



Legislative and Policy Agenda 2009

To ensure that Minnesota policies regarding adolescent pregnancy, prevention and parenting are evidence-based, MOAPPP will advocate for the following in 2009.

Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy and STIs including HIV

Comprehensive Sexuality Education

- In partnership with the Coalition for Responsible Sex Ed, introduce legislation to establish responsible sex education standards in public schools.

Youth Development

- In partnership with Youth Community Connections, MOAPPP will support Afterschool Community Learning Opportunities Act.

Protect State Funding Resources

- In partnership with SAFPLAN Coalition, MOAPPP will work to protect Family Planning Special Projects funding.
- MOAPPP will support continued funding of the Ending Health Disparities Initiative.

Support for Pregnant and Parenting Adolescents

Home Visiting

- In partnership with Affirmative Options Coalition, explore opportunities to identify adolescent parents as a priority population for home visiting resources.

Parenting Education

- In partnership with Minnesota Fathers and Families Network, MOAPPP will explore viability of adolescent education on parenting and paternity awareness.

Housing and Support for Foster Youth

- In partnership with the Youth Moving Forward Coalition, MOAPPP will support efforts to secure funding and policy for housing and other supports for youth and youth aging out of foster care.

Protect Existing Services and Rights

Minors' Access to Confidential Health Care

In partnership with the Coalition for Responsible Sex Ed, 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 provide support for adolescent parents. Therefore, MOAPPP will also support and monitor the following issues during the 2009 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 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