New federal funding announced ($174.5M)

New federal funding ($174.5M) has been announced or forecast for teen pregnancy prevention, healthy relationship/marriage and responsible fatherhood. We are thrilled that all these funding streams will support relationship skills education. Some applicants may find that they can strengthen their intervention by including Mind Matters to address trauma.

Check out our Teen Pregnancy Prevention Toolkit.

Three new opportunities are forecast from the Office of Family Assistance. You can view those forecasts through our website:

1. Relationships, Education, Advancement, and Development for Youth for Life (READY4Life)
   READY4Life is designed to reach youth (ages 14-24), including young fathers.

2. Fatherhood - Family-focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (FIRE)
   Fathers ages 18 and up may be served.
Positive Co-parenting is Associated with More Father Involvement

It is easy to understand why positive co-parenting could promote more father engagement, and why more father engagement could promote a better parental relationship. The findings of this study suggest that when it comes to help with raising young children, it’s important to support both mothers and fathers. A federal program in the USA, Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood, which began in 2005, provides exactly this kind of support among low-income families. Click here for the research study evaluation.
Read more here...

The Nuclear Family Was A Mistake – David Brooks

“If you want to summarize the changes in family structure over the past century, the truest thing to say is this: We’ve made life freer for individuals and more unstable for families. The shift from bigger and interconnected extended families to smaller and detached nuclear families ultimately led to a familial system that liberates the rich and ravages the working-class and the poor. (Editor’s Note: The Institute for Family Studies hosted a symposium in response to David Brooks’ essay and can be found here.)
Read more here...

Marriage And Cohabitation In The United States

As more U.S. adults are delaying marriage – or forgoing it altogether – the share who have ever lived with an unmarried partner has been on the rise. Amid these changes, most Americans find cohabitation acceptable, even for couples who don’t plan to get married, according to a new Pew Research Center survey. Even so, a narrow majority says society is better off if couples in long term relationships eventually get married.
Read more here...

Conceptual Models To Depict The Factors That Influence The Avoidance And Cessation Of Sexual Risk Behaviors Among Youth

Learn about these conceptual models that identify a range of factors that research
shows may influence youth decision making, sexual behavior, and related outcomes. The models are intended to guide efforts to prevent youth risk behaviors and promote optimal health.
Read more here...

Is Success A Sequence? How Choices Affect Outcomes

The success sequence shows that people who finish high school, work full-time, and marry before having children have a low chance of experiencing poverty. Yet fostering and developing those behaviors is complex and affected by countless external factors. In this podcast, Brent Orrell, Isabell Sawhill, and Ian Rowe discuss ways to help young people find and maintain pathways to success as they enter adulthood.
Listen here...

TOOLS YOU CAN USE - FOR PARENTS

Decoding The Teenage Brain

A recent interview with British neuroscientist Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, the author of the 2018 book Inventing Ourselves: The Secret Life of the Teenage Brain, begins with a caveat. "I think it's important to know before we start that up until 20 years ago, we really didn't know that the brain changes at all after childhood," she confides. "That's what I was taught during my undergraduate degree. We now know that's completely untrue."
Read more here...

Why Teenagers Reject Parents' Solutions to Their Problems

Parents of adolescents are often confronted by a puzzling sequence of events. First, teenagers bring us their problems; second, we earnestly offer suggestions and solutions; and third, teenagers dismiss our ideas as irritating, irrelevant or both. These moments feel ripe for connection. Why do they so often turn sour? Almost always, it's because we're not giving teenagers what they're really looking for. Consciously or not, here's what they most likely want.
Read more here...

What Your Teen Wishes You Knew About Sex Education

No matter how prepared parents think they are, few subjects can catch them off guard or tie them into knots more quickly than sex. NPR's Life Kit has six helpful tips and resources to help navigate the hormone-infused awkwardness of puberty and beyond.
Read more here...

Parenting In 100 Words

Are you getting the Center for Parent and Teen Communication brand-new, additional daily newsletter? They'll drop 100 helpful words into your inbox each morning with a
concrete tip you can try with your teen (that will take less than a minute to learn). No worries, this weekly email isn’t going away, but you will need to sign up to receive it. Sign up here...

TOOLS YOU CAN USE - FOR PROVIDERS

Improving Outcomes for Pregnant and Parenting Teens (Webinar)

March 25, 2020 - 3:00 PM ET
Teen pregnancy and parenting are leading reasons young people drop out of high school, and pregnant and parenting teens face immense challenges finding work, staying gainfully employed, and reducing the likelihood of a subsequent pregnancy as well as health or relationship problems. Join Mathematica for a forum in their Washington, D.C., office and live via webinar, as a panel of experts will discuss emerging evidence on programs and their outcomes from a newly released supplement of the Maternal and Child Health Journal. Register here...

The Brain Architects Podcast

Excessive or prolonged activation of stress response systems in early childhood can have damaging effects on learning, behavior, and health across the lifespan. Such toxic stress can occur when a child experiences strong, frequent, and/or prolonged adversity without adequate adult support. Learn what effects toxic stress can have on a child’s body and development, how those effects can be prevented, and what it means to build resilience. Listen here...

Voices Coloring Book Released

This VOICES Coloring Book, released in 2020 by the National VOICES Committee, is a coloring book designed by survivors for survivors. VOICES Chapters from across the country designed original coloring pages that were then digitized and bound into this coloring book to provide hope and healing to survivors walking into Family Justice Centers. The Family Justice Center Vision is that the Coloring Book would be printed and shared across the country to remind survivors that they are never alone. Get it here...

WEBINAR

March 11, 2020

The Impact of Mind Matters: Results from the University of Louisville’s Pilot Study

Becky Antle, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work and esteemed University Scholar at the University of Louisville, won The Dibble Institute’s national competition to evaluate Mind Matters: Overcoming Adversity and Building Resilience in 2019. As
a result, Dr. Antle and her colleagues are conducting a randomized control trial to examine the impact of Mind Matters on a host of outcomes related to youths’ emotional regulation, anxiety, interpersonal skills, and resilience.

Join the researchers on this project as they discuss their initial findings from the pilot of Mind Matters with high needs youth in the Louisville community. They will focus on youth-related outcomes, lessons learned, and tips for implementing the Mind Matters curriculum.

Objectives: Specifically, webinar attendees will learn:
1. How Mind Matters is being implemented and evaluated in the pilot.
2. How Mind Matters is making a difference with the youth being served.

Presenter: Becky Antle, Ph.D., MSSW, MFTA, Professor and University Scholar, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.

Who should attend: Anyone working with traumatized youth who seek to guide them using a trauma informed approach; healthy marriage/relationship grantees, staff, and evaluators; fatherhood grantees; high school guidance counselors; social workers; therapists; mental health workers; caseworkers; and juvenile justice staff.

When: Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 4:00 pm Eastern/1:00 pm Pacific

Duration: 60 minutes.

Cost: Free!

Register Now ›

FUNDING

Optimally Change the Map of Teen Pregnancy through Replication of Programs Proven Effective – Tier 1

The Office of Population Affairs announces the availability of funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 cooperative agreement awards for projects to serve communities and/or populations with the greatest need to Optimally Change the Map of Teen Pregnancy through Replication of Programs Proven.

(Editor’s Note: Take a look at our TPP Tier 1 toolkit to help you write a strong application.)

Read more here...

Tier 2 Innovation and Impact Network Grants: Achieving Optimal Health and Preventing Teen Pregnancy in Key Priority Areas

The Office of Population Affairs announces the availability of funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 cooperative agreement awards for projects that establish, coordinate, and support a multidisciplinary network of partners to develop, refine, and test innovative interventions and to disseminate those demonstrated to be effective in improving optimal health and preventing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI).

Read more here...

Charting a Course for Economic Mobility and Responsible Parenting

Deadline: 4/19/20
The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) invites application submissions to develop interventions to educate teens and young adults about the financial, legal, and emotional responsibilities of parenthood. The primary goal of the grant is to leverage the child support program’s expertise on the legal and financial responsibilities of parenting to educate and motivate teens and young adults to postpone parenthood until after they have completed their education, started a career, and entered a committed relationship.
The target populations for these three-year grant projects are teens and young adults ages 13-25, including unmarried parents and those who have not yet started families. The grant project design should identify existing public and private entities serving similar populations and establish and/or leverage partnerships to connect educational and motivational programs to additional supportive services promoting economic stability and healthy family formation. Grant project designs will build on, adapt, and enhance existing responsible parenting, paternity, and child support awareness models as well as develop new educational materials and tools. Grantees are expected to collaborate with state or tribal universities to evaluate their projects and to share project materials and resources, intervention lessons, and promising practices for outreach developed as part of the grant project with other state and tribal IV-D agencies.

Read more here...

Forecast Grants

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2. Fatherhood - Family-focused, Interconnected, Resilient, and Essential (FIRE)
   Fathers ages 18 and up may be served.

3. Family, Relationship, and Marriage Education Works - Adults (FRAMEWorks)
   Individuals and couples ages 18 and up may be served.

The Bush Foundation Community Innovation Grant

Deadline: Year-round
The Bush Foundation provides Community Innovation grants of $10,000 to $200,000. Community Innovation grants may be awarded to 501(c)(3) public charities or government entities (including schools). Coalitions or collaboratives are eligible to apply, but only one organization may receive the grant. The grant supports communities that have identified a problem and want to implement a solution while engaging the community and other organizations.

Read more here...

Fund for Teachers

Deadline: Year-Round
Grants of $5,000 to $10,000 are awarded for professional development. Fund for Teachers is unique in that it awards grants for professional development based on the principle that the teacher knows what they need to grow as an educator. These grants are self-designed and allow teachers to create their own professional development opportunities based on what is most beneficial to their teaching. The Fund for Teachers application encourages educators to think about their objectives and motivations and the impact their particular plan of action will have on students.

Read more here...