

Bridging the Gaps: Eliminating Disparities in Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Health

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Reducing Inequities in Sexual Health Outcomes for Young Men of Color

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Objectives

1. Discuss the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) model as viable tool to identify feasible determinants to reduce sexual health disparities among young men;
2. Describe the RCA process with young men implemented by Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy; and
3. Discuss tools/resources available to assist communities with RCA process.



Creating Common Language

Health **DISPARITIES** \neq Health **INEQUITIES**

Health Disparities are **differences** in the **incidence, prevalence, morbidity, mortality** and **burden** of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups

Health Inequities are **differences** in health outcomes across population groups that are **systemic and avoidable**.

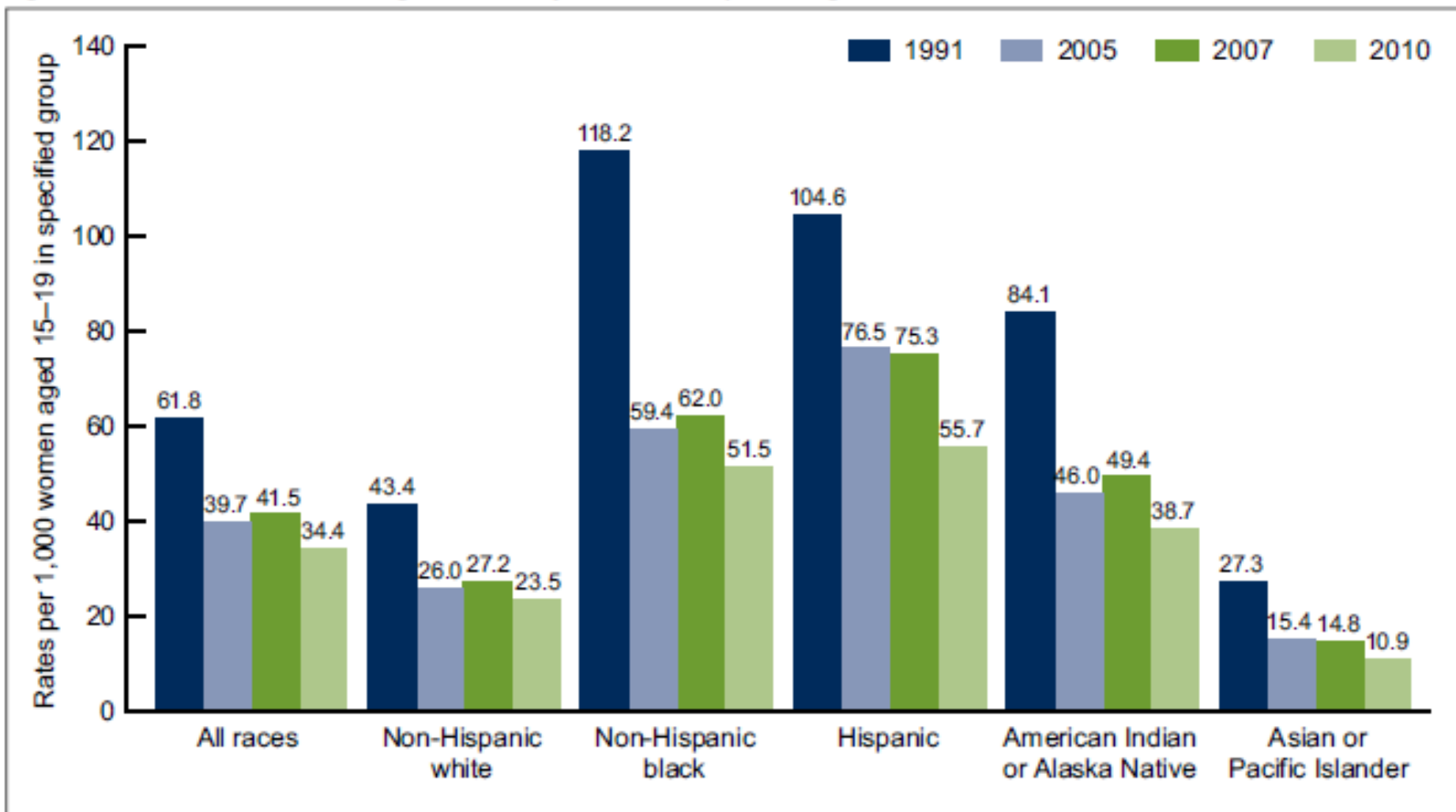


Rationale for Engaging Young Men in Teen Pregnancy Prevention Efforts



Birth Rates for Women Aged 15-19, by Race and Hispanic Origin: United States, 1991, 2005, 2007, and 2010

Figure 3. Birth rates for women aged 15–19, by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1991, 2005, 2007, and 2010



NOTE: Data for 2010 are preliminary.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System.

JSI's Approach for Engaging Young Men in TPP

Young Men's Program (YMP):

- **Goal:** Build YMP's participants' capacity to engage young men as active participants in teen pregnancy prevention efforts by taking into account the context where young men live, work and play which influences the choices they make

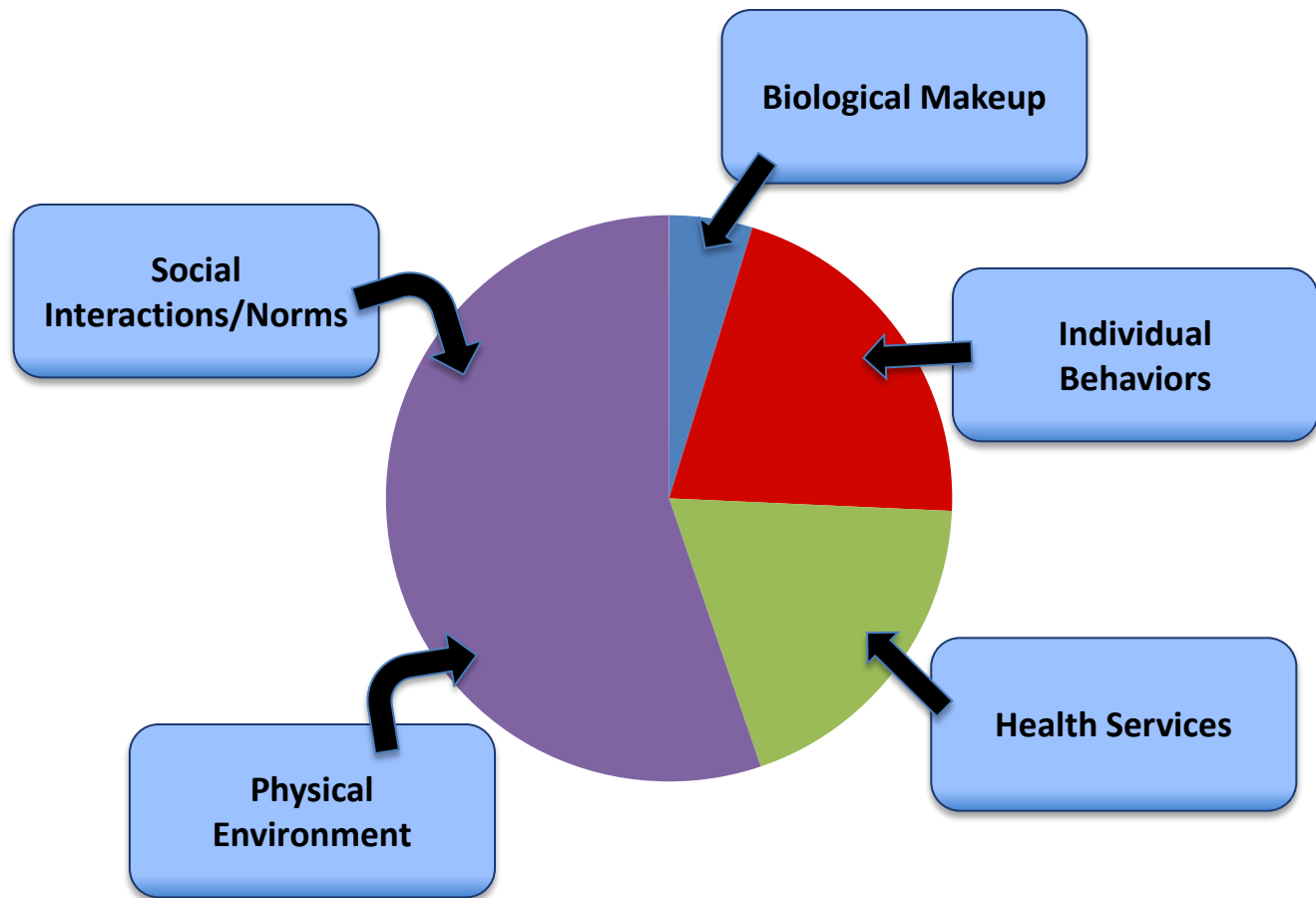


Young Men's Program & Social Determinants of Health

Social determinants of health reflect the **social factors** and the **physical conditions** in the environment in which people are **born, live, learn, play, work** and **age**, which impact people's health.



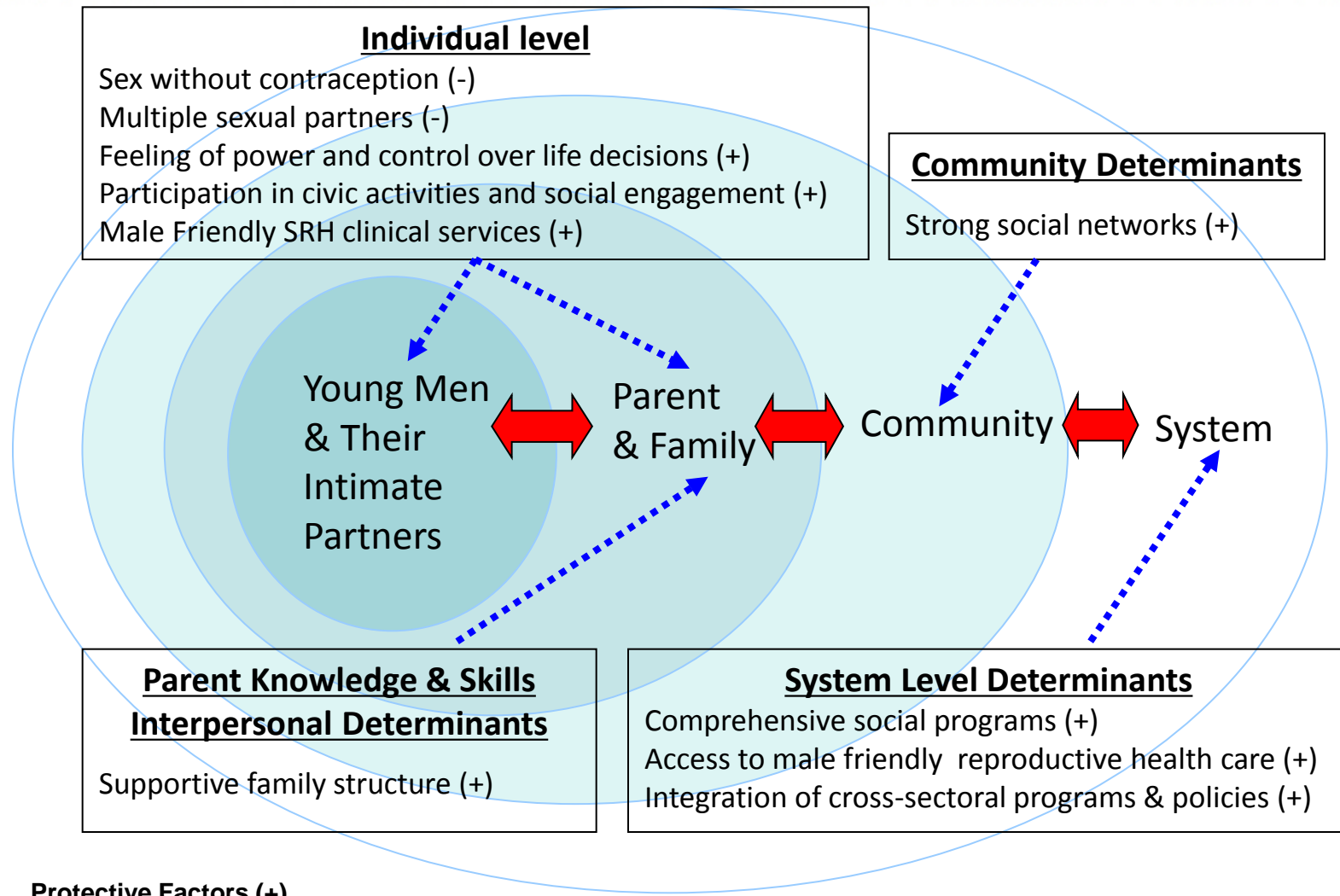
Determinants of Health Exercise



The Socio-ecological Model for Engaging Young Men in Teen Pregnancy Prevention



Social Determinants of Health at Different Ecological Levels

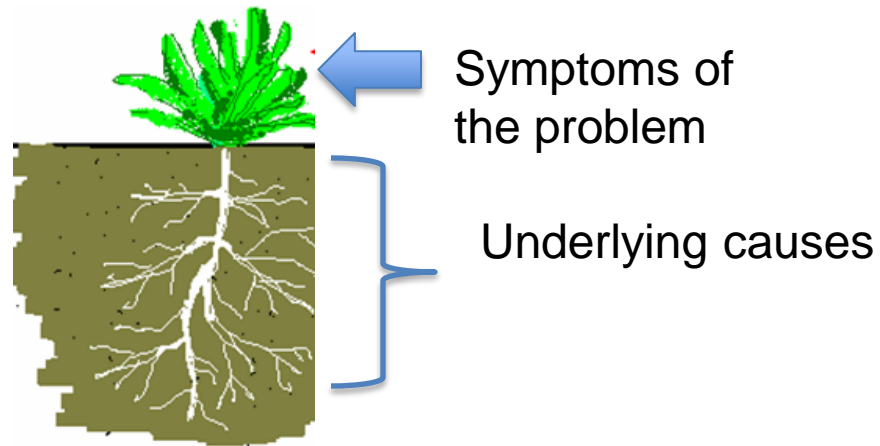


Protective Factors (+)
Risk Factors (-)

Conducting a Root Cause Analysis and Applying the Social Ecological Model



Root Cause Analysis: The What and Why?



More efficient and effective than addressing a symptom of the cause

Root Cause Analysis: The How?

Overview of the Root Cause Analysis Process:

1. Convene stakeholders to have a brainstorming session guided by a series of “**why?**” questions
2. Identify the **root causes** impacting teen pregnancy among male adolescents, and
3. Consider **leverage points**, then prioritize **feasible determinants** and develop an **action plan** to address them



Best Practices for Male Engagement

- **Recruitment and retention** of young men in evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs, clinical services, and youth development programs work best when young men's context is taking into account;
- Provide **leadership opportunities** for young men;
- Ensure programs and reproductive health services are **male-friendly** and **culturally competent**;



Best Practices (cont'd)

- Strengthen **communication** between young men, parents, and other adults; and
- Building skills and capacity for **healthy relationships (with girls & others)** – that are based on trust, honesty, and respect.

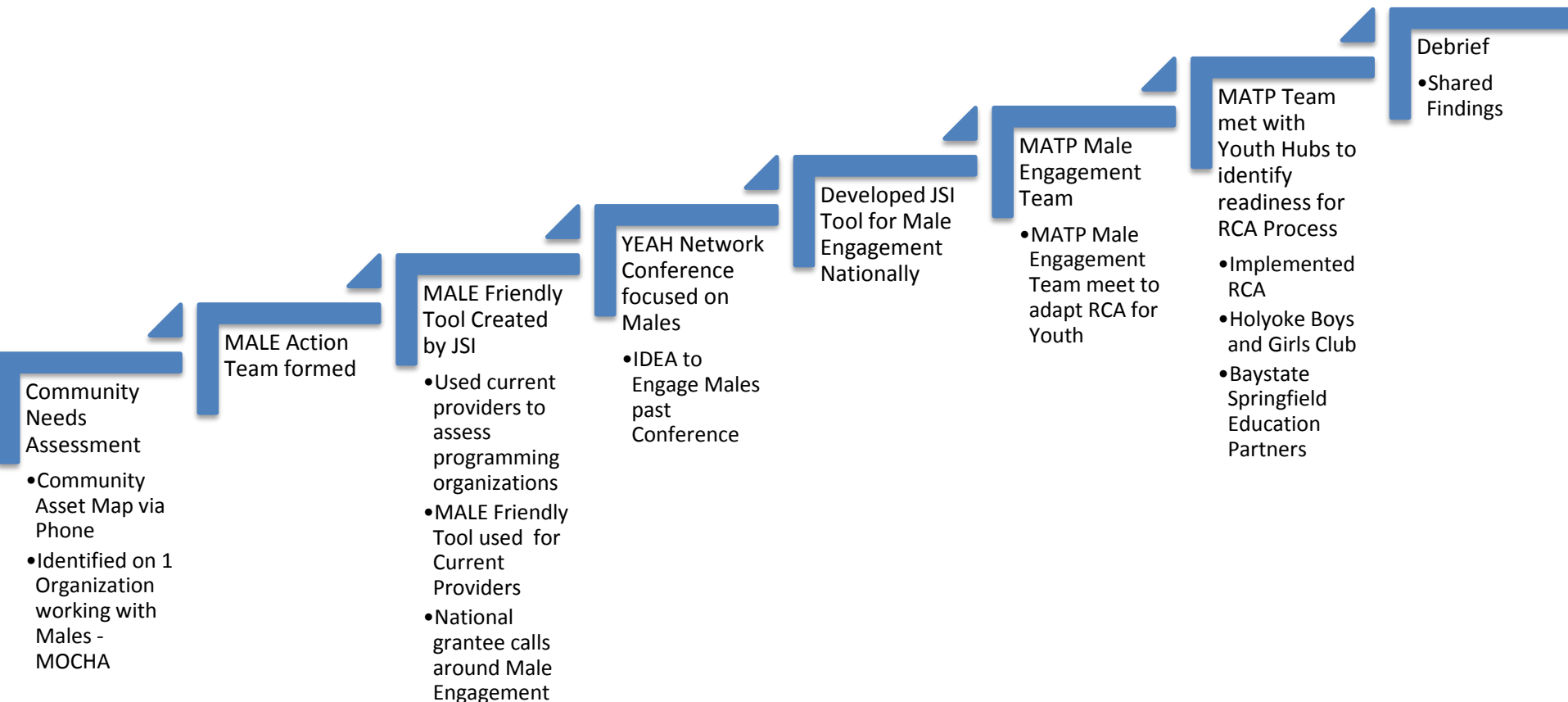


Case Study: RCA & Young Men

Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy Conducted a Root Cause Analysis with Young Men in Holyoke and Springfield, MA



How did we get to the Root Cause Analysis?



Our Process

- Adapted Root Cause Analysis (RCA) for Youth Population
- Identified 2 groups in the community to implement the RCA
- Data Analysis
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Next Steps



Lessons Learned

- Community Needs Assessment Phase
- “Silo” approach to the work
- Historical context of teen pregnancy prevention work
- Masculinity & Sexuality



Implications

- Create a space to discuss the various dimensions of Social Ecological Model with men for young men
- Young men are untapped potential
- Male engagement work is hard and requires out the box thinking



Next Steps

- Follow up with Young Men participants who participated in RCA process to support their ideas
- Continue to improve the RCA process with young men



Conducting a Root Cause Analysis and Applying the Social Ecological Model: Small Group Exercise

Instructions

You will need someone from your table to serve as:

- **Scribe:** to complete the table worksheet

I will provide you with verbal step by step directions and they are also written on worksheet



Contact Information

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THANK YOU!

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