Fostering Positive Outcomes Among Minnesota Teen Mothers Using a School-based Model

Mary Pat Sigurdson, MA, Minneapolis Public Schools and Broadway High School, MN; Becky Koltes, BS, Broadway High School, MN; Andrea Aga, Broadway High School, MN and University of MN; Nancy Leland, PhD, Barbara McMorris, PhD, Lindsay Taliaferro, PhD, Whitney Hogan, BA, University of MN.

**Background/Objectives**

Broadway High School is devoted exclusively to young mothers (ages 14-21) and their children (ages 0-6).

**Study Design and Methods**

A quasi-experimental, repeated measures cohort study.

**Goal:*** Compare key outcomes between 3 cohorts of Broadway students (n=220) and a comparison group of young women (n=156)

**Data sources:** Baseline and 12-month Adolescent Family Life CORE and study surveys and secondary data from school, county, and state records.

**Measures:** Process: satisfaction with case management. Outcomes: school status, progress toward graduation, pregnancy status, child immunization history, and confidence in preventing repeat pregnancies, keeping up-to-date with child immunizations, and following plans to graduate.

**Baseline data collected on all 3 cohorts. 12-month follow-up data collected on cohorts 1 & 2, currently collecting data on cohort 3. 376 subjects completed baseline surveys, 220 intervention and 156 comparison group participants.

**Sample consists of single, never married teens with over 50% African American, age 17 ½ or more, living with their mom/step mom, and receiving public assistance.**

**Almost ¼ reported using long lasting reversible birth control in the last month and about 20% reported using a dual method consisting of a condom plus another method.**

**Attrition analyses for Cohort 1 & 2 revealed no differences between those lost to follow-up and participants at both time points.**

**Preliminary Results**

Baseline data collected on all 3 cohorts. 12-month follow-up data collected on cohorts 1 & 2, currently collecting data on cohort 3. 376 subjects completed baseline surveys, 220 intervention and 156 comparison group participants.

**Preliminary Multivariate Results**

- Extremely sure about being able to prevent another pregnancy (Broadway students, 2009-10 vs. Minneapolis teens, 2008)
- Had their child in a licensed child care (indicator that child is fully immunized) (Broadway students, 2009-10 vs. Minneapolis teens, 2008)
- Were in school or a GED program (Broadway students, 2009-10 vs. Minneapolis teens, 2008)
- Believe it is extremely important to graduate high school, vo-tech, or trade school (Broadway students, 2009-10 vs. Minneapolis teens, 2008)
- Extremely sure they can follow a plan to survive postsecondary education (Broadway students, 2009-10 vs. Minneapolis teens, 2008)

**Other Preliminary Results**

- **Repeat Birth Rate:** 6.1% vs. 26.6% (Broadway students, 2009-10 vs. Minneapolis teens, 2008)
- **School Connectedness:** mean score of 3.4 for Broadway vs. 3.1 for Comparison, p=0.07
- **Satisfaction with Case Management:** 75% of Broadway students were very extremely satisfied and 79% spent as much time as they needed with their manager. 85% found their manager very extremely helpful in developing a plan to graduate

**Conclusions and Implications**

- Based on preliminary findings, we are encouraged that the school-based model used at Broadway may hold promise in having a positive impact on the lives of these young mothers.
- The high degree of student satisfaction with case management coupled with findings indicating that students are more connected to school suggest the important role case managers play in fostering significant connections for these young mothers.
- Limitations/challenges to this evaluation include conducting follow-up surveys with a highly mobile population and combining multiple data sources.
- School-based model strategies and their key components, such as one-on-one case management, continue to require analysis and refinement.
- Supported by school-based, intensive case-management, young mothers facing difficult challenges can make progress toward graduating from high school and succeed at building strong and productive lives for themselves and their children. Our job is to learn and implement strategies that inspire their lives and support their efforts.

**Contact Info & Acknowledgements**

Nancy Leland, University of Minnesota Prevention Research Center, (612) 624-8134; nancylee@umn.edu

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