

# Building and Sustaining Stakeholder Support

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### **Today's Objectives**

- After today's call, we hope you will be able to:
  - Identify strategies for raising awareness about your program among key leaders and influential groups and individuals in your communities;
  - Differentiate among supporters and identify those who are likely to be most closely involved in your efforts;
  - Identify meaningful ways for all stakeholders to have input through activities that are appropriate for varying levels of involvement; and
  - Describe at least two concrete ways to continue engaging your own community stakeholders through the life of the grant and beyond.

### Why Work on Stakeholder Support?

- Part of overall sustainability:
  - Clear vision or mission
  - Share program success
  - Identify financial needs
  - Change as needed
  - Build a broad base of support
  - Identify community champions
  - Accountability and strong management

### **Getting Started on Stakeholder Education**

- Identify key people with substantial influence and reach in your community.
- Determine how teen pregnancy prevention relates to their work, and provide them with information that helps connect your issue to theirs.
- Create opportunities for them to become involved in your work, such as inviting them to events, soliciting their feedback, or offering leadership positions on boards or task forces.
- Continue to nurture the relationship through ongoing outreach and engagement.
- Show your appreciation and reciprocate their support when possible.

### **Identify Key People with Substantial Influence**

- Who are the gatekeepers?
- All supporters are not created equal.
- Consider a mapping exercise to identify people by how influential, level of interest, how involved they would like to be, etc.
- Consider natural allies/like-minded organization and others.

### What Do We Mean by Stakeholders?

- Prominent leaders and organizations working on teen pregnancy and adolescent health.
- Prominent leaders and organizations working on social issues outside of teen pregnancy.
- Leaders with influence over members of the community.
- Local decision makers and policymakers.
- Local media outlets and individual journalists, reporters, and media personalities.
- Business leaders and other with a direct influence on the local economy.

# Provide Them with Information That Helps Connect Your Issue to Theirs

- Be prepared to make a strong case.
- Data + personal stories.
- Don't forget media is an important tool.

# **Create Opportunities For Them to Become Involved in Your Work**

- Meaningful opportunities.
- Solicit feedback and listen.
- Champions.
- Levels of engagement may vary.

### **Continue to Nurture the Relationships**

- Keep reaching out, inviting, seeking feedback.
- Institutionalization.
- Again: media can be key partners.

# Show Your Appreciation and Reciprocate the Support When Possible

- Partnership is a two-way street.
- Demonstrate your investment in the community.
- Please and Thank You.

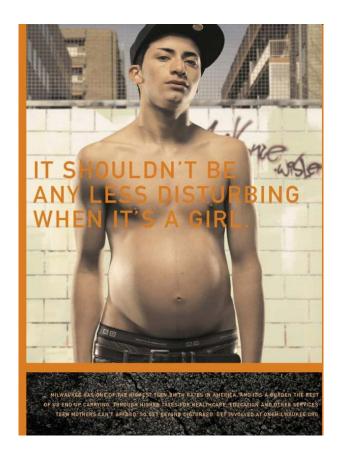
### **Sustainability Plan**

- Organizations that successfully implement long-term efforts have a plan.
- Building stakeholder support and cultivating champions are central to that plan.
- Just as important as balanced books and sound leadership.



Nicole Angresano Vice President, Community Impact United Way of Greater Milwaukee

Teen Pregnancy Prevention: 2005-11 -and beyond!



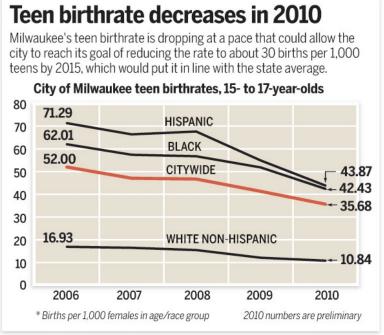
### How will we achieve the goal?

- Parental Involvement
- Collaborative Fund
- Faith Initiative
- Schools
- Healthy Girls

### So—is it working?

 Births among 15- to 17-year-old girls in Milwaukee have dropped to their lowest level in 28 years.

 In 2011, our largest single year decrease to date.



Source: Milwaukee Health Department

Journal Sentinel



Sally Swanson
Director of Prevention Programs
Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign
of North Carolina

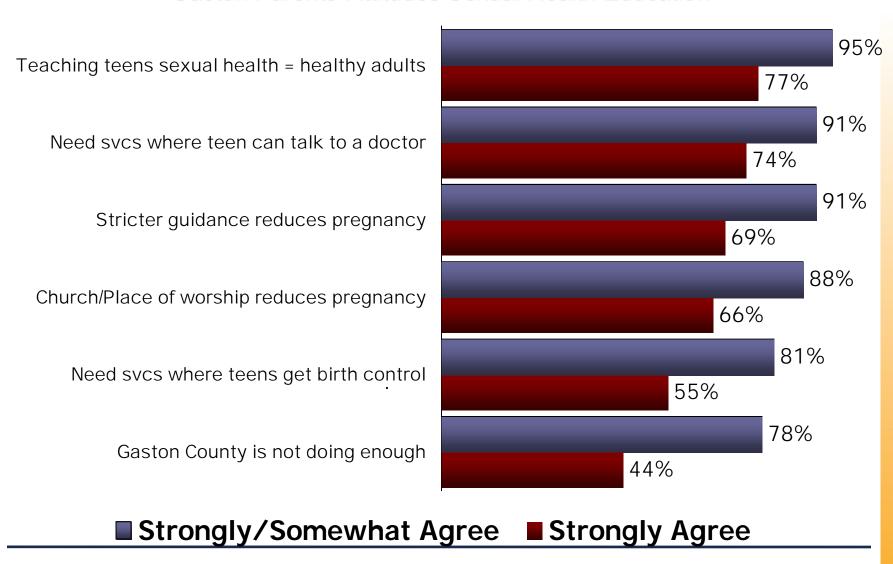
### Gaston Youth Connected: Harnessing the Voices of Parents

- Very specific data from Gaston County Parents
- Stronger foothold for school involvement
- Increased rationale for general support of project aims

#### **Parents**

#### Sexual Health Education/Prevention

#### Gaston Parents' Attitudes Sexual Health Education



### **Project Value**

 Has provided a precise and essential tool for staff and leadership teams to work with stakeholders, including parents.



Let's discuss! Any questions?