

# Providing Youth-Friendly Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Schools

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOL NURSES AND SCHOOL-BASED OR SCHOOL-LINKED HEALTH CENTER STAFF

## Maintain Adolescent Confidentiality

Keep an adolescent's sensitive health care issues private.

## Treat Youth with Respect

Nobody likes to be treated in a rude or judgmental way – and that includes teens!

## Make it Easy to Get Care

Help young people overcome barriers like limited time and lack of access to transportation by having flexible hours and providing an array of services on or near school campuses.

## Provide Integrated Services

Reduce stigma around accessing sensitive health services by providing comprehensive care in one location.

## Provide Free or Low Cost Services

Where possible, offer free services and/or use sliding fee scales to ensure that young people get the services they need.

## Offer an Array of Reproductive and Sexual Health Services

These can include education and counseling, contraceptive services, and STI/HIV testing and treatment, in addition to pregnancy options counseling and prenatal and obstetrical care.

## Promote Parent-Child Communication

Get parents and teens talking about sexuality, drug use, and other critical health issues.

## Aim for a Diverse, Well-Trained Staff

And adapt services to meet the culturally unique needs of youth.

