



Jackson County Health Department

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Creating Healthy Communities



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

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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.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy states that the latest news on the teen pregnancy front has been incredibly positive. Since the 1990's, teen pregnancy and birth rates in the U.S. have declined by 55% and 61% respectively and now are at record low levels. Jackson County has also experienced dramatic declines in teen pregnancy rates with a 39% reduction since the 1990's. The 2014 teen pregnancy rate for Jackson County is 46.5 per 1,000 females, ages 15-19, compared to a Michigan rate of 44.5.

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 the National Campaign'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.

Michelle White, MA, 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:

<http://thenationalcampaign.org/>

<http://tppijackson.org/>

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