NATIONAL SUPPORT CENTER for State Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organizations

A project of Advocates for Youth
Teen Pregnancy Prevention at Advocates for Youth

Teen pregnancy prevention is a critical dimension of adolescent health, and strong, effective organizations are best positioned to make a positive impact on policies and programs which affect teens.

For this reason, Advocates for Youth created the National Support Center for State Teen Pregnancy Organizations, designed to support and strengthen state organizations’ capacity to address adolescent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

With over 75 years of combined experience, the National Support Center staff can provide expert guidance in building, leading, growing, and sustaining organizations that focus on adolescent sexual health.

Funding for this publication was made possible (in part) by a Cooperative Agreement (Grant #: 5U58/DP324962-03 REVISED) with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Any part of this publication may be copied, reproduced, distributed, and adapted, without permission of the authors or the publisher, provided that the materials are not copied, distributed, or adapted for commercial gain and provided that the authors and Advocates for Youth are credited as the source on all copies, reproductions, distributions, and adaptations of the material.
National Support Center Services at a Glance

Starting a State Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organization
- Needs and assets assessments
- Assistance in the formative process, including strategic planning
- Support and customized training for leadership and staff

Building a More Powerful State Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organization
- Organizational development and capacity building in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and others to grow and strengthen statewide organizations
- Leadership coaching and consultation
- Unique and innovative networking opportunities

Leadership Support
- Technical assistance
- Resources
- Networking

Training & Education
- Conference presentations
- Workshops
- Training
- Tailored on-site consultation

Publications and Resources
- Sex education and HIV/AIDS prevention
- Teen pregnancy prevention
- Contraception and clinical services
- Parent-Child communication
- Youth development approaches
Starting a State Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organization

Is your statewide teen pregnancy prevention coalition, network, steering committee, or task force ready to do more and to be more effective?

If your answer is ‘yes’, then it’s time to consider creating a more formal, focused, and structured organization. The National Support Center can help you work through this decision.

The Center’s experienced staff can assist you in:

- Assessing needs and opportunities regarding creation of a statewide organization
- Facilitating critical processes, such as setting your vision, mission, and values as well as creating a strategic plan
- Training and consulting on board development, organizational policies and procedures, staffing and management, and program planning and development
- Training in fund raising and organizational sustainability strategies
- Quality improvement through positive, affirming assessment strategies
- Linking your group with useful resources
Organizational Sustainability: The Key to Organizational Success

Organizational development and capacity building is at the core of Advocates for Youth’s work in teen pregnancy prevention. By focusing on these, the National Support Center helps build sustainable state organizations that can better confront the challenges of teen pregnancy prevention across time.

A sustainable organization is one that:

- Explores, identifies, adopts, and fully uses practices, principles, and programs that enable it to be purposeful, productive and powerful;
- Adapts successfully to new information, technologies, markets, opportunities, and challenges, and
- Commits fully to its vision, mission, values, and goals.
Project SOS: Strategies for Organizational Success

To help organizations become sustainable, Advocates for Youth offers intensive technical assistance, consultation, training, and support through Project SOS.

The project offers strategic technical assistance to organizations that are ready for the intensive effort needed to move from surviving to thriving. Through Project SOS, Advocates’ National Support Center offers:

Leadership coaching – One-on-one coaching, in person and/or by phone, from staff who have successfully built, led, and sustained teen pregnancy and sexual health organizations

Tailored on-site consultations – Assisting staff and board to develop strategies to maximize opportunities, minimize challenges, and identify solutions

Customized training – Providing training to board, leaders, stakeholders, and staff on a wide variety of pertinent topics

Networking opportunities – Providing opportunities to work with the leaders of other state teen pregnancy prevention organizations, national public health experts, researchers, and others prominent in the field of adolescent reproductive and sexual health; to participate in leaders roundtables; and to begin and sustain statewide initiatives

Targeted resources – Providing resources and tools to give your organization the information, capacity, and skills to address the issues and challenges it confronts, including “Strategies for Organizational Success” and “From Research to Practice” publications.
Specifically, Project SOS addresses:

- The organization’s vision, mission, values and goals
- Strategic and operational planning
- Board growth and development
- Leadership and staff development
- Fund development planning and fundraising
- Planning for leadership change (for boards of directors and executives)
- Managing controversy in relation to science-based approaches

Through Project SOS, National Support Center staff will:

- Provide training and information for staff, leadership, board, and stakeholders on being an effective, sustainable organization
- Assist with assessing the organization’s capacity and sustainability
- Facilitate visioning, values setting, strategic planning, and other processes critical to organizational growth and development, as needed and requested through an Appreciative Inquiry model
- Offer recommendations for strengthening the organization and making it more sustainable
- Assist in creating a sustainability plan
- Provide technical assistance, support, and resources on becoming a sustainable organization
- Provide opportunities for leaders to learn from and network with other leaders in national or regional roundtable events, workshops, and conferences
- Assist with periodic assessments of progress and of challenges and solutions

Fees and Costs Associated with the National Support Center:

- Advocates for Youth receives funds to provide technical assistance, training, and consultation to several statewide teen pregnancy prevention through a Cooperative Agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Partners in this CDC-funded project can access all of the services described here at no charge.
- The services of the National Support Center are available to other providers and organizations working in adolescent pregnancy and STI prevention throughout the United States through other funding sources (when available) or on a fee-for-service basis.
Training & Education

Staff at Advocates’ National Support Center offers:

- Consulting services on-site and by phone and e-mail
- Regional workshops, keynote presentations, training, and roundtables.

A sampling of often requested topics includes, but is not limited to:

- Building Strong, Effective State Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organizations
- Organizational Capacity: What Does It Have to Do with Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs?
- Getting It Right, Getting It Done: Why Science Matters in Teen Pregnancy Prevention
- Reading and Understanding the Research behind Science-Based Programs
- Engaging Parents: Building Support for Science-Based Programs
- European Approaches to Adolescent Sexual Behavior
- Science Plus Values = Sexually Healthy Adolescents
- Becoming Indispensable: Program Sustainability Training
- Sex Education: Myths and Facts
- Boys and Young Men: Evaluated Programs
- Science-Based Approaches to Teen Pregnancy Prevention
- Youth Development Approaches to Pregnancy Prevention
- Youth-Friendly Clinical Services for Adolescents: What the Research Says
- Evaluated Sexual and Reproductive Health Programs to Reach Latino/Hispanic Youth
- Promoting Condoms & Contraception: A Science Based Approach to Pregnancy and HIV Prevention
- Developing and Delivering Powerful Presentations
- Rising to the Challenge of Promoting Science-Based Approaches: Building Support and Managing Controversy
Leadership Support

Consultation & Leadership Coaching
One-on-one time with experienced staff who can help teen pregnancy prevention leaders identify:
1) Solutions to challenges
2) Strategies to maximize organizational growth and development
3) Ways to strengthen leadership skills

Networking and Learning Opportunities Providing:
1) National technical assistance and training events designed to meet the timely needs of the participants on a variety of technical and program-related topics
2) Leadership academy and roundtable events for executive directors – events designed to meet their unique needs for inspiration, skill-building, and networking

Resources
Offering many high quality resources, free to download at www.advocatesforyouth.org as well as Web access to over 15,000 abstracts from Advocates’ adolescent reproductive and sexual health library – one of the largest in the United States

Technical assistance, available by phone and e-mail to:
1) Answer questions about science-based strategies and programs
2) Provide referrals, when appropriate
3) Offer assistance in obtaining national, state, and local data
Advocates for Youth offers publications on a variety of issues related to adolescent reproductive and sexual health. A few of those most important to statewide teen pregnancy prevention organizations include:

- **Science and Success**, an authoritative compendium of science-based teen pregnancy and HIV prevention curricula and approaches that are effective in reducing adolescent sexual risk behaviors and/or in promoting healthy behaviors
- **Strategies for Organizational Success**, a series of brief publications on issues regarding organizational development and capacity building
- **From Research to Practice**, a series that translates current research in adolescent reproductive and sexual health into science-based, youth-positive practices
- One of the largest special libraries in the United States dedicated exclusively to adolescent reproductive and sexual health and offering online access to research abstracts.

In addition, most of Advocates for Youth’s publications are available for free download at [www.advocatesforyouth.org.](http://www.advocatesforyouth.org)
Also from Advocates for Youth

Advocates for Youth is the national sponsor of several campaigns and initiatives. Visit our website at www.advocatesforyouth.org for additional information and free resources on each of the following:

- National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month (May)
- Let’s Talk Month (October)
- Contraceptive Access Initiatives
- Resource Center for Sexuality Educators
- Parents’ Sex Ed Center
- International Study Tours
About Advocates for Youth

Advocates for Youth is dedicated to creating programs and advocating for policies that help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. Advocates provides information, training, and strategic assistance to youth-serving organizations, youth activists, policy makers, and the media in the United States and in developing nations.

**Advocates envisions a society that is committed to Rights, Respect, Responsibility® (3Rs) in regard to young people.**

**Rights:** Youth have rights to accurate and complete sexual health information, confidential reproductive and sexual health services, and a secure stake in the future.

**Respect:** Youth deserve respect. Today, young people are largely perceived as part of the problem. Valuing young people means they are part of the solution and participate in developing programs and policies that affect their well-being.

**Responsibility:** Society has the responsibility to provide young people with the tools they need to safeguard their sexual health, and young people have the responsibility to protect themselves from too early childbearing and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.

Through its programs and initiatives, Advocates assists organizations to address youth’s rights, to demonstrate respect for young people, and to assert the mutual responsibilities of society and youth.

For more information contact:
National Support Center for State Teen Pregnancy Prevention Organizations
Advocates for Youth | 2000 M Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20036 USA