

TEENS: SEX AND HEALTHY CHOICES SUMMIT

Underage drinking, tobacco and other drug use/abuse are putting South Cook County teens at greater risk of teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STI's)

The South Suburban Family Wellness Alliance (SSFWA) in collaboration with The Prevention Partnership, Inc., TASC, Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center, Bremen Youth Services and Mental Health America of Illinois, is sponsoring a Southland Call to Action Summit. Governors State University will host this half day Summit which will be directed at the prevention of teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS/STIs among teens in Cook County's southern suburbs.

The Summit will also focus on how underage drinking, tobacco and other drugs use and abuse put our young people at higher risk and negatively impacts their social and emotional growth, mental health, and wellness.

Although teen pregnancy rates are decreasing, the frequency among **African-American and Hispanic girls remains over two and a half times higher than the rate among Whites**, with most teen dads not marrying the mother of their child. The personal and public costs of teen pregnancy, childbearing, substance use and STIs can have many adverse consequences for teens, their children, and their community. This call to action for these preventable outcomes will help to create community awareness and provide opportunities for dialogue and future planning among stakeholders.

Summit participants and key stakeholders from the region and representative of the twelve sectors of the community as defined by the US Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) include: Youth; Parents; Business Community; State, Local and/or Tribal Governmental Agencies; Schools; Media; Youth-serving organizations; Health Care Professionals; Law Enforcement Agencies, Religious or Fraternal Organizations; Civic and volunteer groups; and Other Organizations Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse, Teen Pregnancy and STI's.

The Summit will be held November 7, 2014 at Governors State University.

Summit Outcomes:

- **Educate the sectors of the community about the increasing numbers of teen pregnancies, HIV/AIDS/STIs among young people in the south suburbs.**
- **Identify gaps in services and resources for teens and their families.**
- **Develop agreements between providers and south suburban community sectors to actively participate in the development and implementation of a Regional 12 month Strategic Action Plan aimed at the prevention of teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS/STIs among young people in the south suburbs.**
- **Prevent underage drinking and other drug use, teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS/STIs and mental health issues by building relationships among community sectors/stakeholders and by promoting positive family dynamics.**

****Continuing Education Units (CEU's) are being applied for and in process.*

Sponsored By: South Suburban Family Wellness Alliance, in Collaboration with The Prevention Partnership, Inc. TASC, Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center, Bremen Youth Services and Mental Health America of Illinois. Hosted By: Governors State University



TEENS: SEX AND HEALTHY CHOICES SUMMIT

HOSTED BY

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
E-LOUNGE ROOM 1571**

**NOVEMBER 7, 2014
8:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

8:00-8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30-8:50 I. Welcome and Summit Overview

Peter Palanca, MA, CADC
Executive Vice President
Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities

Cheryl L. Mejta, Ph.D.
Chair Department of Addictions Studies and
Behavioral Health Governors State University

8:50-9:30 II. The Problem and What Illinois is Doing

Kimberley Fornero, MA
Bureau Chief, Positive Youth Development
Illinois Department of Human Services

9:30-10:00 III. Social and Emotional Challenges of Teens

Joseph Day, Dr.PH
Department of Community Health Services
Governors State University

10:00-11:55 IV. Panel Discussion

Youth Moderator(s): Alisa Webb, MBA
Coordinator Drug Free Communities Program
TASC

Kimberli J. Thompson, BS
Administrator
Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center

Panel Members (Youth) To Be Determined

10:45-11:00 Break

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11:00-12:00 **Panel Discussion**

Professionals Moderator(s): Shellie Coleman, BS
Coordinator, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program
The Prevention Partnership, Inc.

Juanita Jenkins, MSW
TPPP Facilitator
Bremen Youth Services

Panel Members:

John Farrell, Ph.D.
Psychologist
School Board Member
Homewood-Flossmoor HS District 233

Kimberli J. Thompson, BS
Administrator
Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center

Bishop Simon Gordon, Pastor
Triedstone Full Gospel Church

Caryn Curry, MA, LCSW
Director of Prevention
Mental Health America of Illinois

Joseph Gordon
Associate Principal
Rich South School District 227

12:00-12:30 **Next Steps and Closing**

Peter Palanca, MA, CADC
Executive Vice President
Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities



**TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION SUMMIT
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME: _____

MALE/FEMALE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ROLE/TITLE: _____

POPULATION SERVED: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO: Deb Sbalchiero
College of Health and Human Services
Governors State University
1 University Parkway
University Park, Illinois 60484
708/534-4910

Or e-mail to: dsbalchiero@govst.edu

Note: Registration is limited to the first 150 participants