

**OASH**Office of  
Population Affairs

# Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program

## Overview

The Office of Population Affairs' (OPA) Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program is a national, evidence-based program that provides funding to implement effective programs and develop, test, and evaluate innovative approaches to prevent teen pregnancy across the United States.

The TPP Program was established in 2010 with a Congressional mandate to fund medically accurate and age appropriate programs to reduce teen pregnancy. With an annual budget of approximately \$101 million, the TPP Program focuses on reaching populations with the greatest need with the goal of improving the optimal health of adolescents and reducing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

## Purpose and Activities

The TPP Program helps communities prevent teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, and achieve optimal health for adolescents ages 10-19 by funding several types of grants:

### *Implementation of Effective TPP Programs*

Approximately three quarters of TPP grant funding is invested in implementing effective teen pregnancy prevention programs—those proven through rigorous evaluation to reduce teen pregnancy, behavioral risk factors underlying teen pregnancy, or other associated risk factors. Grantees use a systems thinking approach to implement effective programs and reach a large number of youth and communities in need. The approach includes:

- Replicating with fidelity effective programs and supportive services that are culturally appropriate, age appropriate, medically accurate, and trauma-informed;
- Mobilizing community support and engaging youth and families to ensure program relevance; and
- Using key performance measures to monitor, evaluate, and document program efforts.

## The Need

Despite declines in teen birth rates, almost 172,000 babies were born to young women between the age of 15 and 19 in 2019.<sup>1</sup>

There are large disparities in birth rates by age, race/ethnicity, and geography, and especially high birth rates among vulnerable youth, including youth in foster care, parenting teens, and LGBTQ youth.

In 2017, the birth rate per 1,000 females age 15 to 19 was:<sup>2</sup>

- Hispanic = 28.9
- Black = 27.6
- White = 13.4

Teen childbearing in the U.S. is estimated to cost taxpayers (federal, state, and local) at least \$9.4 billion annually.<sup>3</sup>

HHS Office of Population Affairs

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## *Developing New and Innovative Approaches*

To continue expanding the evidence base and addressing the changing needs of youth and communities, 25 percent of TPP grant funding is dedicated to developing, testing, and evaluating promising interventions that could contribute to adolescent optimal health, prevent teen pregnancy, and reduce STI rates. This includes:

- Establishing, funding, coordinating, and supporting a multidisciplinary network of partners to develop and test innovative interventions in key priority areas for which significant and strategic investment in innovation and testing is needed; and
- Conducting rigorous evaluations of promising interventions to answer important research question(s) about the impact and implementation of interventions and key pregnancy prevention outcomes.

## Accomplishments

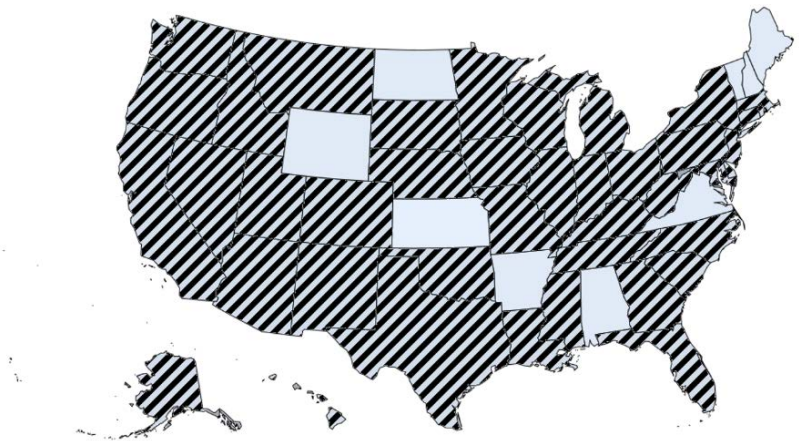
Since the TPP Program's establishment in 2010, grantees have served 1.4 million youth across 41 states, Washington, D.C., and the Marshall Islands. The program has also trained more than 20,400 professionals, established nearly 20,000 community partnerships, and developed 56 innovative programs and products.

In addition to providing high quality programs for youth, OPA is committed to rigorous evaluation and continuous learning. The TPP Program has funded numerous grantee-written, peer reviewed publications and independent evaluation studies that significantly contributed to the field's knowledge of where, when, and with whom programs are most effective. This deeper view can increase the menu of effective interventions and provide important information to help communities select and implement programs that are a good fit and likely to have the greatest impact.

Find more information about the TPP Program, including performance measures and current grantees, on the OPA website: <https://opa.hhs.gov/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/key-resources-tpp-grantees>.

### *States and the Marshall Islands served by the TPP Program*

▨ FY2010-2019



## References

- 1 Martin, J., Hamilton, B., Osterman, M., & Discroll, A. (2020). Births: Provisional Data for 2019. *National Vital Statistics System* (Report No. 008). Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/vsrr/vsrr-8-508.pdf>
- 2 Martin, J., Hamilton, B., & Osterman, M. (2018). *NCHS Data Brief* (Report No. 318). Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db318.pdf>
- 3 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). *Winnable Battles Final Report: Teen Pregnancy*. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/winnablebattles/report/docs/wb-teen-pregnancy.pdf>

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