

#### YOU CAN TAKE ACTION FOR ADOLESCENTS!

**ACF ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION CONFERENCE, JUNE 26, 2024** 

Armin Aflaki, MPH, CHES; Roslyn Thomas, MA, Katie Derrick, BA

**OASH** Office of Population Affairs

#### **Poll Question**

## Have you heard of Take Action for Adolescents?



## Take Action for Adolescents: The Triple Dividend



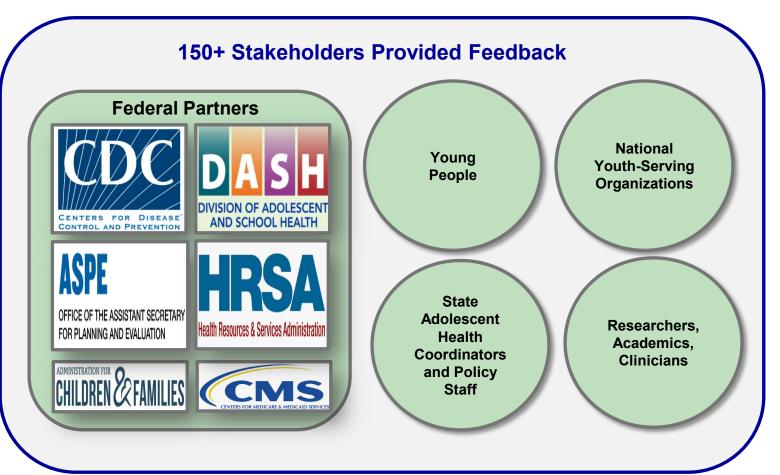


## **Ally and Partner Engagement**



The Federal Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs (IWGYP) provided perspectives from many federal agencies that touch young people's lives





## **IWGYP** and youth.gov

- IWGYP created in 2008
- Collaboration of over 25 federal departments and agencies
- Focus on evidence-based programs to improve youth outcomes
- Oversees youth.gov website and YE4C

## youth.gov













































#### **Call to Action Structure**



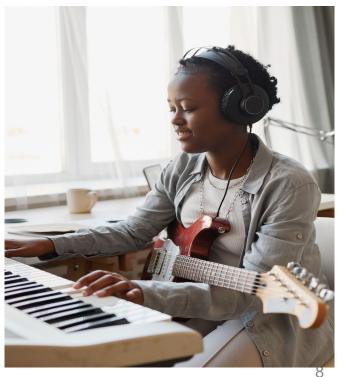
#### The Vision

All adolescents in the United States have the safety, support, and resources they need to thrive and be healthy and have equitable opportunity to realize their full potential.



#### **Key Principles**

- Full and timely access to health and social services
- Youth Agency
- Health equity
- Meaningful youth engagement
- Positive youth development
- Quality in health care and social services
- Whole person approach



## **Eight Goals**



Goal 1: Eliminate disparities to advance health equity



Goal 2: Increase youth agency and youth engagement



Goal 3: Ensure access to safe and supportive environments



Goal 4: Increase coordination and collaboration within and across systems



Goal 5: Expand access to health care and human services



**Goal 6:** Strengthen training and support for caring adults



**Goal 7:** Improve health information and health literacy



Goal 8: Support, translate, and disseminate research

#### **Sample Goal and Action Steps**

#### Goal 5: Expand access to health care and human services

Improve access to health care and human services to maximize quality, efficiency, and the patient/client experience for adolescents.







Policymakers can create, expand, and support school-based health centers that are accessible, convenient, developmentally appropriate, and adolescent-friendly; provide comprehensive preventive counseling and screening services; and prioritize confidentiality, where possible.

Health care and social service providers can provide services and supports that are tailored to the developmental stages of adolescents including the transition to adulthood.

Youth-serving professionals can expand and replicate effective programs for young people that foster positive youth development, improve health outcomes, and address mental health, sexual and reproductive health, and other needs using strengths-based communication strategies. 10

#### **Discussion Question #1**

Which Take Action for Adolescents' goals are most relevant for me and my organization?

## **APP Program Alignments with Take Action**

- Notice of Funding Opportunities
- Informational Memorandums

Program emphasis on PYD

#### We Think Twice TM

- Youth Voice
- Resources for Parents, Caregivers and Professionals

- Evaluation Support
- TPP Evidence Review
- National Evaluations

Support for Evidence Based Programming

## **Small Group Discussion**



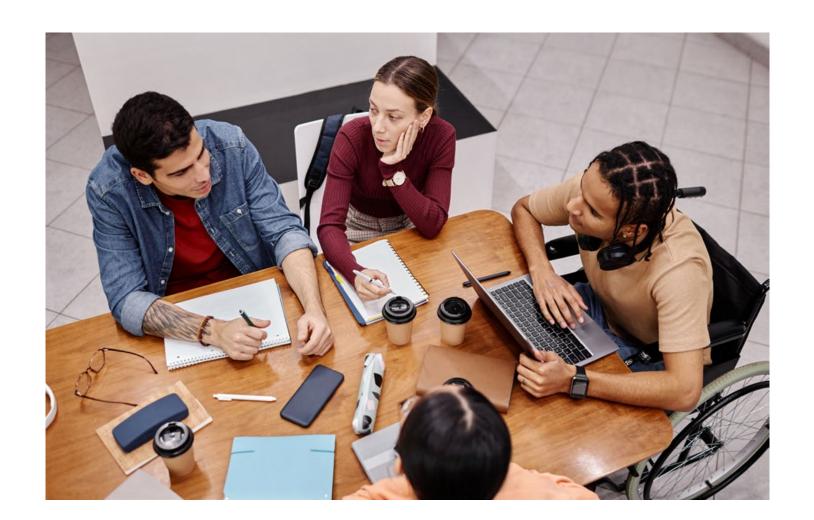
#### **Case Study**

John is 16 years old. He is frequently absent from school and runs away from home for weeks at a time. He has a history of involvement with the juvenile justice system and the police are frequently called to his home for fights with his mother. John often attends the community rec center to play basketball and sporadically participates in the positive youth development program. John is a natural leader and talented visual artist. He shared with a counselor at the rec center that his girlfriend thinks she may be pregnant.

#### **Discussion Question #2**

Who do we need to collaborate with to reach those goals (existing and potential partners)?

## **Dissemination and Implementation**



#### **Take Action for Adolescents Resources**







#### **Adolescent Health Research Agenda**

- Convening adolescent health experts
- Identified gaps in research and innovative research methods
- Addressed youth engagement in research design and translation.
- Collaboration with colleagues inside and outside of government





## Q&A







#### **Discussion Question #3**

# What are some specific action steps my organization can take?

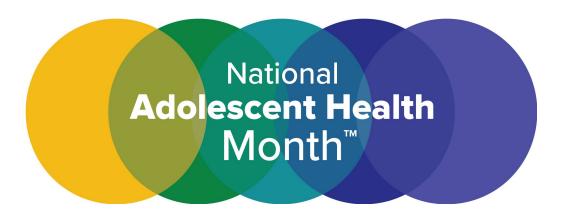
#### **How to support TAA**

- Share TAA information, links, and resources on your website, newsletter, blog
- Like, retweet, and quote tweet OPA posts about Take Action for Adolescents
- Use the Take Action Toolkit to jump start or expand collaboration with partners
- Tell us how you are using Take Action for Adolescents and its resources!



#### **National Adolescent Health Month (NAHM)**

- We hope you celebrated NAHM with us in May!
- NAHM 2024 included:
  - Weekly themes and resources linked to Take Action for Adolescents' 8 goals
  - Social media posts by OPA, federal grantees, and external partners
  - Interactive games to test knowledge and win badges
  - Youth dialogue on what supportive communities for adolescents look like



## **OPA Grant Recipient Activities During NAHM**



#### **How to find TAA Resources**

https://opa.hhs.gov/takeactionforadolescents



## **Session Evaluation**

Please complete a brief evaluation form for all workshop, forum and networking sessions by scanning the following QR code or visiting the following link:

https://bit.ly/2024Evaluations

