



Jackson County Health Department

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Creating Healthy Communities



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Contact: **Kelsea Jabkiewicz, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator**

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JACKSON COUNTY, MI – May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month and the Jackson County Health Department would like to share some ways you can get involved in helping teens consider how having a child could impact their life and steps to take for prevention.

Power to Decide, the national campaign to prevent unplanned pregnancy, states that the latest news on the teen pregnancy front has been incredibly positive. Since the 1990's, teen birth rate in the U.S. has declined by 67% and is now at record level lows. Jackson County has also experienced dramatic declines in teen pregnancy rates with a 43% reduction since the 1990's. The 2016 teen pregnancy rate for Jackson County is 35.1 per 1,000 females, ages 15-19, compared to a Michigan rate of 29.2.

To continue this momentum, join us the month of May to support the National Day and Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month. On the National Day, and throughout the month of May, teens will be invited to visit Power to Decide's teen website—StayTeen.org—to participate in the online National Day Quiz. The quiz challenges teens to think carefully about what they might do "in the moment" through a series of interactive scenarios. The website also has discussion guides for parents and teens on how to start a conversation about sex, love, relationships, contraception, and making good decisions.

Kelsea Jabkiewicz, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator at the Jackson County Health Department states, "We have made great strides working together as a community to educate teens on making healthy and responsible choices. Let's continue to talk early and often with young people about adolescent sexual health."

For more resources regarding teen pregnancy prevention and adolescent sexual health, visit:

<https://powertodecide.org>

<http://tppijackson.org/>

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What is the Jackson County Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI)?

Mission: To reduce the teen pregnancy rate in and address contributing factors for Jackson County's young people

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative is a collaborative effort featuring an Advisory Committee whose goal is to reduce teen pregnancy in Jackson County. TPPI is funded by the United Way of Jackson County and coordinated by the Jackson County Health Department.

What can the TPPI help with?

The TPPI can assist with:

- Platform to network through bi-monthly meetings to discuss contributing factors to teen pregnancy prevention and work on strategies together
- Constant communication via e-mail blasts to stay up on teen related issues and volunteer opportunities
- Sex Education Advisory Committee guidance and evidence-based program expertise
- One-time school presentations and assemblies
- Parent education workshops
- Resources for teen and parents (books, videos, publications)
- Access to our Teen Advisory Council who meets monthly, representing over half of Jackson County high schools, for teen feedback and insight

TPPI Funded Programs through Multiple Grant Sources

Teen Outreach Program

Jackson County Abstinence Program

HOPE Program

Be REAL Summer Program

'I WISH' Teen Pregnancy Prevention Video Project

Get REAL Summer Program

How to Contact the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative

Kelsea Jabkiewicz, Coordinator

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative

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