

**Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP)
eNewsletter
July 1, 2010**

1. T.C. Williams Seniors Signed Prom Pledge

T.C. Williams High School seniors signed a [prom pledge](#) before they were allowed to purchase tickets for their prom, which took place on June 5. Students pledged to party sober, report to a teacher if they saw anyone using alcohol or other drugs at prom and keep sexually healthy by delaying sex or using condoms to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

The pledge was sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy and T.C. Williams High School. A copy of the pledge can be found at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2010/nr2010060403-form.pdf>

2. Focus Groups for 18-19 year old youth

ACAP is hosting two focus groups for 18-19 year old youth on Wednesday July 14, 2010 from 6-8 pm at 421 King Street Suite 400. Youth should register by calling Becky at 703.746.5030. Participants will receive a \$10 gift card and dinner. All information collected will be confidential. [Click here for a flyer.](#)

3. Teen Pregnancy Data Update

ACAP has posted two presentations at www.alexgetreal.com under New Features with the most recent (2008) data.

From Child Trends

1. Young Adults at High Risk for STDs, But Don't Think They Are

Fifteen percent of young adults in the U.S. between the ages of 18 and 26 have had a sexually transmitted disease (STD) within the past year, but nearly three-quarters of these young adults with an STD did not believe that they were at risk, according to a new Child Trends brief. [Sexually Transmitted Diseases among Young Adults: Prevalence, Perceived Risk, and Risk-Taking Behaviors](#) analyzes recently released data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health to provide estimates on the prevalence of and attitudes toward STDs among young adults, as well as on the behaviors that may put them at risk of contracting an STD.

Among the findings:

- STD prevalence differs by gender and race/ethnicity, with higher rates among women and blacks.
- Young adults who have an STD often aren't aware of it--most didn't think they had any chance of having an STD, few experienced any symptoms, and only one in four said they would call in to get their test results.

- Many young adults, including those who didn't test positive for an STD, were engaging in sexual behaviors that could place them at risk of getting an STD.

From Guttmacher Institute

1. ["We're the Heroes!": Fathers' Perspectives on Their Role In Protecting Their Preteenage Children from Sexual Risk](#)
2. [Abstinence and Teenagers: Prevention Counseling Practices of Health Care Providers Serving High-Risk Patients in the United States](#)
3. [History of Forced Sex and Recent Sexual Risk Indicators Among Young Adult Males](#)
4. [Withdrawal Attitudes and Experiences: A Qualitative Perspective Among Young Urban Adults](#)

From Healthy Teen Network

1. [HHS Priority: Reducing Teen/Unplanned Pregnancy in Inter-Agency Priority List](#)

United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently announced that she is including teen pregnancy prevention in her inter-agency priorities. In a recent statement, Secretary Sebelius explained "teen mothers and their children are more likely to face a range of challenges and adverse conditions when it comes to the health and economic security of themselves and their children." In an effort to combat these problems, the Department of Health and Human Services will be focusing on three strategies to reduce teen and unplanned pregnancy, including: 1) investing in evidence-based teen pregnancy reduction strategies, 2) targeting populations at high risk for teen pregnancy and 3) increasing access to clinical services. ([HHS.gov](#), 6/21/2010)

2. [Text Messages Become a Growing Weapon in Dating Violence](#)

As texting plans and cell phones become more ubiquitous among teen users, a new form of dating violence is gaining increased attention: 'textual harassment.' According to Jill Murray, an author and dating violence authority, textual harassment has "gotten astonishingly worse in the last two years; it's part and parcel of every abusive dating relationship now." Teen health advocates believe that the advances in technology have made it easier for perpetrators to harass, stalk and threaten their victims and that the private nature of phone calls and texting often makes it difficult for others to recognize warning signs. ([Washington Post](#), 6/21/2010)

From the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

1. [Fathers Know Best](#)

In honor of Father's Day 2010, President Obama announced the launch of The President's Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative (NRF). The President's Initiative is a partnership between the Administration for Children and Families, White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, and other leaders from across the country.

To learn more about the Initiative:

- [Read President Obama's Remarks](#)
- [Visit fatherhood.gov](#)
- [Read Driving Away Dads](#), an editorial by National Campaign Public Policy Advisory Group member Joe Jones featured in the June 16 issue of the Baltimore Sun.
- [Read Everyday Should Be Father's Day](#), a blog post by National Campaign staffer Amy Kramer.

2. Careful, Current, and Consistent

This recently released brochure is designed to foster more targeted conversation between patients and reproductive health professionals—even those who feel they have too little time to discuss contraceptive choices in detail. Under each tip is a brief note on why to offer this tip and how to do it, as well. The brochure was developed by James Jaccard, PhD, a leading expert in research related to reproductive health; it has also been carefully reviewed by numerous reproductive health professionals with both clinical and research expertise. [Click here to download the brochure.](#)

3. Stay Teen Pregnancy Prevention PSA Art Contest

Tell the teens in your life about the Stay Teen PSA Art Contest! Teens 13-19 are eligible to submit their artwork and ideas about teen pregnancy prevention. The National Campaign will be accepting entries by mail and online until September 30, 2010. Winning entries will be used by The National Campaign on postcards, posters, and other materials distributed nationwide. Winners will receive a \$250 gift card to spend however they choose.

For more information and to read the official contest rules, visit <http://www.stayteen.org/contest>.