



Advancing the Prevention of Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders in Adolescence: A SCIENCE TO SERVICE SYMPOSIUM

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
The Adolescent Health Working Group and the Office of Adolescent Health
June 5, 2012 at the Pew Charitable Trusts' DC Conference Center, 901 E Street NW, Washington, DC

About the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH)

OAH coordinates adolescent health promotion and disease prevention programs and initiatives across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and works in partnership with other HHS agencies to support evidence-based approaches to improve the health of adolescents.

Adolescent Health Working Group

The second decade of life is a time of great promise as well as potential pitfalls as children move through their teen years and make the transition to adulthood. It's also a time of rapid and transformative physical, cognitive, psychological, and socio-cultural change. The Adolescent Health Working Group (AHWG) brings together U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies to work together to help ensure young people understand health and well-being and develop healthy habits of mind and body that will last a lifetime; have the support of caring professionals and prompt intervention when health risks are encountered; and for the young persons with great risks, have the assurance of coordinated, integrated care and access to services.

The AHWG provides a forum to learn from and support a full range of evidence-based approaches to improve adolescent health, address adolescent health risks, conditions, and diseases; and highlight health promoting approaches focused on positive youth development. The AHWG advises on near-term and long-term strategies to safeguard and improve the health of adolescents, and enhances coordination of current and planned activities within HHS.

The Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) established the AHWG in February 2010. It is chaired by the Director of OAH. Working Group members include representatives from multiple HHS agencies and other Federal agencies, which are listed on the back of this document.

Statement of Purpose

The AHWG builds upon the expertise and commitment of individual representatives and HHS agencies to collaboratively address critical areas in adolescent health and well-being by stimulating independent and collective action. In addition, the Working Group leverages skills and resources across agencies. The AHWG has three goals:

1. To stimulate, inform, focus, and strengthen HHS action on the health and well-being of adolescents;
2. To promote cross-agency collaboration and enhanced coordination of adolescent health efforts; and
3. To serve as a forum for exchanging information relevant to improving adolescent health and well-being.

Participation

Representatives of participating federal agencies come together each month to:

- Share new and emerging information;
- Solicit feedback and provide input on issues of adolescent health and well-being;
- Identify and act on collaborative opportunities; and
- Establish opportunities to coordinate around adolescent health-related policies and programs.

Adolescent Health Working Group Member Agencies

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

Office of the Secretary

Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources

- Office of Budget

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

- Office of Health Policy
- Office of Human Services Policy

Office on Disability

Office of Health Reform

HHS Agencies

Administration for Children and Families

- Administration on Children, Youth, and Families
- Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Office of Infectious Diseases
 - National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
 - National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
- Office of Noncommunicable Diseases, Injury, and Environmental Health
 - National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion
 - National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
- Office of the Associate Director for Policy
- Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services
 - National Center for Health Statistics

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

- Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
- Consortium for Medicaid and Children's Health

U.S. Department of Agriculture

National Institute for Food and Agriculture

- Division of Youth and 4-H
- Institute of Youth, Family & Community

U.S. Department of Education

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

- Office of Adolescent Health
- Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- Office of HIV/AIDS Policy
- Office of Population Affairs
- Office of Minority Health
- Office on Women's Health
- President's Council on Sports, Fitness, and Nutrition
- Regional Health Administrators

Food and Drug Administration

- Center for Tobacco Products
- Office of Pediatric Therapeutics

Health Resources and Services Administration

- Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Indian Health Service

- Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention

National Institutes of Health

- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- National Institute of Drug Abuse
- National Institute of Mental Health

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

- Center for Mental Health Services
- Office of Planning, Policy, and Innovation
- Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
- Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

U.S. Department of Justice

National Institute of Justice

