

Improving Community College Student Success by Preventing Unplanned Pregnancy: A Capitol Hill Briefing

Dear Colleague,

On Tuesday, November 17, **The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and Child Trends** are holding a briefing entitled “**Improving Community College Student Success by Preventing Unplanned Pregnancy**” at 10:00am at the Capitol Visitor’s Center (SVC 203/202). We hope you will attend this important briefing.

There are 11.5 million students in community colleges, representing nearly half (46%) of all undergraduate students in the United States, but not all of them will graduate. For many students, an unplanned pregnancy could mean the difference between a student dropping out of school or receiving a degree. In fact, 61% of women who have children after enrolling in community college fail to finish their education, which is 65% higher than the rate for those who didn’t have children. A recent study by the Health Services Association California Community Colleges found that 5.4 percent of students attending California community colleges reported having an unintended pregnancy after enrolling, more than twice the percent of students (2.4%) from primarily four-year colleges and universities nationally.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Chelsey Storin at cstorin@thenc.org or 202-478-8519.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL CASTLE

ROSA DELAURO

TIM RYAN

PLEASE JOIN

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and Child Trends, along with honorary co-hosts Representatives Michael Castle (R-DE), Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), and Tim Ryan (D-OH)

FOR A CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING

November 17, 2009

10:00am-11:30am

Capitol Visitor’s Center (SVC 203/202)

MODERATORS: **David Baime**, Vice President for Government Affairs at The American Association of Community Colleges and **Andrea Kane**, Senior Director of Policy and Partnerships at the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

PANELISTS: **Lina Guzman**, Senior Research Scientist at Child Trends will present preliminary findings from qualitative research with community college students in Maryland.

Three college officials will discuss steps they are taking to address unplanned pregnancy among community college students:

- **Margaret Rose Henry**, Assistant Dean of Student Services and Program Coordinator of the Women's Center at Delaware Technical and Community College, Wilmington campus,
- **Linda J. Roberts, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair, Human Development and Family Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and
- **Jim Walters**, Director of Student Life at Montgomery College-Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

CONGRESSIONAL SPEAKERS: **Representatives Michael Castle, Rosa DeLauro** and others to be announced.

WHY IT MATTERS

There are 11.5 million students in community colleges, representing nearly half (46%) of all undergraduate students in the United States, but not all of them will graduate. For many students, an unplanned pregnancy could mean the difference between a student dropping out of school or receiving a degree. In fact, 61% of community college students who have children after enrolling don't finish their education, which is 65% higher than the rate for those who didn't have children. A recent study by the Health Services Association California Community Colleges found that 5.4% of students attending California community colleges reported having an unintended pregnancy, more than twice the percent of students (2.4%) from primarily four-year colleges and universities nationally.

For more information, visit <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/cc.aspx>.