

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act amended Title V of the Social Security Act to include a new formula grant program entitled Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP). The allocation of federal funding to states from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) for the development and implementation of the PREP designed to educate adolescents on both abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDS, and at least three adulthood preparation subjects for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 through FFY 2014. The amount of funding allocated to the New Jersey DHSS for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2010 is \$1, 412, 929.

In June 2011, the Department of Health and Senior Services, Child and Adolescent Health Program posted a Request for Applications for the replication of evidence-based effective program models that have been proven on the basis of scientific research to change behaviors: delay sexual activity, increase condom or contraceptive use for sexually active youth, or reduce pregnancy among youth. Adolescents are to be educated on both abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDS, and at least three (3) of the following adult preparation topics.

- a. Healthy relationships, such as positive self-esteem and relationship dynamics, friendships, dating, romantic involvement, marriage, and family interactions
- b. Adolescent development, such as the development of healthy attitudes and values about adolescent growth and development, body image, racial and ethnic diversity, and other related subjects
- c. Financial literacy
- d. Parent-child communication
- e. Educational and career success, such as developing skills for employment preparation, job seeking, independent living, financial self-sufficiency, and work-place productivity
- f. Healthy life skills, such as goal-setting, decision making, negotiation, communication and interpersonal skills, and stress management

The goal of the New Jersey PREP is to provide 10 – 19 year old adolescents (of which at least 50% of these youth are required to live in one of the thirty (30) State-identified, high-risk NJ municipalities for teen pregnancy and STIs, including HIV/AIDS) with the knowledge and skills to abstain from or delay the initiation of sexual activity.

In September, 2011, seven applicants were approved for PREP funding. They are:

Northern Region:

Planned Parenthood Greater Northern New Jersey

Target # Youth: 120

Municipalities: Elizabeth, Plainfield and Roselle Boro

Evidence-based Program Model: Teen Health Project

Northern New Jersey Maternal Child Health Consortium

Target # Youth: 800

Municipalities: East Orange, Englewood, Irvington, Orange, Passaic and Paterson

Evidence-based Program Model: Making Proud Choices

Kean University

Target # Youth: 600

Municipalities: Jersey City and Newark

Evidence-based Program Model: Reducing the Risk

Central Region:

Central Jersey Family Health Consortium

Target # Youth: 320

Municipalities: New Brunswick, Perth Amboy and Trenton

Evidence-based Program Model: Teen Outreach Program (TOP)

New Jersey Women and AIDS Network

Target # Youth: 225

Municipalities: New Brunswick, Plainfield and Trenton

Evidence-based Program Model: SIHLE & Making Proud Choices

Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey

Target # Youth: 125

Municipalities: Long Branch and Asbury Park

Evidence-based Program Model: Teen Health Project

Southern Region:

SNJ Perinatal Cooperative

Target # Youth: 144

Municipalities: Camden, Vineland, Millville, Atlantic City, Pleasantville and Bridgeton

Evidence-based Program Model: Be Proud Be Responsible