

Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)

GOALS

- Adolescents, their families and their social support systems will be served by effective, comprehensive networks of local programs and agencies.
- Adolescents will be supported through continuous case management in developing a sense of themselves as worthwhile, capable individuals and parents.
- Relationships among adolescents, their families and their support networks will be healthy and mutually enhancing.
- Adolescents served by AFLP will use health care resources to achieve and maintain optimal physical and mental health. The pregnant and/or parenting adolescents will utilize available services for their children and partners.
- Adolescents and their parents will make healthy lifestyle decisions for themselves and their children.
- Adolescents will deliver healthy babies.
- The adolescents served by AFLP, their children and partners will live, work, and go to school in safe, healthy environments.
- Adolescents and their partners will plan for the prevention of unintentional pregnancies.

PROBLEMS

- The incidence of premature births and low birth weight babies is much greater for adolescents than for babies born to mothers age 20-35.
- Teen mothers are less likely to complete high school and hence more likely to remain on welfare.
- Children of teen parents are more likely to become teen parents themselves.
- The children of these teens and their families are more likely to remain in poverty.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Enrollment of eligible teens up through the age of 18 for females and age 20 for males and their children. Approximately 17,000 teens are served each year.
- Provision of case management services including assessment of adolescents' strengths and needs, and development of individualized service plans.
- Monthly contacts that include home visitation support the teens' educational and career goals and strengthen their self-sufficiency skills.
- Promotion of health and safety practices.
- Assisting teens and their children to access appropriate services including:
 - Medical Care (including prenatal and postpartum care)
- Family Planning
- School Support Services
- Social Services
- Substance Abuse Intervention
- Mental Health Services

- Parenting Education
- Health Education
- Domestic/Relationship Violence
- Legal Assistance
- Employment Opportunities
- Housing Assistance
- Nutrition Counseling
- Oral Health
- Working collaboratively with state and local agencies to develop community awareness of the problem of adolescent pregnancy and improve services for teen parents.

WHO BENEFITS

- Teen parents, their children and families, and society as a whole.

WHO PROVIDES SERVICES

- Adolescent Family Life Programs are located in over 40 counties in the State. To locate assistance in your area, please see our [MCAH Directors and Local Toll Free Numbers Listing](#). These programs provide services in county health departments, county departments of social services, hospitals, schools, and community-based organizations.

FUNDING

- State General Funds, Federal Title V MCH Block Grant Funds, and Federal Title XIX (Medicaid) Funds. Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Program administers AFLP. Please see the [Adolescent Family Life Program](#) for more information.