



# Teen Pregnancy Prevention Among Youth in Foster Care

An

Illinois State Team Initiative

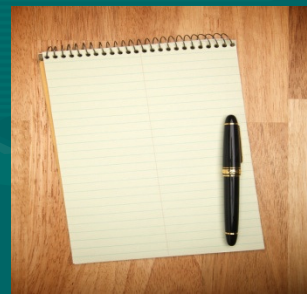
# Illinois Team

## Workgroup Representatives

- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
- Planned Parenthood of Illinois
- Circuit Court of Cook County-Child Protection Division
- Metropolitan Family Services
- CASA of Cook County
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Jane Addams Juvenile Court Foundation
- Chapin Hall
- Health Works
- Regional Youth Advisory Boards
- UCAN
- Teen Parenting Service Network

# Collaborative Process

- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services formed a Taskforce
- IDCFS /Non-for profit organizations/ Cook County Juvenile Court System and/Chapin Hall Research Center



# Illinois State Team Overall Objective

To focus on the critical issue of delaying teen pregnancy among youth in care while providing support and education on healthy sex choices. This plan must include strategies on how to positively develop and empower youth in care on ways to build self-esteem while providing age-appropriate materials for youth to understand the essence of a healthy relationship.



# Illinois State Team

## Cont. of Overall Objective

This initiative should touch all dimensions within the child welfare system by creating a seamless system of services for professionals, caregivers, and foster youth which; effectively addresses healthy sexual development and teen pregnancy prevention.



# Illinois Mission Statement

- To help youth in care delay pregnancy and parenthood and to help those who are already parents delay future pregnancies.

# Efforts to include foster youth in the planning process

- The Illinois DCFS Regional Youth Advisory Boards.
- Brief Qualitative Survey on Pregnancy Prevention and Healthy Sexuality Topics
- Some of the questions were suggestion on new ways for youth to delay pregnancy and what type of rewards would encourage you to delay pregnancy

# Partnership with the Department of Health and Education

- Organizations who utilized curriculum for youth
- Life Planning Education Through Planned Parenthood
- Reducing the Risk
- Power Through Choices
- Connect 2 Protect



# Illinois State Sub-Committees

## Curriculum Study

- To focus on evidence-based curriculum which has shown positive results towards delaying pregnancy and repeated pregnancy for youth in care. This committee is looking at the characteristics of effective curricula-based teen pregnancy prevention programs

## Innovative Strategies (Non-Curriculum)

- To focus on modern and progressive techniques which could foster the delay of pregnancy and repeated pregnancy for youth in care. This committee is focus on developing innovative strategies from the recommendations of foster youth, foster parents/caregivers and professionals which could show positive results for reducing the risk of STD and pregnancy prevention

# Illinois State Sub-Committee

## Policies and Procedures

- To focus on Illinois State policies and procedures that can support and advocate for quality services for youth in care around pregnancy prevention and STI prevention.

## Final Writing/Report

- To summarize final recommendations of each sub-committee into a proposal for possible implementation of services for foster-care-youth within the state of Illinois.

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*Thank you*