

MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program



CONTEXT

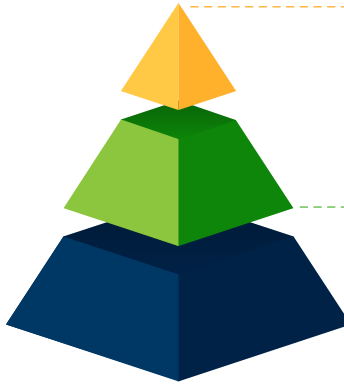
Goal: Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (MLBO) contributes to closing the gap in teen pregnancy rates for American Indian youth in Aitkin, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties.

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

Population: Approximately 3,200 American Indians live in the four counties comprising the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe service area.

Issue: Although American Indian adolescents account for 1% of Minnesota's 15-19 year old population, they have the highest rate of teen births among all racial groups statewide.

APPROACH



Implementing Giniigaaniminaang (In Our Future) Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (including the Live It! curriculum) to promote the health of American Indian teens and positive identification with Anishinaabe culture

Assessing adolescent-friendliness of MLBO clinic

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.

"The Live it curriculum has helped me have a better understanding of self-respect and sexual health"

– program participant

IMPACT

- Increased the accessibility of the MLBO clinic for youth, including better signage about confidential services available and plans to change billing procedures
- Implemented Live It! with 62 middle and high school students at 3 schools, representing 30-40% of the American Indian youth in MLBO's service area

30% of
American Indian
youth participated
in program

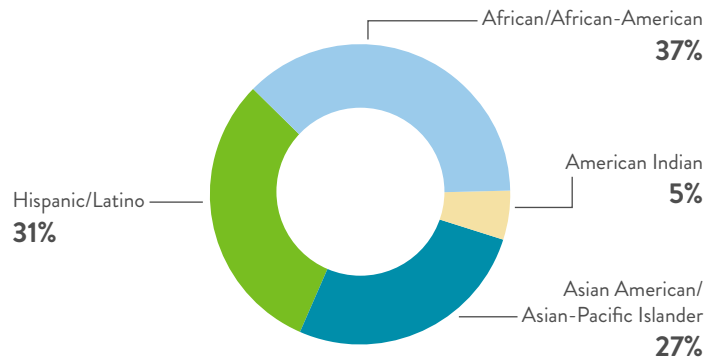




PRIORITY HEALTH AREA SPOTLIGHT

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.