

FY 11 ABRT Agency Questions and Responses
Jefferson Area CHIP
Judy W. Smith, Executive Director

Reviewer: Julie Baird – (jsb9a@virginia.edu)

Program Name: Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Grant

1. What limits your ability to get into high schools? Do you have plans to address this? What are the plans? You mention meetings in the high schools starting in October. Have they begun? **The classes have begun at Charlottesville High School with both CHIP and Teensight involvement. The groups have been well attended. One limiting factor is time. The schools are hesitant to allow so many outside programs that may interfere with regular school classes. Another issue is the schools, where Teensight has regular meetings, feel they cannot allow two groups in. CHIP has begun conversation with the director of Teensight to look at cooperative group activities using the best resources from each.**
2. Please comment further on how “turf wars” impact your ability to work with Pregnant and Parenting. **This has been a hard issue to really get a handle on. Teens are served by many programs in the community, and while we are hoping for better collaboration among those programs, we have not reached the level necessary to provide the best services. We have had a small measure of success and as stated above, we are hopeful that in the coming year we can build a collaborative approach to working with teens that avoids duplication but meets the needs of teens.**
3. Do you serve pregnant and parenting teens at all income levels? **We primarily serve those who are low income and eligible for FAMIS or FAMIS PLUS but are open to serve all teens as appropriate. We receive few referrals from private providers and/or teens who have private insurance. Our group activities are open to any teen even if not open to CHIP.**
4. Are your teens enrolled in multiple programs for pregnant and parenting teens? **Most, that we are aware of, are not open to other programs. However many do not tell us their involvement with other agencies.**
5. Is there a difference in your effectiveness with teens who are in school and those who are not in school? **Yes. Teens who stay in school are more focused and are more likely to set goals and to meet those goals. They are generally more receptive to birth control and parenting education. However, there may be a downside to this. In order to stay in school, do well academically, earn enough money to provide for their child, many are unable to spend quality time with their young child.**

6. You had plan to give incentives for participation in the program – how is that going?
Incentives have been helpful and can be a “catch” for certain teens, but it is not as important as the relationship developed between the CHIP worker and the teen. Our Parenteen Passport helps to determine the incentives we give at the same time helping teens understand the different aspects of becoming a parent and an adult. We have given out pack n plays, strollers, highchairs, safety kits, bathing kits, gift cards for Babies R Us, movie tickets, and bus passes.