

July 17, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Office of the Speaker of the House of
Representatives
United States Capitol, H-204
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Office of the Republican Leader of the
House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building, 2468
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Office of the Senate Majority Leader
United States Capitol, S-230
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Office of the Democratic Leader of the
Senate
Hart Senate Office Building, 419
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

As local, state, and national organizations dedicated to the health and success of youth in this country, we urge Congress to continue funding for the Office of Population Affairs' (OPA) Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program at \$101 million and the Administration on Children and Families' Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) at \$75 million, and to protect the integrity of these programs. The TPP Program and PREP have been recognized as pioneering examples of tiered, evidence-based policymaking that represent an important contribution to building a body of evidence of what works. They have traditionally included high quality implementation, evaluation, innovation, and learning from results. As Congress works on funding for FY 2021 and beyond, it is essential to preserve funding for these programs, ensure they adhere to rigorous standards of evidence, and avoid biased or incomplete information.

The teen pregnancy and teen birth rate have declined by an impressive 63 percent and 72 percent respectively since the early 1990s. There have been declines across all racial and ethnic groups, and in all 50 states. Yet disparities persist by race, ethnicity, age, and geography. PREP and the TPP Program address these disparities by targeting funds to youth and communities with the greatest needs.

Despite the progress that has been made, the United States has the highest rate of teen pregnancies in the developed world—nearly 450,000 pregnancies to teens each year, making it harder for many young people to achieve their goals for their education, career, and family.

The TPP Program and PREP are among the pioneering government programs that traditionally used evidence, both as criteria for funding decisions and to rigorously evaluate their efforts and results. A [study](#) by Power to Decide found that in 2015 alone, the United States realized \$4.4 billion dollars in savings due to the decline in the teen birth rate between 1991 and 2015. The public recognizes the value

in evidence-based programs. In fact, [polling](#) indicates that 85% of adults (75% of Republicans and 89% of Democrats) favor maintaining federal funding for the TPP Program and PREP.

The TPP Program and PREP represent a modest but strategic investment by the federal government to address the nation's high rate of teen pregnancy and contribute to progress on a host of other critical issues that are important to Americans: increasing high school and college completion, strengthening the workforce, and improving maternal and infant health. We hope that you will stand with the many groups below to protect funding and program integrity for PREP and the TPP Program—programs that will improve the lives of youth and future generations, while saving on public sector spending.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

Advocates for Youth	ETR Associates
Afterschool Alliance	Fathers & Families Coalition of America
Altarum Institute, Center for Prevention	Feminist Majority
American Academy of Pediatrics	First Focus
American Association of University Women (AAUW)	Forum for Youth Investment
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	Futures Without Violence
American Public Human Services Association	Girls Inc.
American School Health Association	Healthy Teen Network
American Sexual Health Association	Jacobs Institute of Women's Health
AMTC & Associates	March of Dimes
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs	Medicines360
Catholics for Choice	The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
Center for Reproductive Rights	National Association of Counsel for Children
Child Welfare League of America	National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
Children's Advocacy Institute	National Association of County Human Services Administrators
Cicatelli Associates Incorporated	National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues	National Coalition of Pastors' Spouses
Coalition of National Health Education Organizations	National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSD)
The Dibble Institute	National Council of Jewish Women
The Emily Program	The National Crittenton Foundation
EFFICACITY, LLC.	National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
Esperanza	National Foster Care Coalition
Eta Sigma Gamma	National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference

National Indian Education Association
National Institute for Reproductive Health
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Network of STD Clinical Prevention
Training Centers
National Network for Youth
National Organization for Women
National Women's Law Center
The New Evangelical Partnership for the
Common Good
North American Society for Pediatric and
Adolescent Gynecology (NASPAG)
Nurse-Family Partnership National Service
Office
Opportunity Nation
The Partnership for Male Youth
People For the American Way
Physicians for Reproductive Health
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
The Policy and Research Group
Population Connection Action Fund
Power to Decide, the campaign to prevent
unplanned pregnancy
Progressive Policy Institute
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
Religious Institute
Results for America
The Rural School and Community Trust
The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change
Society for Public Health Education
Sojourners
Third Way
UnidosUS
Union for Reform Judaism
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
Wyman Center
YWCA US

State and Local Organizations

AZ

Child & Family Resources INC
Concilio Latino de Salud, Inc. (Phoenix)
South Mountain WORKS Coalition (Phoenix)
Southwest Behavioral Health Services

CA

Adolescent Medicine, Pediatrics, Keck
School of Medicine, University of
Southern California (Los Angeles)
AltaMed Health Services Corp. (Los Angeles)
California Association of School Health
Educators
Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Division of
Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine
Community Action Partnership of San Luis
Obispo County, Inc.
East Valley Community Health Center
(Pomona and West Covina)
Family Service Agency of San Francisco
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality
Mental Health Systems Inc. (Escondido)
Mental Health Systems Inc. (San Diego)
Mount Toro High School Salinas Union
High School District Teen Parent
Program Cal-SAFE (Salinas)
North County Lifeline, Inc. (Oceanside)
Petaluma Health Center
Public Counsel Law Center – Children's
Rights Project (Los Angeles)
San Diego Youth Services
SAY San Diego
STEPP Program (Truckee)
Teen Success, Inc.
Valley Community Clinic (North Hollywood)
United Health Centers of the San Joaquin Valley

CO

Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains

CT

Greater New Britain Teen Pregnancy
Prevention, Inc.'s Pathways/Senderos Center
New Haven Public Schools

DC

DC Sociological Society

FL

Healthy Teens Coalition of Manatee County
Investing In Our Youth, Inc. (Quincy)
OIC of South Florida
Philemon Ministries (Apopka)
Planned Parenthood of South, East and
North Florida (Miami)
Trinity Church (Miami)

GA

Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power &
Potential
MAYFC – Metro Atlanta Youth for Christ
(Norcross)
Morehouse School of Medicine (Atlanta)
Phoebe Putney Health System (Albany)
Phoebe Putney Network of Trust School Health
Program (Albany)
Southwest Georgia Resource Center Inc.

HI

Hale `Opio Kaua'i, Inc. (Lihu'e)
Hawaii Youth Services Network

IL

Chicago Department of Public Health
Lee County Health Department
Rockford MELD (Rockford)

IN

A Positive Approach to Teen Health - PATH,
Inc. (Valparaiso)
Centerstone of Tennessee (serving TN, KY, IN)
Health Care Education and Training (serving IN
and WI)

KS

Future Leaders Outreach Network (Wyandotte
County)

KY

Centerstone of Tennessee (serving TN, KY, IN)
Community Connections Resource Center
(Louisville)

LA

Lift Louisiana
The Policy & Research Group
National Organization for Women - Shreveport/
Bossier Chapter

MA

Roca, Inc.

MD

Crittenton Services of Greater Washington
Lauren L. Tingey, PhD
Associate Director, John Hopkins Center for
American Indian Health

MI

Jackson County Health Department
Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual
Health (MOASH)
Project-U-Turn Inc. (Detroit)
YMCA of Metro Detroit
Antonia M. Villarruel, PhD, FAAN
Associate Dean for Research & Global Affairs,
Professor and Nola J. Pender Collegiate Chair,
University of Michigan School of Nursing

ME

New Beginnings Inc. (Lewiston)
Wayfinder Schools (New Gloucester)

MO

Better Family Life, INC (St. Louis)
Future Leaders Outreach Network (Kansas City)
The Teen Pregnancy & Prevention Partnership

MN

Family Tree Clinic (St. Paul)

MS

My Brother's Keeper

Teen Health Mississippi

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Marks)

NC

Cabarrus Partnership for Children (Concord)

Gang Free Inc. (Henderson)

M-T-W District Health Dept. (Williamston)

SHIFT NC

NE

The Women's Fund of Omaha

NJ

Center for Supportive Schools (CSS)

NV

Southern Nevada Health District

NY

Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network

Children's Aid

NYU Center for Latino Adolescent and Family Health (New York)

Metro Council for Teen Potential (Rochester)

New York State Council on Adolescent Pregnancy (NYSCAP)

OH

All About Me Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (Cincinnati)

OK

Amplify: Youth Health Collective (Tulsa)

Choctaw Na`tion SMART Program

Kirkpatrick Policy Group (Oklahoma City)

Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy

Take Control Initiative (Tulsa County)

Teen emPower! Inc. (Oklahoma City)

Thrive: A Sexual Health Collective for Youth

PA

Philadelphia Department of Public Health

John B. Jemmott III, Ph.D.

Professor, School of Medicine and
Annenberg School for Communication,
University of Pennsylvania

Loretta S. Jemmott, R.N., Ph.D

Professor, School of Nursing,
University of Pennsylvania

RI

The Rhode Island Alliance

YWCA Rhode Island

SC

Coastal Carolina OBGYN (Conway)

Child Abuse Prevention Association/CAPA
(Beaufort)

FactForward

TN

A Step Ahead Chattanooga

A Step Ahead Foundation

A Step Foundation East Tennessee

A Step Ahead Foundation of Middle Tennessee

A Step Ahead Foundation of West Tennessee

Future Leaders Outreach Network (

Centerstone of Tennessee (serving TN, KY, IN)

Le Bonheur Community Health and Well-Being
(Memphis)

Monroe Harding (Nashville)

Women's Fund of Greater Chattanooga

TX

Ambassadors For Christ Youth Ministries
(Houston)

American Congress of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists, District XI

Baylor Teen Health Clinic (Houston)

City of San Antonio

Communities of Color United: Coalition for
Racial Justice (Austin)

Future Leaders Outreach Network (DFW Metro)
Healthy Futures of Texas
Henderson County HELP Center
Image Means Everything (Houston)
LifeWorks (Austin)
Ntarupt (North Texas Alliance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy)
Parents Anonymous of Tyler Inc. (Tyler)
Project Vida Health Center
Rio Grande Valley Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition
Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
The Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

UT

Centro Hispano (Provo)
David N. Sundwall M.D.
Professor of Public Health, University of Utah
School of Medicine – Division of Public Health

VA

Department of Global and Community Health,
George Mason University (Fairfax)
Office on Children & Youth, James Madison
University (Harrisonburg)
Parenting Cooperative Program (Culpeper)

VT

Youth Catalytics (Charlotte)

WA

Public Health - Seattle & King County

WI

City of Milwaukee Health Department
Community Advocates Public Policy Institute
Health Care Education and Training (serving IN and WI)
Independence*First* (Milwaukee)
Pathfinders Milwaukee, Inc.

WV

Brian's Safehouse (Month Hope)
CASEWV/PROJECT YES (Bluefield)
Eastern Greenbrier Middle School (Ronceverte)
Greenbrier East High School (Lewisburg)
Mission West Virginia
Sparrows Nest (Beckley)