

## **MOAPPP Strategic Plan 2005-2008**

### **Mission**

MOAPPP's mission is to develop and strengthen policies and programs that promote adolescent sexual health, prevent adolescent pregnancy and support adolescent parents.

### **Vision**

MOAPPP envisions a future where young people in Minnesota are considered valuable members of society; have the opportunity to fulfill meaningful roles in their communities; receive complete information regarding their sexual health; have access to reproductive and sexual health services; where adults support the provision of complete sexual health information and confidential health services; and where decision-makers invest in positive approaches to adolescent health that have been shown to work.

### **Values**

1. MOAPPP believes that young people are positive assets, make significant contributions to their communities, and provide a critical perspective to program planning.
2. MOAPPP believes that young people have the right to accurate and complete sexual health information, as well as confidential reproductive and sexual health services.
3. MOAPPP believes that science-based approaches to adolescent sexual health, pregnancy prevention and parenting will have the most positive effect in young people's lives.
4. MOAPPP respects the great and growing diversity among Minnesota families, and the different cultural norms regarding adolescent sexual health, pregnancy prevention and parenting.
5. MOAPPP recognizes that its efforts are strengthened by collaboration and partnership, and works with other organizations whenever possible.
6. MOAPPP believes that public policy has far-reaching effects in young people's lives, and that policy regarding adolescent sexual health, pregnancy prevention and parenting can be strengthened through data and research.
7. MOAPPP believes that teen parents are as likely to succeed in life as other teens when they receive appropriate social support.
8. MOAPPP believes parents and caregivers need information, resources and reassurance to support them in addressing sexual health with their children.

Goal One: Increase understanding and use of science-based approaches to adolescent pregnancy prevention.

Rationale: There is a growing body of evidence about what really works to prevent teen pregnancy, but unproven approaches continue to be implemented across the state. Increasing the use of science-based approaches will have a positive effect in the lives of Minnesota teens.

Goal Two: Increase understanding and use of science-based approaches in support of pregnant and parenting adolescents.

Rationale: Teen parents who receive support to stay in school, to prevent subsequent pregnancies and to parent effectively experience better long-term outcomes, as do their children. Increasing the number of programs that offer science-based support will positively affect more teen parent families.

Goal Three: Provide products and services to those who work with populations with high rates of teen pregnancy, poverty and limited access to resources.

Rationale: Some Minnesota communities and populations experience disproportionately high rates of teen pregnancy and birth. MOAPPP focuses its efforts to reduce these disparities.

Goal Four: Increase adoption and implementation of science-based public policies on state and local levels.

Rationale: State and local policies have far-reaching effects in the lives of Minnesota teens. Public policies need to be informed by science to positively impact Minnesota's efforts to prevent teen pregnancy and support teen parents.

Goal Five: Increase public awareness of the need to address the issues surrounding adolescent pregnancy prevention and the need to support pregnant and parenting adolescents.

Rationale: When people, including parents and faith communities, understand public health issues, when people care about those issues, they are more likely to be catalysts for positive change. It is critical to keep Minnesotans interested in the issues surrounding adolescent sexual health, adolescent pregnancy prevention and support for adolescent parents.

Goal Six: Increase capacity to fulfill organizational mission.

Rationale: To continue as the statewide leader on adolescent pregnancy issues, MOAPPP must successfully compete for limited resources, recruit and retain an effective Board of Directors and staff, evaluate internal effectiveness and communicate its unique identity.

## Definition

**Science-based approaches** – strategies, principles and programs that have a body of scientific evidence to support them, including:

- appropriate and valid experimental or quasi-experimental design using intervention and comparison groups as well as baseline and follow-up data
- post intervention data that was collected for a minimum number of months after the intervention
- a sample size of at least 100
- behavioral measures, not only attitudes or intentions
- standard statistical analysis.