Federal Funding Streams for Teen Pregnancy Prevention  
February 2016

There are several complementary federal funding streams for teen pregnancy prevention. Some of these funds focus on evidence-based programs; some do not. All together, the funding currently totals approximately $280 million annually, with funding for evidence-based programs totaling approximately $175 million—which is sufficient to serve fewer than two percent of teens in America.

Discretionary Funding

Evidence-based Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program (TPPP):
This program, administered by the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH), provides competitive five-year grants to a broad range of organizations and agencies. The first round of 100 grants was funded for FY 2010 – 2014. A second round of 81 grants was awarded in July 2015 for FY 2015 – 2019, subject to annual appropriations (an additional three grants are jointly administered with CDC – see below). TPPP was initially funded in the FY 2010 appropriations bill at $110 million and is currently funded at $101 million for FY 2016. TPPP provides up to 10 percent of funds for training and technical assistance, evaluation, and other program support, and of the remaining funds:

- 75 percent go to Tier 1 grants to replicate teen pregnancy prevention programs that have shown to be effective through rigorous evaluation. At present, Tier 1 grantees can choose from a list of 37 evidence-based programs that meet high standards of evidence.
- 25 percent go to Tier 2 grants to develop, replicate, refine and rigorously evaluate additional models and innovative strategies to reduce teen pregnancy.¹

For a list of current Tier 1 and Tier 2 grantees, go to:  

TPPP grants are highly competitive and demand far outpaced available funding. More than 400 applications were submitted for the current round of grants, but OAH only had sufficient funding to award 81 grants, or approximately 19 percent of the applications. These grants are expected to serve more than 291,000 youth each year in communities where teen pregnancy and birth rates remain high. Grants support a variety of evidence-based programs, with some grantees choosing programs with a strong focus on abstinence, some using youth development programs, and others choosing programs that teach about both abstinence and contraception. Regardless of program content, all funded programs must have some evidence of success and must be medically accurate and age appropriate. There is also a strong focus on evaluating results.

CDC Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grants:
The CDC is currently funding two teen pregnancy prevention projects. For each of the projects, the CDC awarded five-year cooperative agreements (FY 2015 – 2019)—subject to annual appropriations—to three organizations. Below is more information on each of the projects.
- Working with Publicly Funded Health Centers to Reduce Teen Pregnancy Among Youth from Vulnerable Populations—This project aims to enhance publicly funded health centers’ capacity to provide youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services and increase the number of young people accessing sexual and reproductive health services. Grantees will work with systems that serve some of the most vulnerable young people—including those in foster care, juvenile justice and probation, or housing developments. For an overview of grantees, go to: [http://www.cdc.gov/teenpregnancy/health-care-providers/publicly-funded-health-centers.html](http://www.cdc.gov/teenpregnancy/health-care-providers/publicly-funded-health-centers.html).

- Effectiveness of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs Designed Specifically for Young Males—This collaborative initiative between CDC and OAH supports rigorous evaluation of innovative interventions that are designed for young men aged 15-24 years old to reduce their risk of fathering a teen pregnancy. The three grants are partially supported by TPPP Tier 2 funding. For an overview of grantees, go to [http://www.cdc.gov/teenpregnancy/prevent-teen-pregnancy/engaging-young-males.html](http://www.cdc.gov/teenpregnancy/prevent-teen-pregnancy/engaging-young-males.html).

The CDC previously partnered with OAH to demonstrate the effectiveness of community-wide initiatives to reduce teen pregnancy in communities with the highest rates, with a focus on reaching African American and Latino/Hispanic youth. Five-year cooperative agreements were awarded (FY 2010 – 2014) to nine state and local organizations, as well as five national organizations to provide assistance and support to the community grantees. These national, state, and local organizations worked together to promote the use of evidence-based programs, educate community leaders about the importance of preventing teen pregnancy, and connect youth to clinical services. This project was funded in part through TPPP. For more information, go to: [http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/teen_pregnancy/about/communitywide.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/teen_pregnancy/about/communitywide.html).

**Competitive Abstinence Education Grant Program:**

In the FY 2012 Appropriations bill, $5 million was added for a Competitive Abstinence Education Grant Program. The program was level-funded at $5 million annually through FY 2015. Funding increased to $10 million in the FY 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill. Funds appropriated in each of the fiscal years supported projects for a two-year grant cycle. This funding uses the “A-H” definition of abstinence in the Title V State Abstinence Education Grant Program and does not have any requirements about evidence. These funds, administered by the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF), have supported competitive grants for abstinence education, and where appropriate, mentoring, counseling and adult supervision to promote abstinence from sexual activity. For a list of current grantees, see: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/2015-competitive-aegp-awards](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/2015-competitive-aegp-awards).

**Mandatory Funding**

**Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP):**

This program, administered by ACYF, funds evidence-based programs that educate adolescents on both abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, and on other adulthood preparation topics such as healthy relationships, communication with parents, and financial literacy. Originally funded at $75 million annually for five years (FY 2010 – 2014), PREP continues to be funded at $75 million annually through FY 2017. PREP funding targets youth at greatest risk of teen pregnancy and geographic areas with high teen birth rates. All programs funded must be medically accurate and age appropriate. PREP includes:

- Formula grants to states and territories—Forty-five states as well as D.C., Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia chose to take the formula grant funding. If the state government opted not to apply in the first two years of the program, the
funding allotted to that state became available on a competitive basis to other organizations in the state. For a list of state PREP grantees, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/state-prep-2015-awards.

- Competitive grants to states and territories—For the five states (Florida, Indiana, North Dakota, Texas, and Virginia) and three territories (American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands) that opted not to take the PREP funding, Competitive PREP grants were awarded in FY 2012 to entities in those states and territories on a competitive basis. The grants provided five years’ worth of funding over three years (FY 2012 – 2014). A new round of grants was awarded in FY 2015 for FY 2015 – 2017. For a list of current grantees, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/2015-competitive-prep-awards.

- Personal Responsibility Education Innovative Strategies (PREIS) grants. These are competitive grants to public and private entities to develop, replicate, refine, and evaluate innovative strategies to reduce teen pregnancy and repeat pregnancies among youth up to age 21. The current awards go through FY 2017. For a list of grantees, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/2015-preis.

- Competitive grants to Indian tribes or tribal organizations. The current awards go through FY 2017. For a list of grantees, see: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/2015-tribal-prep.

- Funding for program evaluation and support.

**Title V State Abstinence Education Grant Program:**
Originally funded at $50 million annually for five years at a time in the 1996 welfare reform law, this program administered by ACYF currently provides $75 million annually in formula grants to states for abstinence education and mentoring, counseling, and adult supervision programs that promote abstinence. There is no evidence requirement. Beginning in FY 2015, a new provision made unclaimed money (roughly $12 million from the 14 states and DC that do not take this funding) available for states that were already taking the funds, provided they use that funding for a stricter definition of abstinence-only education. The funding level was increased from $50 million to $75 million annually for FY 2016 – 2017. For additional information and grantees, go to http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/titlev-2015-awards.

**Pregnancy Assistance Fund:**
This program, administered by OAH, provides $25 million annually for FY 2010 – 2019 for competitive grants to states, tribes, and territories to support pregnant and parenting teens and women, and combat violence against pregnant women. Projects help teens in high schools and community service centers and young women in institutions of higher education complete school and gain access to health care, child care, family housing, and other critical supports. In FY 2010, OAH awarded an initial round of 17 grants for a period of three years. A second round of 17 grants was awarded for 2013 to 2016, with three additional grants awarded for 2015 – 2017. Grantees may address delay of subsequent pregnancies among other topics. For additional information, go to http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/paf/home.html

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1 The National Campaign was awarded a Tier 2 grant.
2 Including the National Campaign.