



Legislative and Policy Agenda 2008

To ensure that Minnesota policies regarding adolescent pregnancy, prevention and parenting are evidence-based, MOAPPP will advocate for the following in 2008.

Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy and STIs including HIV

Comprehensive Sexuality Education

- In partnership with the Sexuality Education for Life Coalition, introduce legislation to establish comprehensive sexuality education standards in public schools.

Youth Development

- In partnership with Youth Community Connections, MOAPPP will support increased and on-going (base funding) state support for Afterschool Community Learning Opportunities Grants.

General Prevention

- Broaden the understanding of what constitutes teen pregnancy prevention.

Support for Pregnant and Parenting Adolescents

School-linked Services for Adolescent Mothers, Fathers and their Children

- Explore legislation to restore funding for school based adolescent parent (TAPP) programs.
- Explore the development of state level coordination of funding and services for adolescent parent programs (i.e. MFIP, childcare assistance, school-linked services).

Protect Existing Services and Rights

Minors' Access to Confidential Health Care

In partnership with the Sexuality Education for Life Coalition, protect minors' consent statute 144.341.347 to ensure confidential access to sexual, chemical and mental health services for adolescents. MOAPPP will oppose any attempts to repeal or amend this statute in any way that jeopardizes confidentiality.

Related Issues

MOAPPP recognizes the vast complexity of policies that work to prevent adolescent pregnancy, STIs and HIV and to support adolescent parents. Therefore, MOAPPP will also support and monitor the following issues during the 2008 Legislative session:

- Funding and policies that improve access to quality child development for young families
- Access to contraceptives and STI/HIV prevention & treatment services
- Funding for the prevention of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS
- Policies that improve access to emergency contraception for adolescents
- Policies that require pharmacies to provide drugs in a non-discriminatory manner
- Access to prenatal care for all pregnant adolescents
- Access to services and programs for youth with special needs, youth in foster care and homeless youth
- Services that support the mental health of youth
- Adequate Maternal and Child Health funding to ensure support of school-based clinics