use motivational interviewing techniques to talk with their teens about difficult topics, including sex, drug and alcohol use, and suicide. In addition to *PSI* and *Teen Speak*, the Collaboration provides a range of sexual health education programs in schools and in the community, funded by multiple sources both public and private.

Increasing access to reproductive health services

Students who participate in the Collaboration’s education programs receive a teen referral guide, which explains how to access local teen-friendly reproductive health services and includes sections on making appointments, talking to providers, and confidentiality. The Collaboration also works with medical providers to make their services more accessible to teens: initiatives include having youth advise medical clinics on how they can be more teen friendly and developing a guide with best practices for providing reproductive health services to youth.

Community engagement

The Collaboration strives to include local youth, parents, faith communities, and youth-serving organizations in the planning and implementation of its teen pregnancy prevention efforts. As part of this approach, the Collaboration conducted a needs assessment to determine community members’ needs, barriers, and attitudes around youth reproductive health and will use the results to inform future programming. In addition, the Collaboration’s Youth Leadership Council gives teens an active voice in guiding the implementation of youth programs, including teen-friendly clinic practices, *PSI*, and the teen referral guide.

Contact Information

Laura Lang
CEO
405-486-4974
llang@thriveokc.org
<https://thriveokc.org/>

About the TPP Program

The Office of Population Affairs Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program is a federal grant program that funds diverse organizations working to prevent teen pregnancy across the United States. OPA invests in both the implementation of evidence-based programs and the development and evaluation of new and innovative approaches to prevent teen pregnancy. The OPA TPP Program reaches adolescents age 10-19, with a focus on populations with the greatest need in order to reduce disparities in teen pregnancy and birth rates.

Stats at a Glance

32.3

Oklahoma County teen birth rate (per 1,000 females ages 15-19) in 2017¹

18.8

National teen birth rate (per 1,000 females ages 15-19) in 2017²

350

Survey responses received through the community needs assessment project

162

Students participated in *Postponing Sexual Involvement*

50+

Organizations involved in The Central Oklahoma Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration

¹ Oklahoma State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, Health Care Information, Vital Statistics. (2017). *Oklahoma Statistics on Health Available for Everyone (OK2SHARE)*. Retrieved from <https://www.health.state.ok.us/ok2share/index.shtml>

² Martin, J.A., Hamilton, B.E., Osterman, M.J., Driscoll, A.K., & Drake, M.S. (2018). Births: Final data for 2017. *National Vital Statistics Report*, 67(8). Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/nvsr67_08-508.pdf