

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention



RTI International offers expertise in adolescent pregnancy prevention initiatives, including program evaluation, performance monitoring, and technical assistance. RTI works with youth-serving organizations to strengthen adolescent pregnancy prevention efforts. Our evaluation and implementation capabilities include conducting randomized controlled trials, qualitative data analysis, and marketing campaigns.

Overview

Adolescent pregnancy prevention (APP) is a significant public health problem with substantial costs to both young families and the public. Though overall rates of adolescent pregnancy have dropped, they have not dropped equally across all populations (e.g., youth with disabilities, LGBTQ youth, homeless and runaway youth, justice system-involved youth, and youth in the foster care system). Successful APP initiatives require strong implementation and practices that can be replicated, and emerging technologies offer innovative ways to deliver interventions. Organizations developing and delivering APP initiatives require targeted training and technical assistance with impact, process, and cost evaluations; program implementation; performance monitoring; and dissemination of findings.

RTI's staff of technical experts includes seasoned methodologists, behavioral science researchers, statisticians, and economists. We work with federal agencies to create detailed and useful performance monitoring initiatives, including web-based dashboards that provide agencies with a snapshot of current program data. RTI's capabilities in economic evaluation and cost-effectiveness help assess APP costs and returns, further contributing to the evidence base. RTI provides tailored

grantee training and technical assistance, including innovative technical assistance tools around media and social marketing efforts.

Areas of Expertise

RTI has expertise in APP and youth risk behavior prevention programs, including a deep familiarity with current literature and best practices, available services for pregnant and parenting teens, effective preventive efforts against sexually transmitted diseases, and programs for vulnerable youth populations. Our technical expertise includes implementation, process, and outcome evaluations of APP initiatives; large-scale data collection and data management; quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis; technical assistance and training for adult and youth learners; and performance measures development and monitoring. We are skilled in systematic literature reviews and manuscript preparation, as well as the creation and evaluation of social marketing campaigns that address APP efforts.

Our multidisciplinary staff members work with diverse populations. Our team is sensitive to, and empathetic with, the unique needs of these individual groups. Our staff members also work with APP programs implemented in a variety of settings—including conducting evaluations

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of school-based APP programs and school-based, trauma-informed APP program delivery—so we understand the barriers and challenges to implementing and evaluating different program models. Our partnerships with national organizations (e.g., the National Campaign, Healthy Teen Network) add depth to our service capacity and allow us to match the strongest experts with the appropriate APP initiative. We also have expertise in topics that complement APP efforts, including adolescent intimate partner violence prevention, substance abuse prevention, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, and promotion of positive parenting strategies.

Project Highlights

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program Training and Technical Assistance (Administration for Children and Families, 2015–present). This project supports the Administration for Children and Families' APP and adulthood preparation efforts. RTI provides targeted technical assistance and training to grantees delivering APP programs, including developing content and training around serving vulnerable populations like LGBTQ youth, out-of-home youth, and youth with disabilities.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Performance Measures and Technical Assistance (Office of Adolescent Health, 2012–present). RTI developed a robust performance measures monitoring system that allows grantees to easily input performance and cost measures data. These data can be accessed by Office of Adolescent Health project officers who have a dashboard that shows current grantee performance. The RTI team provides extensive analysis and reporting on these measures, as well as frequent technical assistance to grantees via webinars, office hours, and a help desk ticketing system.

Community Violence and Reproductive Health Among Youth in Salinas, California (National Institute for Child Health, 2013–present). This grant examines the relationship between structural factors and reproductive health among youth in Monterey County and identifies factors that influence

Selected Project Highlights

- Teen Pregnancy Prevention Training, Technical Assistance, and Annual Meeting Logistical Support (2011–2015)
- Preventing Intimate Partner Violence Among Teens Who Are Pregnant or Parenting (2015–present)
- Evaluating the Title XX Adolescent Family Life (AFL) Program: Stage 4 (2008–2011)
- Evaluation of the Pregnancy Assistance Fund 2011–2013 Cohort Contract (2011–2014)
- Evaluation of the *Parents Speak Up* National Campaign (2005–2010)
- Dissemination of Findings of AFL Demonstration Projects (2007–2009)
- An Assessment of Parent Involvement Strategies in Programs Serving Adolescents (2004–2006)

these relationships that could be the focus of future public health interventions. The research aims to examine how distinct sources of community violence exposure affects the reproductive health among youth aged 15–21, how social networks and families moderate the relationships between community violence and reproductive health, and how to identify aspects of migration and adaptation across immigrant generations that affect pregnancy attitudes, contraceptive use, and pregnancy incidence.

More Information

Barri B. Burrus, PhD
Director, Center for the Health of At-Risk Populations
919.597.5109
barri@rti.org

Olivia Ashley, PhD
Director, Public Health
919.541.6427
osilber@rti.org

RTI International
3040 E. Cornwallis Road, PO Box 12194
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194 USA

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