

VOTE YES ON HB15-1079 (Coram, Danielson/Roberts)

Expand the Successful Medicaid Teen Pregnancy and Dropout Prevention Pilot Program

What does the bill do?

This legislation would allow General Fund to be used to pay for 10% of the program costs. Currently the program is 90% federally funded and 10% locally funded. Not all communities have been able to find the resources to pay for the local share. Allowing state funds to be used for the local share will reduce the burden on local community resources and allow the program to be expanded statewide.

What is the Teen Pregnancy and Dropout Prevention Program?

Currently piloted in Delta, Mesa, and Montrose counties; the program takes a unique community and person-centered approach to teen pregnancy prevention, using highly-ranked, evidence-based, and age-appropriate counseling programs to assist Medicaid eligible at-risk teens in making responsible, reproductive health choices, while preventing unintended pregnancies.

In 2014, program providers reported that of the teen 393 participants, only 3 reported a pregnancy or fathered a child.

What does the counseling include?

- Emphasizes abstinence and teach effective ways to avoid pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and infections
- Includes instruction to help program participants develop skills for making responsible and healthy decisions about human sexuality, personal responsibility, boundary setting, and resisting peer pressure
- Includes discussion of how alcohol and drug use impairs responsible and healthy decision-making
- If a client is sexually active, provides information about the benefits of using contraceptives and barrier methods to prevent STIs and pregnancy

Does this program provide contraceptives?

No.

How much will the bill save?

Since the program has proven so successful at reducing unintended teen pregnancies, the Department expects that if the program is expanded statewide there would be a General Fund savings of \$71,000 in the first year and \$1M in the second year.

Supporters:

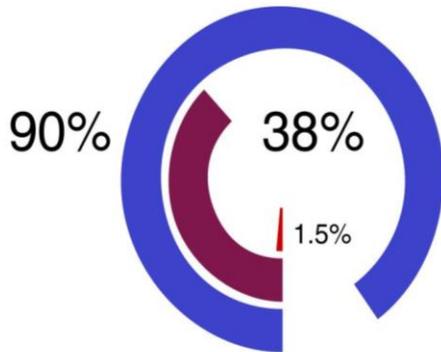
Mesa County, Montrose County, Delta County, Pueblo County Human Services, Boulder County, Hilltop Resources, COLOR, Colorado Youth Matter, March of Dimes, Colorado Children's Campaign, Colorado School Medicaid Consortium

More questions?

Contact Zach Lynkiewicz, Legislative Liaison, at 720.854.9882 or zach.lynkiewicz@state.co.us



Teen mothers are more likely to drop out of high school



- **90%** of young women who have not given birth as a teenager earn a high school diploma before age 22
- Compared to **38%** of women who become mothers as teenagers
- Only **1.5%** of women who become mothers as teenagers earn a college degree

Source: The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

Teen mothers are more likely receive public assistance

63%

of teen mothers receive some type of public assistance within the first year after their children were born.

Source: The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

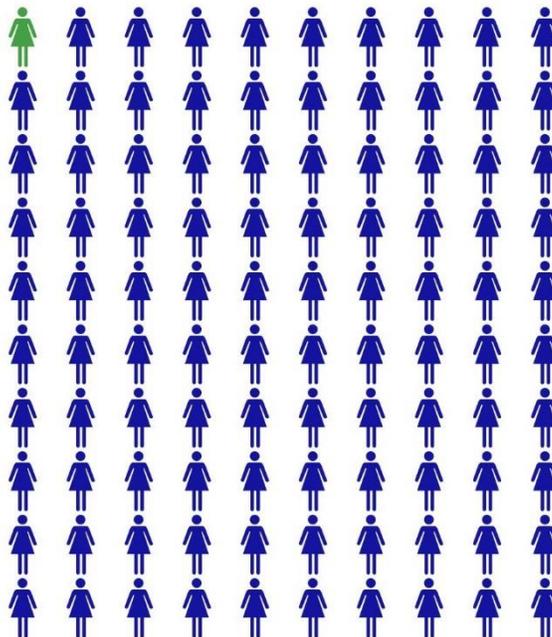
2014 TPDP Program Success

3
counties

393
participants

3
reported pregnancies or fathered a child

>99% Effective



FY 2012-13 Medicaid Teen Births

64
counties

5,700
total teen births

4%
teen birth rate