



California Adolescent Health Collaborative Newsletter

Spring 2011

www.californiateenhealth.org | 555 12th Street, Oakland CA 94607 | (510) 285-5712



California Adolescent Health Collaborative (CAHC), a project of Public Health Institute (PHI), is a statewide public-private coalition that works to increase understanding and support of adolescent health and well-being in California.

Because Adolescents Matter Now

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Organization Profile

Alameda County Juvenile Collaborative Court (ACJC) was established in 2007 and is one of only 40 similar courts in the country. The court serves youth with serious mental illness who typically end up in long-term out-of-home placements and was established to enhance public safety, reduce recidivism, and support mental health needs of youth by connecting them and their families to individualized, community-based mental health services, educational opportunities, and other community supports. The ACJC is a collaborative project of Alameda County's juvenile justice and mental health agencies, as well as several non-profit organizations.

Quick Links

California Adolescent Health Collaborative

National Center for Youth Law

National Adolescent Health Information Center at UCSF

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Spring has sprung at the collaborative!

We are excited to announce that the California Adolescent Health Collaborative has a new tag line: **Because Adolescents Matter Now**. The tag line emphasizes that young people are valuable not only in the future as adults, but also now, as adolescents. A special thanks goes out to the California School Health Centers Association's youth committee, who helped us with the brainstorming.

Hot off the CAHC press is our new foster care brief *Promoting the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents in foster care*, authored by CAHC's Adolescent Health Analyst, Maria-Elena Young, MPH. Read more about this exciting material in our resources section below.

On everyone's minds, of course, is the state and federal budgets. See the "policy" section below for special updates and the most current news.

Sincerely,

California Adolescent Health Collaborative

In the News

CALIFORNIA HEALTH **California and U.S. Teen Birth Rate Drops**

The Office of Family Planning (OFP) released the 2009 California Birth Rate. Continuing a two-decade trend, the birth rate continues to drop reaching a record low of 47,811 births to teens ages 15-19 in 2009.



New California Law for Pertussis Vaccination

Adolescent Health Working Group

Under a new law all California middle and high school students starting 7th through 12th grades are required to have a proof of pertussis (Tdap) booster shot before starting the 2011-12 school year.

Settlement Eliminates Toxic Metal Cadmium in Tween Jewelry

In the first settlement of its kind, national jewelry seller Tween Brands Inc. will effectively eliminate the toxic metal cadmium from the bracelets, necklaces and other items it sells.

HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Using Social Networking Sites to Connect Youth to Sexual Health Services

This study explores the potential for using social networking sites to connect youth to sexual health services. Youth 14-19 years old in low-income communities in California reported high levels of overall Internet access and use of social networking sites. Disparities in frequency and location of Internet access by race/ethnicity, and hesitancy to join a clinic's online social network may, however, affect the success of this new strategy in some populations.

What Works in Out-of-School Programs for African American and Latino Children

African American and Latino children and adolescents in the U.S. often face challenges that differ from each other and from other groups of children. Two Child Trends studies examine what works and what doesn't in each of these populations.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Same-Sex Attraction and Health Disparities

This editorial presents the argument that attempting to categorize youth into lesbian, gay, and bisexual categories misses the point that it's not sexual orientation or sexuality that is the root of the health disparities, but how they view their relationships and the socio-cultural context that these youth experience as adolescents.

Fewer Teens are Having Sex, According to a CDC Study

According to a new study where over 5,000 youth ages 15-24 were interviewed, the proportion of those who had never had oral, vaginal, or anal sex rose in the past decade to 28 percent, up from 22 percent.

NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Environmental Influences in Food Intake

This editorial examines the link between environmental conditions and obesity and discusses the need to know how these conditions influence eating and activity behaviors, the proximal determinants of weight gain.

MENTAL HEALTH

Web of Popularity, Achieved by Bullying

U.C. Davis researchers included almost four thousand 8th to 10th graders in this study. Researchers used the data they collected to construct complex social maps of the schools, tracking groups of friends and identifying the students who were consistently at the hub of social life. Researchers found that increases in social status were associated with subsequent increases in aggression. But notably, aggressive behavior peaked at the 98th percentile of popularity and then dropped.

[Teenage Girls are about Three Times as Likely as Boys to Attempt Suicide for Drug-Related Reasons](#)

According to a study which analyzed emergency room visits, teenage girls are about three times as likely as boys to attempt suicide for drug-related reasons.

Resources

CAHC RESOURCES

[Foster Care Brief](#)

Understanding and addressing the sexual and reproductive health needs of youth in foster care can help ensure their healthy transition to adulthood. Our latest brief provides an overview of the research on the sexual and reproductive health of this population and lessons learned from other states that have implemented programs and policies to prevent pregnancies and STIs among youth in foster care.

CALIFORNIA HEALTH

[Latina Voices: Findings from a Study of Latina Teen Childbearing in the Fresno and Los Angeles Areas](#)

This UCSF study was conducted in response to the desire of California's Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Program (MCAH) and Office of Family Planning (OFP) for information to guide actions and support efforts to decrease the high Latina teen birth rate.

[Hookup Launches Tip Generator on Teensource.org](#)

The Hookup, a free weekly sex and life advice text-messaging service for anyone 13-24, is celebrating its two year anniversary by launching a tip generator on [Teensource.org](#) to collect new tips by and for California youth. Check out their site and submit a tip!

HEALTH LAW

[New Website for NCYL](#)

National Center for Youth Law (NCYL), an excellent resource for your adolescent health legal questions, has changed its website to www.teenhealthlaw.org.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

[One Year Anniversary Health Reform Source](#)

Kaiser Family Foundation "Health Reform Source" website provides information to help explain the new law.

HEALTH STATUS

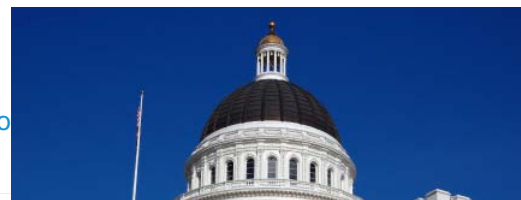
[UNICEF's State of the World's Children 2011 Report](#)

This report focuses on adolescence and examines a range of health topics including nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, mental health, HIV and AIDS, disabilities, and climate change.

Policy Updates

[State Budget Cuts](#)

Last week the California State Legislature passed a spending plan which includes deep cuts to health and human services



programs. According to the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), the cuts total approximately 14 billion dollars. These cuts include 20 million dollars that eliminates the community challenge grants program (CCG). The California Budget Project's recent presentation "[Back to the Future](#)" provides a good look at the social and economic context of the Governor's proposed 2011-12 budget.



Federal Budget Update

An additional Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed last Thursday, extending the budget through April 8th. This CR does not include cuts to health programs, however there have been significant cuts proposed to Title V (Maternal Child and Adolescent Health block grant), Title X (Family Planning Grants), as well as to the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. In the above link, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities provides an overview of the budgets proposed by Congress and the President.

Proposed Abortion and Reproductive Health Services Legislation

In the above link, Kaiser lays out current and proposed abortion and reproductive health services legislation that would ultimately cut all federal funding to organizations that provide abortions. Proposed legislation in the House of Representatives would restrict abortion and end family planning services.

Upcoming Events

California School Health Centers Association 2011 Regional Conferences

California School Health Centers Association is sponsoring conferences on April 14, in Los Angeles, and May 3, in Fresno.

Sex::Tech Conference, April 1-2, 2011

Registration is open for the 4th annual conference on new media, youth, and sexual health. This conference will be held in San Francisco.

Adolescent Relationship Abuse: Prevention and Intervention, April 11, 2011

Sponsored CAHC, Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency, Monterey County Health Department and San Luis Obispo Public Health Services, this training will provide an overview of the Healthcare Education, Assessment, and Response Tool for Adolescent Relationships Primer (HEART), a resource to help increase recognition of adolescent relationship abuse as a public health issue and provide tools to address it in a healthcare setting. This half-day training will take place in Salinas, California. Nursing CEUs are available free of charge.

A Time of Opportunity, April 12, 2011

The Center for Health Training's day long conference in Oakland will feature sessions that address reproductive health issues affecting teens as they transition from adolescence to young adulthood.

Training on Funding Sources for Health Care in Your County, April 19, 2011

Join Western Center and NHeLP for a training aimed at helping you sort

through the alphabet soup and participate in the health care funding decisions being made by your county. This training will be held in Los Angeles.

4th Annual STD Awareness Training, April 20, 2011

Sponsored by Alameda County Public Health Department and CAHC, this all-day training will focus on youth civic engagement in the digital age and social media strategies for STD prevention. The training will be held in Oakland.

Western Regional Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology (MCH EPI) Conference, June 19-20, 2011

This conference will emphasize the need of local, state, tribal and federal public health professionals working to improve the health of women, children and families in the western United States. This conference will be held in San Francisco.

National Assembly on School-Based Health Care Convention, June 26-29, 2011

The 2011 theme, School-based health care and the community: A partnership that works, highlights collaborations between school-based health centers (SBHCs) and community schools. The conference will be held in Chicago.

Show your support!

If you want to contribute, please contact us at support@californiateenhealth.org.

CAHC is proudly supported by [The California Endowment](#); [MCAH Program, California Department of Public Health](#); and [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice](#).

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