


TO: Juvenile Welfare Board Members

FROM: James Mills, Executive Director   
Vicki Sprague, Senior Research Consultant *vs*

### Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership Evaluation – Final Report (September, 2001)

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership (TPPP) officially formed in October 1999 in response to perceived needs based upon teen birthrate statistics and trends in Pinellas County. The TPPP is designed to reduce teen pregnancy in Pinellas County through community involvement and enhancement of community partnerships. The Teen Pregnancy Work Group initiating this Partnership was comprised by eleven members representing the Family Service Centers, the Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas County, Pinellas County Health Department, and the YWCA of Tampa Bay. The Partnership is jointly funded by the Juvenile Welfare Board, GTS Corporation and United Way. Rowlette Research Associates was contracted by the Juvenile Welfare Board to conduct an independent process evaluation of the TPPP in March 2000 for the two-year life of the program. Attached is the Executive Summary of the Final Evaluation Report.

The Final Report indicates that TPPP has completed the process and outcome objectives identified for each of the three concurrent phases (i.e., planning, analysis, and implementation) of the initiative. TPPP accomplishments include:

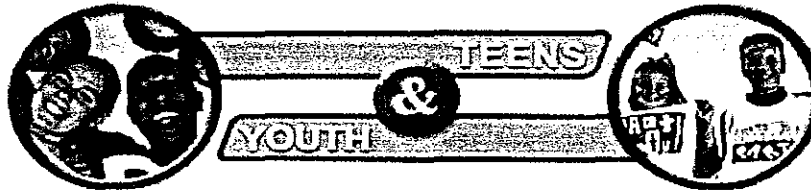
- Involving youth, business leaders, health care providers, the Pinellas County School Board, and the faith community in the Partnership
- Obtaining Letters of Agreement from 28 community partners;
- Active involvement of nearly 130 individuals and/or organizations;
- Administration and analysis of surveys and focus groups to identify needs, attitudes, recommendations and best practices in the community;
- Completion of the *Strategic Plan to Promote Adolescent Sexual Health & Reduce Teen Pregnancy, 2002-2007*.

The Final Report also includes the results of a TPPP survey developed by the evaluator and TPPP to assess the Partnership's effectiveness among its 100 members. The survey showed an overall satisfaction with the Partnership's efforts and with the opportunity to voice their opinions as members. Overall, the evaluation found that the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership successfully met and/or exceeded all of their stated goals and have the necessary community commitment and management capabilities to implement their Strategic Plan.

Copies of the complete Final Report are available upon request.

Staff Resource: Vicki L. Sprague, Ph.D.

## Executive Summary



This is the final process evaluation report of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership initiative in Pinellas County. The initiative is designed with three concurrent Phases—Planning, Analysis, and Implementation—each with an action plan involving the following activities that are designed to achieve specific process and measurable outcome objectives for the first year of funding:

- recruitment of community partners and volunteers;
- community assessment and identification of needs and assets;
- funding and sustainability; and,
- determination of community priorities based on best practices.

Unlike many teen pregnancy prevention community initiatives,<sup>1</sup> the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership was not formed in response to available funding, nor any specific request for proposals issued by funders in the County or at the national level. Rather, an eleven-member group of committed individuals, comprised of representatives of the YWCA of Tampa Bay, Pinellas County Health Department, Family Service Centers, and the Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas County, sought funding after perceiving a need in the community to address teen pregnancy more effectively.

In contrast to declining rates at both the national and state level, Pinellas County had not achieved a reduction in teen pregnancy rates. The group decided that the first step in addressing this issue was to develop a formal structure and secure funding that would drive the development of a comprehensive countywide initiative that could be sustained by the community through a unified community action plan of community partner agencies, organizations, and key individuals.

The report recaps important information provided in the February annual report by providing a summary of the development of the evaluation framework and process objectives for each phase of the initiative; evaluation questions; measurable outcome objectives developed collaboratively with the Juvenile Welfare Board; definition of terms developed in collaboration with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention

<sup>1</sup> Examples are the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's 1996 seven-year initiative involving 13 major communities nationally, statewide teen pregnancy prevention programs such as the Enable Program in California and Florida, and ongoing community programs in Pinellas based on requests for proposals.

Partnership; action steps for each phase; results of a survey on the functioning of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Partnership concluded last August; description of the youth advisory panel for the evaluation; and, technical assistance provided during the period under review. In addition, the report provides some final recommendations for future steps.

A summary description of the achievements of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Steering Committee is provided. Notable successes of the Steering Committee include the following:

- Securing funding and in-kind contributions during the Planning and Analysis Phases;
- Recruiting 130 members representing agencies, organizations, groups, parents, youth, and community Faith leaders;
- Securing 28 signed Letters of Agreement;
- Training 7 teen and 15 adult facilitators who conducted 45 focus groups throughout the County and surveyed youth, parents, and Faith leaders;
- Gaining representation and assistance from the School Board;
- Attracting media attention in *St. Pete Times* and *Florida Network on Adolescent Pregnancy* articles;
- Formation of Faith and Youth Councils and their involvement in both the steering committee and partnership;
- Securing the involvement of the business, school and Faith communities in both the steering committee and the partnership;
- Conducting two community strategic planning sessions attended by 71 community members to develop, prioritize, and operationalize strategies;
- Developing a Strategic Plan to promote adolescent sexual health and reduce teen pregnancy; and,
- Achieving all measurable objectives assigned by funders.

The positive status of the three phases of process action steps and measurable outcome objectives are discussed in detail. The status of the three measurable outcome objectives are presented. Finally, the report describes evidence of community stakeholder engagement and achievement of program goals.