Joining with community partners to create an environment where all teens have the information, skills and resources to act upon healthy decisions about their sexual and reproductive health
CDC Goal

10% reduction in births to 15-19 year-olds in Hunts Point and Morrisania (Community Districts 2 & 3) by 2015.
Approach

- Community-wide, Multi-component
  - DOHMH
    - Provide Framework
    - Training and Technical Assistance
    - Convene
    - Evaluate
  - Partners
    - Educate / Advocate
    - Provide Direct Services
Project Components

1. Evidence-Based / Evidence-Informed Programs
2. Access to Quality Clinical Services
3. Community Engagement & Mobilization
4. Stakeholder Education
DOHMH Four-Pronged Strategy to Reduce Unintended Teen Pregnancy

- Evidence-Based Programs (Sex Education, Youth Development)
- Clinic Linkage
- Quality Sexual & Reproductive Health Services
- Community/Stakeholder Education & Engagement

- Delay Initiation of Sex/2° Abstinence
- Increase Contraceptive Use Among Sexually Active Teens

Reduce Unintended Teen Pregnancy
Evidence-Based/Evidence-Informed Programs – PROJECT GOALS

Implement EB/EI sexual health education programs with:

- 5,000 students (9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - *Reducing the Risk with LGBTQ supplement*
- 500 teens at other youth-serving organizations
  - *Becoming A Responsible Teen (BART)*
  - *Teen Health Project*
  - *Sexual Health and Adolescent Risk Prevention (SHARP)*

*Evidence-Based* = Proven to impact sexual health behavior
Evidence-Based/Evidence-Informed Programs

Key NYC Government Partners

- NYC Department of Education
- NYC Administration for Children’s Services
- NYC Department of Youth and Community Development
- Center for Court Innovation
EB/EI: Status – Spring 2013

• 21 High Schools
  • 2415 youth received curriculum
  • 72 staff trained - teachers, social workers, guidance counselors, parent coordinators

• 8 Other Youth-serving Organizations
  • 135 youth received curriculum
  • 42 staff trained – case workers, social workers, preparing youth for adulthood coordinators, trainers
Access to Quality Clinical Services

• Build clinics’ capacity to provide quality sexual and reproductive health services to teens

• Establish linkages from clinics to high schools and youth-serving organizations
Best Practices

• DOHMH/CDC Best Practices
• Community clinics average 25/31
• School Based Health Centers average 26/31
Clinic Linkage Model: Schools/YSOs

School
• Confidential space for health educator
• Allow health educator to present in classrooms and gatherings
• Advertise and promote health educator services
• *Reducing The Risk* Lesson 8 – Clinic Visit

Clinic – Provide health educator to:
• Conduct presentations
• Promote clinic services
• Meet one-on-one with students
• Conduct condom demo and provide condoms
• Provide contraceptive information
• Co-facilitate *Reducing The Risk* Lesson 8
• Schedule appointments or make referrals to clinic
BxTC Clinic Linkage Model

- 30 active linkages
- 5618 encounters between teens and health educators
Community Engagement & Mobilization

• Goal: Bring together many segments of the community
  • Disseminate information
  • Foster changes in social norms within South Bronx
  • Foster cooperation
  • Advocate for Policy Change
Community Engagement & Mobilization

- Coordinate 3 community partner groups
  - Community Action Team
  - Core Partner Leadership Team (aka “Stakeholders”)
  - Youth Leadership Team
    - Encourage youth involvement and leadership
Accomplishments – CAT

• Support Letters
  • NYC school sexual health education mandate
  • CATCH/Plan B Availability

• Raising awareness of minors’ sexual and reproductive health rights in high schools and middle schools
  • Distributing minor’s rights brochures & information to parents and school staff at start of school year
  • Engaging parents and school staff in PTA meetings and parent workshops
Youth Leadership Team

- Leadership training and skills building activities
- Peer Educators
- Teens in NYC Mobile App Development
- Input in the Public Awareness Campaign
- “Mystery shopping” to assess teen-accessibility of South Bronx clinics
- Stakeholder Education
- Created “Teen Speak About Sexual Health”
The Real Truth From Real Teens
Stakeholder Education

• Educate policy-makers at the local, state and federal level

• Educate on evidence-based programs and best practices

• Develop public messages for traditional and social media
Core Partner Leadership Team

- Provide high-level leadership, commitment and advocacy for work to promote comprehensive, evidence-based practices as the norm

- Sustain and replicate effective teen pregnancy prevention initiatives in the South Bronx and citywide

- Create and strengthen citywide agency support for access to services and information
BxTC’s Lessons Learned (so far)

**Evidence-Based Program Implementation**

- EBIs are most effective with buy-in from senior administrators
- Incentives assist in building sustainable programs

**Access and Improvement to Clinical Services**

- Clinic leaders and adolescent reproductive health champions must work together to implement change
- Focused senior clinic leaders can result in quick improvements

**Community Engagement and Mobilization/Stakeholder Education**

- Community input is a must for clear consistent messages
- Community partners can be very effective in raising awareness
Next Steps - Sustainability

- Recently established a sustainability committee to develop a sustainability plan

- Working with DOE, individual high schools and other youth-serving organizations to ensure implementation of evidence based programs

- Working with clinics to ensure teen accessibility and linkages are mutually beneficial
Thank You

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