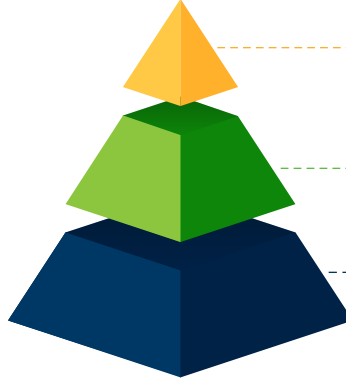




Mejorando la Salud de los Adolescentes (MESA)



APPROACH



Serving individuals and families in the community, schools, and clinics by providing evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programming for Latinx youth.

Simplifying teen clinic appointment procedures by creating a way that teen clinic information and appointments can be accessed by texting a shared staff number.

Striving to create lasting change through collaborative school and clinic-based policy change.

ROOT CAUSES/ CONDITIONS FOR HEALTH

Addresses the social and economic conditions for health (also known as the social determinants of health). This often happens by changing local, regional or state policy, changing the way systems work or changing the environment.

ORGANIZATIONAL/ INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Addresses a health area by changing policies or systems in a school, clinic, hospital, etc. to support healthy behaviors and individual risk/protective factors.

HEALTH PROMOTION/ DIRECT SERVICE

Addresses individual or family-level risk/protective factors through health education, programming, case management, etc.

CONTEXT

Goal: HealthFinders Collaborative contributes to closing the gap in teen pregnancy prevention for Latinx adolescents in Rice County, Minnesota.

Causes: Racism and discrimination have caused long-standing disparities in education, employment, income/wealth, housing, neighborhood conditions, access to health care, transportation, and social connections and support that directly affect health.

Population: Approximately 42,000 Latinx live in Rice County.

Issue: Every day in Minnesota, approximately 10 teens become pregnant. The vast majority of these pregnancies are unintended. Even though the greatest number of adolescent births in Minnesota is to white females, Minnesota youth of color have significantly higher birth and pregnancy rates than their white counterparts. In Rice County, where the Hispanic population represents a higher percentage than the state average, the elevated teen birth rates have been a great concern to the Latinx community.

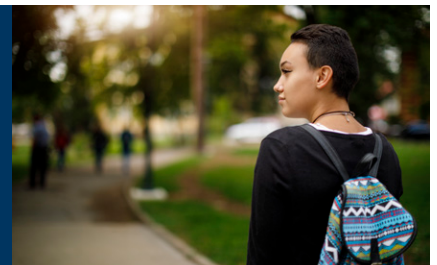
*“Yes, I love this! When will you be coming back here for the teen clinic?
I’m definitely going!”*

(In response to our Nurse Practitioner talking with our afterschool Latinx Club about her teen clinic hours at Faribault High School)

IMPACT

- 71 participants knew where to access sexual health services at the end of the program
- 67 participants reported feeling comfortable talking about sexual health
- 70 participants were able to identify someone they feel comfortable talking with about sexual health issues
- 78 participants indicated they believe consent is important in sexual relationships
- 30 participants reported intending to use internal or external condoms or dental dams if they were sexually active in the next three months

50% DROP
in Latina teen pregnancy rates in Rice County



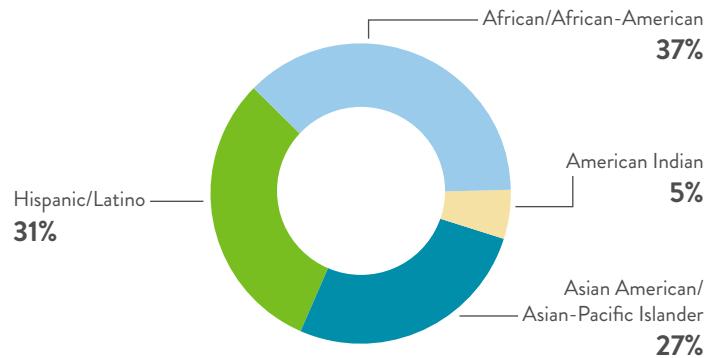


HealthFinders Collaborative (HFC) is a community health center which provides a comprehensive primary access point to health services for the marginalized families of Rice County. HFC believes in the inherent capacity of our patients and communities to support health and wellness.

PRIORITY HEALTH AREA SPOTLIGHT

In 2016, Minnesota reported 3,004 pregnancies among 15- to 19-year-olds. Rates of teen pregnancies among American Indians (56.1 per 1,000 pregnancies) and African Americans (39.6 per 1,000 pregnancies) were among the highest in the state. Disparate rates of unemployment, poverty, adverse childhood experiences, and access to comprehensive sexual health education directly affect sexual health and increase the likelihood of early pregnancy.

Collective Impact: 52,974 individuals were reached through the work of fourteen grantees addressing this priority health area in 2017-18. The proportions of individuals reached by race/ethnicity are shown in the figure below.



EHDI grantees addressing teen pregnancy prevention identified common measures to track and report. Collective results include:

- ★ 86% of program participants know where to access sexual health care
- ↑ Increased comfort talking about sex and birth control with partners
- ↑ Increased number of young people who reported having adults in their lives with whom to talk about sexual health issues

MDH ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES INITIATIVE

The Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative (EHDI) grant program was created to address health inequities for populations of color and American Indians across eight different priority health areas. Since 2001, the EHDI approach has been to support organizations and projects run by and for communities of color and American Indians to develop and implement strategies that are effective in reaching their communities. Every few years, the program reallocates the competitive grants to organizations and tribes across the state of Minnesota. The current grant cycle is from 2016-2019.