

Working with Diverse Communities Update September 2015

Dear CDC Team, National Partners, Part A Grantees and supporters,

This is our last edition of WDC Update as the CDC-funded project comes to an end. The Working with Diverse Communities Component aimed to raise awareness of the social determinants of health that impact the sexual and reproductive health choices young people make as they relate to teen pregnancy. We worked with many of you in identifying the roots causes of teen pregnancy, and provided technical assistance in building partnerships to create community referral networks to ensure that young people's needs are met by linking them to appropriate services.

It is our hope that all of you will continue to use the framework that we offered and the tools we created as you continue your work in bridging health disparities that exist among the youth you serve in your communities. These tools can be found on our <u>website</u>, which will remain available after the project's end. And a direct link to the *Working with Diverse Communities Toolbox* will be sent to all of you soon.

We have been approved a no-cost extension until December to complete a few specific activities. The no-cost extension will be led by Jocelyn Chu. If you need to get in touch regarding our component after September 30th, Jocelyn can be reached at <u>jchu@jsi.com</u>.

On behalf of the JSI team I would like to thank all of you for the great partnerships we created over these past five years. We wish you well and look forward to working together again in future projects.

In the spirit of collaboration,

A Farewell Gift for You...

Place Matters: Youth Perspectives on Teen Pregnancy and Their Environment



We leave you with a new resource which features the voices of youth. JSI collaborated with Youth Leadership Teams (YLT) from the City of Hartford Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative and Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy's Youth First initiative to create a video presenting teens' perspectives on the unique contexts where they live, learn, work, and play, and the influence these community factors have on teen pregnancy. JSI designed this video to spark community conversations with multiple audiences, including youth, parents, evidence-based intervention (EBI) facilitators, school staff, healthcare providers, and community context influencing teen pregnancy, encourage communities to incorporate a social determinants of health approach to teen pregnancy prevention and adolescent health, and suggest concrete actions to mobilize viewers in reducing risks and enhancing protective factors in their communities.

You can find the video <u>here</u> on JSI's YouTube channel.

Discussion Guides to accompany the video are being finalized and will be sent to all of you soon.

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