

# Ohio PREP Region 6 Quarterly Newsletter



September 2013



## 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 focus is on educating direct-care staff of foster care and adjudicated youth (14 – 19 years) to provide evidence-based curriculum on BOTH abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI), including HIV/AIDS. These educational programs for youth are community based not school based.

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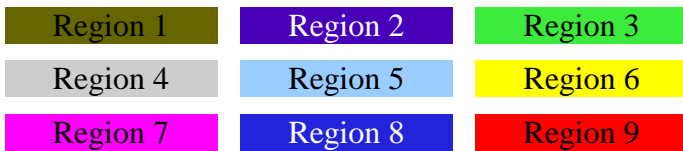
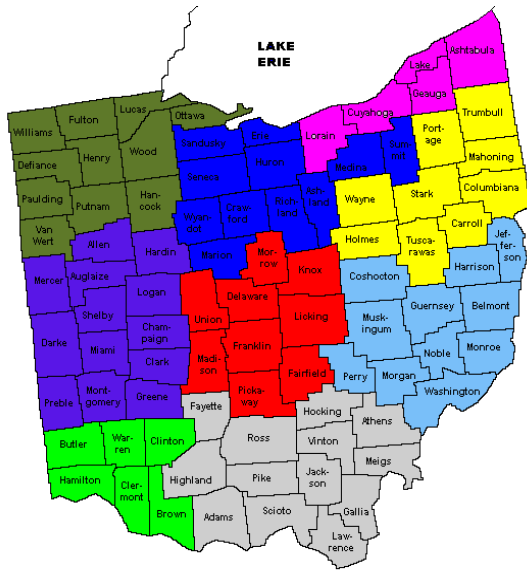
#### GOALS OF OHIO PREP:

- ◆ Reduce the rates of teen pregnancy and STI including HIV/AIDS
- ◆ Increase the number of youth in the target populations 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 with and are familiar with the target population



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## Why Should Faith Leaders Get Involved in Preventing Teen Pregnancy?



The Canton City Health Department, in partnership with Kent State University, has been awarded funding for Region 6 by the Ohio Department of Health. Region 6 covers the following nine counties: Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, and Wayne.

Communities of faith know that their work with youth must compete with messages from a wider culture often at odds with the ethics and morality of their religious traditions and beliefs. Faith based groups also know that conversations about teen sexuality can oftentimes be difficult and complex. That is why it is so important for faith based communities to engage their young people and talk to them throughout their teen years. Faith communities are uniquely positioned to minister to the needs of youth seeking spiritual guidance about sex.

Faith traditions can have a significant influence on helping teens avoid early sexual experiences and pregnancy. Working together, parents as well as faith leaders can make a real difference in preventing teen pregnancy by having clear, direct, and concise conversations about challenges and choices associated with relationships, sex, and values.

### Research and Statistics

- Research and survey data both show that religious faith and a strong moral sense play important roles in protecting young people from too-early sexual activity, teen pregnancy, and other risky behavior;
- Among teens who haven't had sex, the primary reason cited by both males and females for not having sex is their religion or morals;
- 75% of youth and 73% of adults say that religious leaders and groups should be doing more to help prevent teen pregnancy;
- Nearly 9 in 10 teens say it would be much easier for young people to delay sexual activity and avoid teen pregnancy if they were able to have more open, honest conversations about these topics.

Content Source: The National Campaign

## Upcoming PREP Activities

- ◆ 10/9/13 PREP Train-the-Trainer at Northeast Ohio Regional Training Center in Summit County for direct care staff working with foster and adjudicated youth. For more information visit <http://neoprep6.ehhs.kent.edu>

### Recent PREP Events

Direct care staff from The Village Network (TVN), Portage County Department of Job and Family Services (DJFS), Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth (SAFY), Wayne County DJFS, Multi-County Juvenile Attention System (MCJAS), The Twelve, Indian River Department of Youth Services (DYS), Columbiana DJFS, Catholic Charities, Pathway Caring for Children, New Philadelphia Group Home – MCJAS, Thompson Enterprises, Bair Foundation, Mahoning County Children's Services, and Mahoning County Juvenile Court agencies have received PREP Reducing the Risk (RTR) curriculum training.

The first groups to start providing PREP to their youth include MCJAS, Indian River DYS, Pathway Caring for Children, SAFY, Portage DJFS, and NYAP.

**Year 3 Time frame:**  
August 1, 2013-July 31, 2014

## Save the Date

The next Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) coalition conference call will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 2:00 PM.



Please pass along the next coalition meeting date and encourage others to join to learn more about the Ohio PREP in Region 6.



## PREP Coalition

Agencies that work with-adjudicated and foster youth throughout Region 6 have been invited to join the coalition to serve as resource persons for the **Northeast Ohio Personal Responsibility Education Program (NEOPREP) Region 6**. Coalition members are still needed to serve on this coalition. Coalition meetings are held quarterly. The goals of this project, and the process by which they 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.

# Region 6 Staff

## Canton City Health Department

Dana Hale, RN, BSN  
Project Coordinator

Frank Catrone, RN

Molly Malloy, RN



## Kent State University

Dianne Kerr, PhD, MCHES

Julie Chaya

Diana Miller, BS, CFP,  
LICDC

## 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.