

Ohio PREP Region 6 Quarterly Newsletter

December 2014



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What is Ohio PREP?

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) for Foster Care and Adjudicated Youth

Ohio PREP is a grant program funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services, as a result of the Affordable Care Act of 2010. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) provides grant funding for nine regions.

The program focuses on educating direct-care staff of foster care and adjudicated youth (14 – 19 years) to provide an evidence-based curriculum on BOTH abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI), including HIV/AIDS. The curriculum also incorporates three adulthood readiness topics, including financial literacy, healthy relationships and educational career success. These educational programs are provided exclusively to youth in foster care and those involved with the juvenile justice system. The curriculum is not provided in schools.

GOALS OF OHIO PREP:

- ◆ Reduce the rates of teen pregnancy and STI including HIV/AIDS
- ◆ Increase the number of youth in the target population who successfully transition to adulthood
- ◆ Increase and enhance workforce development of child welfare and juvenile justice professionals by providing consistent, standardized service training on evidence based teen pregnancy prevention curriculum and adulthood topics
- ◆ Develop a coalition of representatives of agencies/ organizations and key stakeholders from all nine counties who work and are familiar with the target population



Public Health
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Ohio
Department of Health

Youth with Atypical Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation at Risk for Bullying and Negative Health Consequences

Dianne L. Kerr, Ph.D., MCHES

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) youth are at greater risk for many health-debilitating behaviors. For example, data from seven states that included the sexual orientation question on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) found gay and lesbian students had higher rates for 7 of the 10 health risk categories (behaviors that contribute to violence and attempted suicide, tobacco use, alcohol use, other drug use, sexual behaviors, and weight management). Bisexual students had higher rates for eight of the 10 health risk categories (all of the categories of the gay and lesbian students above plus behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries). Research on transgender youth finds them to be at even higher risk. LGBTQ youth face such dramatic disparities for so many health risks and stressors such as stigma, discrimination, and victimization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended special efforts be taken to promote their health and safety.

Bullying is one such stressor, causing LGBTQ youths physical and emotional harm, and even leading some to take their own lives. Youth in foster care and juvenile justice settings are even more likely to experience such bullying which may take the form of physical, verbal, relational (destroying reputation via rumors, etc.) harm, or damage to property. School-based research indicates this bullying is a fairly common occurrence in LGBTQ youths' lives. An extensive national study by the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) found that 86.2% of LGBT public school students reported being verbally harassed because of their sexual orientation, 44.1% were physically harassed, and 22.1% were physically assaulted. Consequences for youth in foster care or juvenile justice settings are just as severe.

Sadly, many youth are embarrassed to report this bullying to parents, caregivers, or teachers. Even more tragic is the fact that sometimes when the bullying is reported, adults in positions of authority do little or nothing. Here in Ohio we have seen such cases. At Union-Scioto High School in Chillicothe, Ohio a 15-year-old teenager was caught on video being severely beaten in his high school classroom for being gay. Fellow class members watched one teen wait for the victim to enter the room, push him to the ground, and continually punch him in the face. The victim suffered broken teeth and a possible concussion. The perpetrator was suspended for just 3 days. Other youth have taken their own lives due to the endless taunts of classmates, some with direct messages such as "you should go home and kill yourself."

If you want to learn more about LGBTQ youth, bullying and its warning signs, consequences, and prevention, come to our next coalition meeting [January 7, 2015](#). This will be a lunch and learn session, with lunch provided for participants by the PREP grant. We hope to see you all there.

Region 6 Staff

Canton City Health Department

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KSU Grad Assistant

Career Navigation Group

Diana Miller, BS, LICDC

Julie Paine
Independent Contractor

Year 4 Grant Cycle:

August 1, 2014-July 31, 2015

PREP Coalition

Agencies that work with adjudicated and foster youth throughout Region 6 are invited to join the coalition and serve as resource persons for the **Northeast Ohio Personal Responsibility Education Program (NEOPREP) Region 6**. Coalition meetings are held quarterly. The goals of this project, as well as the process by which the goals are met, will be overseen by the coalition. The purpose of the coalition is to guide the direction of programming efforts throughout Region 6. The coalition members will assist as partners in circulating PREP information, soliciting agency participation, and networking with agency providers.



If you would like more information about this project or have an interest in participating in the coalition meetings, contact Dana Hale, RN, BSN, PREP Project Coordinator at (330) 489-3322.



The Next PREP Coalition Meeting/Training

When: January 7, 2015 from 12:30—2:00 pm

Where: Goodwill Industries Community Campus –Stark
408 9th St SW, Canton, OH 44707

PREP Training Workshop

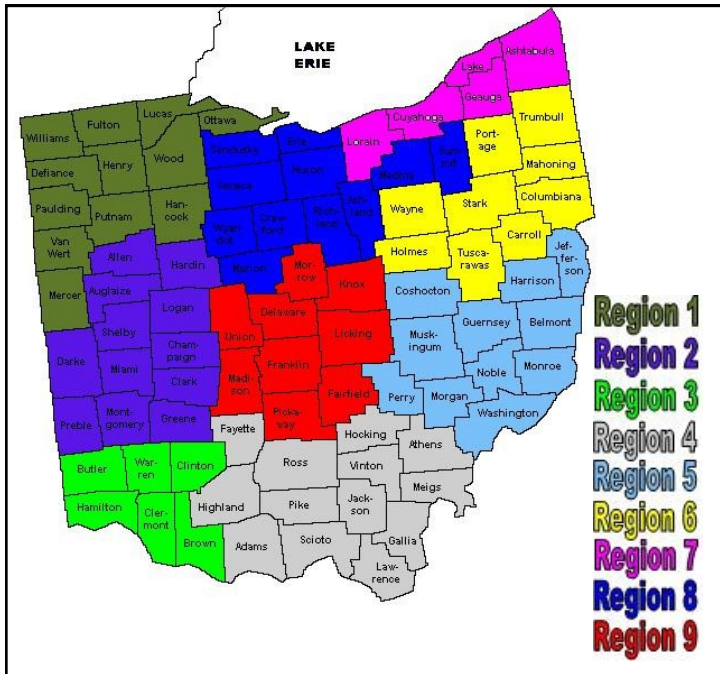
When: February 12, 2015 from 8:15 am—5:00 pm

Where: Goodwill Industries Community Campus - Stark
408 9th Street SW Canton Ohio 44707

Audience: Direct care staff working with foster and adjudicated youth

For more information visit <http://neoprep6.ehhs.kent.edu>

Ohio PREP Regions



Region 1 (Northwest) Lucas County Health Department: Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Mercer, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood counties.

Region 2 (West Central) Planned Parenthood of Southwest Ohio: Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Hardin, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby counties.

Region 3 (Southwest) Planned Parenthood of Southwest Ohio: Butler, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, and Warren counties.

Region 4 (South) Planned Parenthood of Southeast Ohio: Adams, Athens, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton counties.

Region 5 (Southeast) Belmont County General Health District in partnership with Noble and Perry County Health Departments: Belmont, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, and Washington counties.

Region 6 (Northeast) Canton City Health Department: Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties.

Region 7 (Lake Central) Cuyahoga County Board of Health: Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Lorain counties.

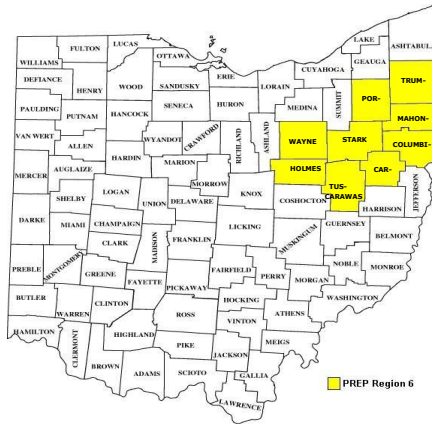
Region 8 (North Central) Summit County Public Health: Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Marion, Medina, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Summit, and Wyandot counties.

Region 9 (Central) Nationwide Children's Hospital: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Pickaway, and Union counties.



Ohio PREP is funded by The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) and administered by the Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Community Health and Patient-Centered Primary Care, School and Adolescent Health Program.

Ohio PREP Region 6



Ohio PREP Region 6 Agencies Instructing Youth

Chance Given	Portage County Department of Job and Family Services
Community Corrections Facility - Multi-County Juvenile Attention System (MCJAS)	Residential Treatment Center - Multi-County Juvenile Attention System (MCJAS)
Indian River Department of Youth Services	Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth
Mahoning County Juvenile Justice	Stark County Department of Job and Family Services
National Youth Advocate Program	Trumbull County Juvenile Justice
New Philadelphia Group Home—Multi-County Juvenile Attention System (MCJAS)	Youth Intensive Services
Pathway Caring for Children	

Ohio PREP Region 6 Agencies with PREP Trained Staff

Alliance For Children and Family	Portage County Department of Job and Family Services
Bair Foundation	Residential Treatment Center-MCJAS
Catholic Charities	Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth
Chance Given	Stark County Family Court
Columbiana County Department of Job and Family Services	Stark County Department of Job and Family Services
Community Corrections Facility-MCJAS	Stark County Community Action Agency
Family Life Counseling	Stepping Stone Residential
Indian River Department of Youth Services	The Twelve
Mahoning County Children’s Services	The Village Network
Mahoning County Juvenile Court	Trumbull Children Services
National Youth Advocate Program	Trumbull County Juvenile Justice
New Beginnings	Trumbull Juvenile Detention
New Philadelphia Group Home-MCJAS	Wayne County Department of Job and Family Services
Pathway Caring for Children	Youth Intensive Services
Portage County Family and Community Services	