

**About The National Campaign to Prevent**

**Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy:** The National Campaign is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization supported largely by private donations. Our mission is to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families and, in particular, to help ensure that children are born into stable, two-parent families who are committed to and ready for the demanding task of raising the next generation. Our specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. We support a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors.

# Promoting Science-Based Approaches— Getting To Outcomes Success Stories: The South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (South Carolina Campaign)

**Case Study Participant:** Erin Johnson, Education Manager and Chris Rollison, CDC/Technical Assistance Coordinator, for the South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

The South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (South Carolina Campaign) believes that communities play a key role in reducing and preventing adolescent pregnancy, and the South Carolina Campaign partners with numerous organizations across their state to reach this goal. One such organization is a child abuse prevention agency in Beaufort County. The agency provides a vital service for youth in Beaufort County, and despite having a different primary focus than the South Carolina Campaign, they are an important partner. The South Carolina Campaign has worked closely with this particular child welfare agency and has led agency staff through the Promoting Science-Based Approaches-Getting to Outcomes (PSBA-GTO) process. As a result of the partnership and the PSBA-GTO process, the agency was able to improve their institutional sustainability. Recently the agency completed PSBA-GTO part two of four (program planning) which allowed them to successfully develop work plans for their teen pregnancy prevention efforts.

The South Carolina Campaign suggested this agency use PSBA-GTO to build a framework for their teen pregnancy prevention programming. The agency liked the structure PSBA-GTO provided and was able to move quickly through the steps. However, after one year of using PSBA-GTO, like many small organizations, the agency experienced infrastructure changes that affected their capacity as an organization to provide teen pregnancy prevention services to their community. Fortunately, previous staff documented their PSBA-GTO progress, clearly articulating a foundation of sustainability which will help the agency continue their existing work. Prior to staff turnover, they actively looked to integrate the PSBA-GTO process within their organization development plan to help keep the organization's structure and process in place. The agency already considers the PSBA-GTO process a success because it has helped establish the path to long range strategic planning they needed.

*Sustainability.* One of the most critical challenges that the agency has faced is the issue of sustainability. The agency experienced staff turn over, and while working through part two of the PSBA-GTO process, they saw

the need to establish a more efficient way to document organizational activities. Part two of the PSBA-GTO process provided staff the opportunity to create a documentation process. This documentation process serves as a guide for all employees and future employees, creates a record of how the organization handles cases, and provides examples of previous work. Having the documentation process in place has helped make seamless efforts in staff transitions.

In summary, the key lesson learned from the partnership between the South Carolina Campaign and the child abuse prevention agency in Beaufort County is that clear documentation of previous decisions, responsibilities, and activities helps establish a concrete ladder that provides accountability and ensures continuity of programs. One important factor to remember throughout PSBA-GTO is that steps one through nine contributes to step ten (sustainability).

### About the Putting What Works to Work Project

Putting What Works to Work (PWWTW) is a project of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy funded, in part, by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Through PWWTW, the National Campaign is translating research on teen pregnancy prevention and related issues into user-friendly materials for practitioners, policymakers, and advocates. As part of this initiative, the Science Says series summarizes recent research in short, easy-to-understand briefs.

### Author Information

This research brief was written by National Campaign staff member Corinna Sieber.

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\* An Update: Since this case study was first developed, the child abuse prevention agency has helped implement two science-based teen pregnancy prevention programs in their community. *Making Proud Choices!* is being implemented in an alternative school and a technical education center, and *Making a Difference!* is being implemented in a local church with help from the church's conjugates.

<sup>1</sup> *Making Proud Choices!* (1998) is a community-based program. For more information on this program please refer to What Works at <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/works/PWWTWreports.aspx> and Emerging Answers 2007 at <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/ea2007/>.

<sup>2</sup> *Making a Difference!* An Abstinence-Based Approach to HIV/STD and Teen Pregnancy Prevention (1998) is a community-based program. For more information on this program please refer to What Works at <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/works/PWWTWreports.aspx> and Emerging Answers 2007 at <http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/ea2007/>.