The Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF) is a competitive grant program administered by the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. PAF funds state and tribal entities for the purpose of supporting expectant or parenting teens, young adults, and their families. Grantees aim to improve the livelihood and well-being of program participants through supportive services and programs. PAF’s focus is participants’ economic, educational, health, and social outcomes.

Nineteen grantees, including 18 states and 1 tribal organization, received PAF grant funding during 2017–2018. This was the first year of PAF funding for 16 of the grantees and the third year of funding for the remaining three grantees. The average grant amount totaled $1.2 million, ranging from about $400,000 to nearly $1.4 million. Additional information about the PAF program is available at [https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/paf_program](https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/paf_program).

All OAH grantees are required to report performance measures annually. These data help OAH assess PAF program performance in terms of the number and characteristics of people served, range of services provided to participants, and types of implementation partners and sites. Grantees can use these data to evaluate program implementation and identify areas for improvement. Grantees reported data on the number and types of participants served, the numbers of partners and sites they worked with, and the types of services they provided. This brief is based on performance measures covering activities from July 2017 to July 2018.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE HIGHLIGHTS: PAF 2017–2018**

- PAF grantees served a total of 14,800 people, including 7,564 expectant or parenting participants, 5,602 dependent children, and 1,634 extended family members.
- The most common services provided were parenting supports, concrete supports, and health care services.
- Grantees trained 2,042 staff.
- Grantees worked with 2,042 partner organizations and funded 193 sites, primarily community service organizations and educational institutions.
Performance Measures for PAF Grantees

This table presents the performance measures discussed in this brief. New grantees reported these measures for the July 2017–June 2018 period, and grantees in their third year of PAF funding reported a subset of these measures for August 2017 to July 2018.

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<th>Performance Measure</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Number of expectant or parenting participants served, by setting,* gender, age, race, and ethnicity</td>
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<td>• Number of dependent children and extended family members served</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Types of services for expectant or parenting teens and young adults:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>○ Health care services*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>○ Self-sufficiency, education, or employment services*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>○ Concrete supports*</td>
</tr>
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<td>○ Parenting supports*</td>
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<td>○ Services for victims of violence*</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Types of services for dependent children*</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Number of staff trained</td>
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<td>Partnerships and sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Number of grantee partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Types of grantee partners*</td>
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<td>• Types of implementation sites funded by PAF*</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Number of sites funded by PAF, by urbanicity*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Number of sites intending to continue after end of OAH funding*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates measures not reported by the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.
Findings

Reach and Participant Characteristics

PAF serves expectant or parenting teens, young adults, and their families. During the 2017–2018 reporting period, grantees served 14,800 people. Participants included 7,564 expectant or parenting teens and young adults, 5,602 dependent children, and 1,634 of their extended family members. Extended family members are defined as a participant’s parent or guardian, grandparent, spouse, or partner.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EXPECTANT OR PARENTING PARTICIPANTS

Setting and Gender

PAF served 6,074 current or expectant mothers and 985 fathers during the 2017–2018 reporting period. (Gender was not reported for 505 participants.) Expectant or parenting participants most commonly received services at community service organizations (34%) and high schools (30%).

Note: Gender and setting were reported for 7,059 and 6,434 participants, respectively. Percentages in this graphic were computed based on those who reported both characteristics and exclude the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.
**Age**

More than half of expectant or parenting participants (54%) were ages 16 to 19. Approximately 6% of program participants were age 15 or younger, and 40% were age 20 or older.

- **Age 14 or younger** 2%, 119 participants
- **Age 15** 4%, 310 participants
- **Age 16** 10%, 733 participants
- **Age 17** 16%, 1,174 participants
- **Age 18** 15%, 1,094 participants
- **Age 19** 11%, 817 participants
- **Age 20-24** 21%, 1,498 participants
- **Age 25 or older** 19%, 1,398 participants

Note: Age was reported for 7,135 participants. Percentages were computed using that denominator.

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**Race and Ethnicity**

Among expectant or parenting teens and young adults served who reported their race, 44% were African American and 38% were white. Among expectant or parenting participants who reported their ethnicity, 42% were Hispanic/Latino.

- **African American or Black** 44%, 2,079 participants
- **White** 38%, 1,826 participants
- **American Indian or Alaska Native** 3%, 162 participants
- **Asian** 3%, 151 participants
- **Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander** <1%, 4 participants
- **More than one race** 7%, 337 participants
- **Other race** 4%, 208 participants

Note: Race and ethnicity were reported for 4,767 participants and 6,052 participants, respectively. Percentages in these graphics were computed using those respective denominators.
Core Services Provided

PAF grantees provide a wide variety of core services for expectant or parenting teens and young adults, as well as their dependent children. The most common categories of services provided were parenting supports, concrete supports, and health care services.

SERVICES FOR EXPECTANT OR PARENTING TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Parenting Supports

The types of parenting supports PAF participants most frequently received included parenting education (28% of participants receiving parenting supports); healthy relationship education, skill building, and resources (24%); and stress management support (22%).

Concrete Supports

Expectant or parenting teens and young adults most commonly received the following types of concrete supports: food (16% of participants receiving concrete supports); transportation (14%); child needs (13%); and eligibility screening or assistance applying for means-tested program benefits (13%).
Health Care Services

The most common health care services participants received through PAF were health insurance supports and enrollment assistance, reproductive health care, primary health care, and breastfeeding skills and resources.

- **Health insurance** (enrollment and other supports): 17%, 1,976 participants
- **Reproductive health care**: 16%, 1,870 participants
- **Primary health care**: 14%, 1,681 participants
- **Breastfeeding skills and resources**: 14%, 1,590 participants
- **Obstetric care**: 11%, 1,316 participants
- **Violence prevention and intervention services**: 9%, 1,084 participants
- **Mental and behavioral health services**: 9%, 1,007 participants
- **Substance abuse prevention and counseling**: 4%, 476 participants
- **Dental hygiene/oral health**: 3%, 349 participants
- **Other health services**: 3%, 390 participants

Self-Sufficiency, Education, or Employment Services

Academic or educational supports, such as tutoring and advising, was the most common type of self-sufficiency, education, or employment services participants received through PAF. The next most common types of services were in the areas of life skills, mentorship, and workforce development.

- **Academic or educational supports**: 33%, 3,016 participants
- **Life skills**: 17%, 1,547 participants
- **Mentorship**: 16%, 1,511 participants
- **Workforce development**: 14%, 1,325 participants
- **College planning and readiness**: 11%, 1,059 participants
- **Other**: 9%, 814 participants
Services for Victims of Violence

Four grantees provided services for pregnant women who experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Of those services, the most common types were supportive social services (51% of participants receiving services for victims of violence) and accompaniment services (38%).

![Pie chart showing the distribution of services provided to victims of violence.]

SERVICES FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Dependent children most commonly received nutritional counseling and services (23% of participants receiving dependent services); health insurance enrollment assistance or other related supports (22%); child care resources, referrals, and placement assistance (18%); and well-child and primary care visits (18%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutritional counseling and services</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>1,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>1,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child care resources, referrals, and placement</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>1,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well child/primary care visits</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>1,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early childhood education</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental hygiene</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Information presented on services provided excludes the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.
Staff training is essential for program quality and implementation fidelity. Training promotes and develops internal capacity within grantee and partner organizations.

**STAFF TRAINED**

Across PAF grantees and their partners, 2,042 staff were trained to implement PAF program services or work with expectant and parenting teens, women, fathers, and their families.

2,042
Staff trained

**AGENCY STAFF TRAINED ON VIOLENCE AGAINST EXPECTANT OR PARENTING TEENS AND WOMEN**

Four grantees trained 226 agency staff on violence against expectant or parenting teens and women. Agency staff who received this training worked at government, private nonprofit, and other agencies serving victims of stalking, sexual assault, and intimate partner violence.

226
Agency staff trained on violence against expecting and parenting teens and women
Partnerships and Sustainability

Partnerships were an integral part of effective PAF implementation and sustainability. Grantees collaborated with various state, tribal, and local agencies, including implementation sites.

GRANTEE PARTNERS

Grantee partners work closely with grantees to aid PAF participants. Grantees collaborated with 2,042 partners. The most common types of actively engaged partners were educational institutions (18%), health care and public health establishments (15%), and social services or human services agencies (14%).

Note: Type of organization was reported for 1,909 partners, and percentages in this graphic were computed based on that denominator. However, the sum of the numbers of partners by type exceeds this total because partners could be counted in more than one category. Information presented on types of partners excludes the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.
IMPLEMENTATION SITES

Grantees funded 193 implementation sites to conduct PAF project activities. Community service organizations (49%) and educational institutions, including high schools and institutions of higher learning, were the most common types of implementation sites to receive PAF funding through agreements with grantees.

Note: Organization type was reported for 191 sites. Percentages in this graphic were computed based on that denominator and exclude the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.

URBANICITY

Slightly more than half of PAF sites were located in urban areas (53%), and 37% were in rural areas.

Note: Urbanicity was reported for 193 sites. Percentages in this graphic were computed based on that denominator and exclude the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.

SUSTAINABILITY

82 of the 193 sites (42%) intend to continue to implement core services for expectant or parenting teens and young adults after PAF funding ends.

Note: Information presented on sustainability excludes the three grantees that were in their third year of PAF funding.

For further information, visit the Office of Adolescent Health website: https://www.hhs.gov/ash/coah/grant-programs/pregnancy-assistance-fund//performance-measures/