

## WEBINAR

Personal Responsibility Education Program



**FYSB** Family & Youth  
Services Bureau

Adolescent Pregnancy  
Prevention Program



# Approaches for Addressing Sexual and Reproductive Health with System-Involved Youth

September 20, 2022

Katy Suellentrop, RTI  
Rachel Rosenberg, Child Trends  
Mindy Scott, Child Trends  
Tecca Thompson, Ohio Dept. of Youth Services  
Rebecca James, Health Care Education and  
Training

# Agenda

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- Welcome/Introductions
- Overview of System-involved Youth
- Best Practices For Engaging System-involved Youth
- Project Spotlight
  - *Activate: The Collective to Bring Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Research To Youth-Supporting Professionals*
- Grantee Spotlight
  - Ohio Department of Youth Services, Tecca Thompson
  - Health Care Training and Education, Rebecca James
- Q & A

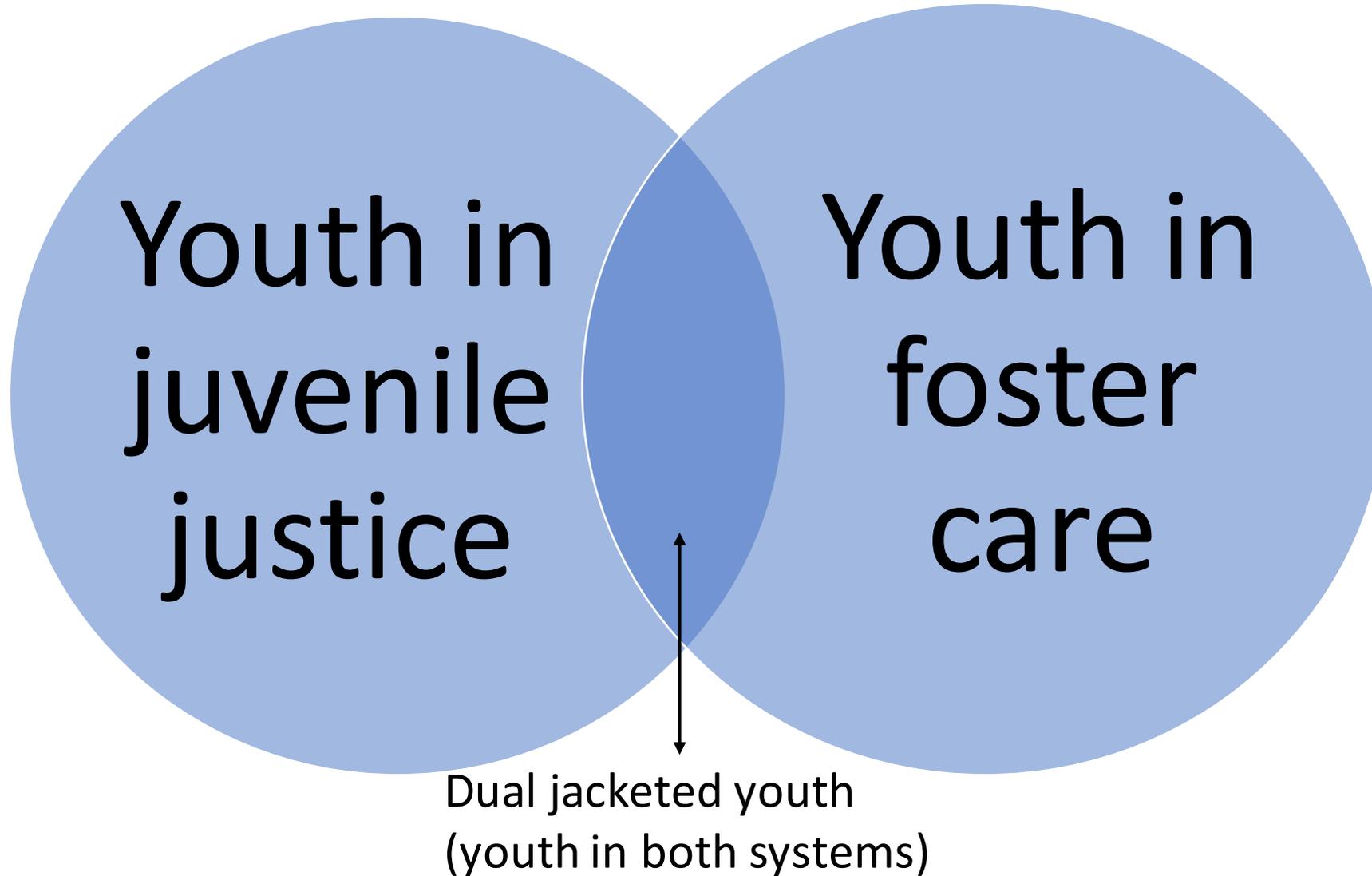
# Objectives

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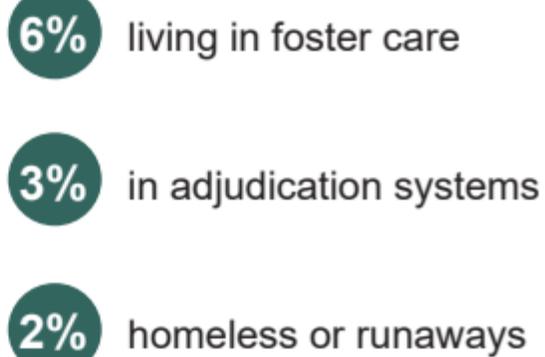
# Who are system-involved youth?

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# Why Focus on System-Involved Youth?

## Living situation



## TA requests on:

- Appropriate evidence-based interventions for system-involved youth
- Ensuring that programs for system-involved youth are trauma-informed
- Ensuring that programs for system-involved youth resonate

Source: Hulse, Lara, Lauren Murphy, and Diletta Mittone. "PREP Performance Measures Fact Sheet: 2019–2020." OPRE Report #2022-89. Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2022.

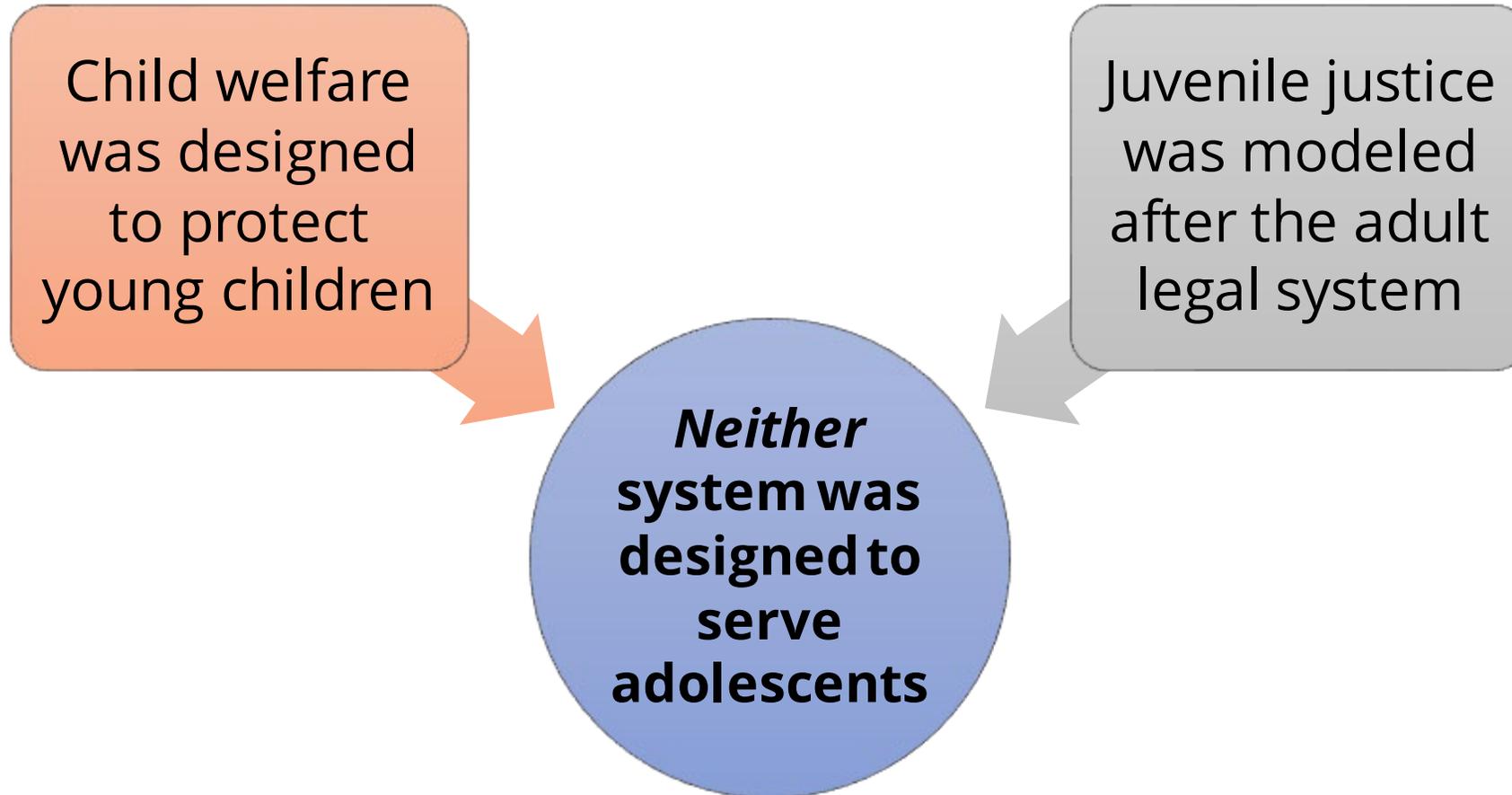
# Poll

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- Tell us about your experience working with system-involved youth:
  - Experienced organization already working with system-involved youth
  - Organization at the early stages of working with system-involved youth
  - Organization thinking about working with system-involved youth
  - Organization who doesn't plan to serve system-involved youth directly, but who wants to be aware of considerations since system-involved youth are often reached through programming for general populations of youth

# Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Systems

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Therefore, these systems often fall short of adequately meeting the needs of youth and young adults they serve

# Background Information on Youth in Foster Care

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## Entry and exit from foster care

- Most older youth (ages 14-21) enter foster care due to neglect or parent/child conflict<sup>1</sup>
- Approximately 20,000 young people age out of foster care each year<sup>2</sup>

## In foster care

- 49% of older youth (ages 14-21) are female and 51% are male<sup>3</sup>
- Older youth make up about 15-20% of the children in foster care each year<sup>4</sup>
- Black, Indigenous, Hispanic, and low-income youth are over-represented in foster care<sup>5</sup>

# Experiences of Youth in Foster Care

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## Older youth compared to younger children in foster care

- Experience increased placement instability, school instability, and are more likely to be in a congregate care setting<sup>6,7,8</sup>

## Pregnant and parenting youth

- Between 33-49% of older youth (ages 14-21) have ever been pregnant or impregnated someone<sup>9</sup>

# Experiences of Youth in Foster Care

Experience in foster care and other family factors are associated with increased odds of the following



Having sex for the first time at a younger age<sup>10</sup>



Higher rates of teen pregnancy<sup>11</sup>



Increased exposure to sexual trauma<sup>12</sup>



Increased risk for sex trafficking or sexual exploitation<sup>13</sup>



Increased risk for rapid repeat pregnancies<sup>14</sup>



Higher rates of STIs and HIV<sup>15</sup>

# Background Information on Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

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## Entry into juvenile justice

- Youth can come into contact with the juvenile justice system through a range of reasons including behavior problems, status offenses (truancy), or illegal actions such as misdemeanors or felonies<sup>16</sup>
- Approximately 500,000 youth were arrested in 2020<sup>17</sup>

## In juvenile justice

- 28% are female and 72% are male<sup>18</sup>
- Most youth in the juvenile justice system are not in a detention center and remain in their communities<sup>19</sup>
- Black youth are over-represented in juvenile justice<sup>20</sup>
- LGBTQ+ youth are over-represented in juvenile justice<sup>21</sup>

# Experiences of Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

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Pregnant  
and  
parenting  
youth in  
juvenile  
justice

- By age 19, over half of young women in juvenile justice have been pregnant and 18-31% of young men have fathered a child<sup>22</sup>

# Experiences of Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

Experience in juvenile justice and other family risk factors are associated with factors that increase the odds of the following<sup>23</sup>:



Having sex for the first time at a younger age



Higher rates of teen pregnancy



Increased exposure to sexual trauma



Having multiple partners



Having unprotected sex



Higher rates of STIs and HIV

# Reasons System-involved Youth Have Limited Exposure to Comprehensive Sexual Health Education

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Inconsistent school attendance

Lack of programs in group settings

Inconsistent information provided by adults

Inconsistent access to medical care

Limited access to education that is trauma informed

# **Recommendations for Addressing Sexual and Reproductive Health**

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# Programmatic Recommendations for Addressing Sexual and Reproductive Health Among System-involved Youth

- Acknowledge the unique circumstances that system-involved youth experience
- Acknowledge their unique experiences with sexual and reproductive health
- Acknowledge sexual trauma and exploitation and adjust programming as needed
- Ensure conversations are safe spaces for youth to be honest and open (e.g., non punitive)
- Do not make assumptions about level of sexual activity, sexual orientation, or gender identity
- Connect youth with supportive, trauma-informed medical providers
- Connect youth with resources and education in their communities

# Engagement Recommendations for Addressing Sexual and Reproductive Health Among System-involved Youth

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Engage systems-involved youth in the development and implementation of sexual and reproductive health programming

Engage youth using a strengths-based approach

Engage youth in systems reform efforts that might be needed to advance sexual and reproductive health programming

# Poll: Youth Engagement Strategies

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- How have you engaged system-involved youth (select all that apply):
  - Engaged system-involved youth in program design
  - Engaged system-involved youth in program implementation
  - Engaged system-involved youth in the creation of practice-based tools and resources
  - Engaged system-involved youth in your programming in another way? If so, please provide a short description.

# **Best Practices for Engaging Systems-involved Youth**



# Best Practices for Engaging System-involved Youth

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*When engaging youth in developing and implementing programs:*

- Avoid tokenism, engage at least 2 youth in each activity
- Ensure the organization is ready and willing to authentically share power with youth
- Clearly articulate aspects of the program that cannot change (e.g., grant requirements)
- Ensure a consistent point of contact for youth

# Best Practices for Engaging System-involved Youth

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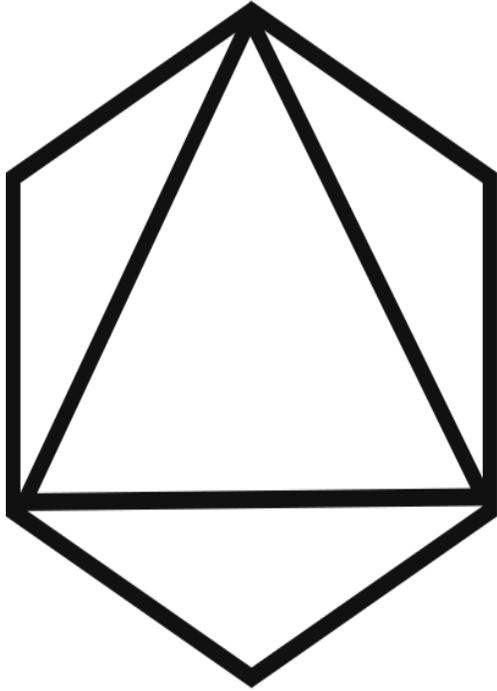
*When engaging youth in developing and implementing programs:*

- Allow youth to choose how they want to be involved
- Ensure engagement is mutually beneficial (e.g., align opportunities with development goals of the youth)
- Compensate youth when engaging them as experts
- Provide incentives when engaging them as research or program participants
- Consider and address barriers to participation such as transportation, childcare, time of day, competing priorities
- Work with the youth to provide background information and any other prep materials needed before engaging with the full team

# Poll: Voices from the Field

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- Do you know where to access research-based resources to support your work with system-involved youth?
  - Yes
  - No



# ACTIVATE

THE COLLECTIVE TO BRING ADOLESCENT  
SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RESEARCH  
TO YOUTH-SUPPORTING PROFESSIONALS

<https://activatecollective.org/>



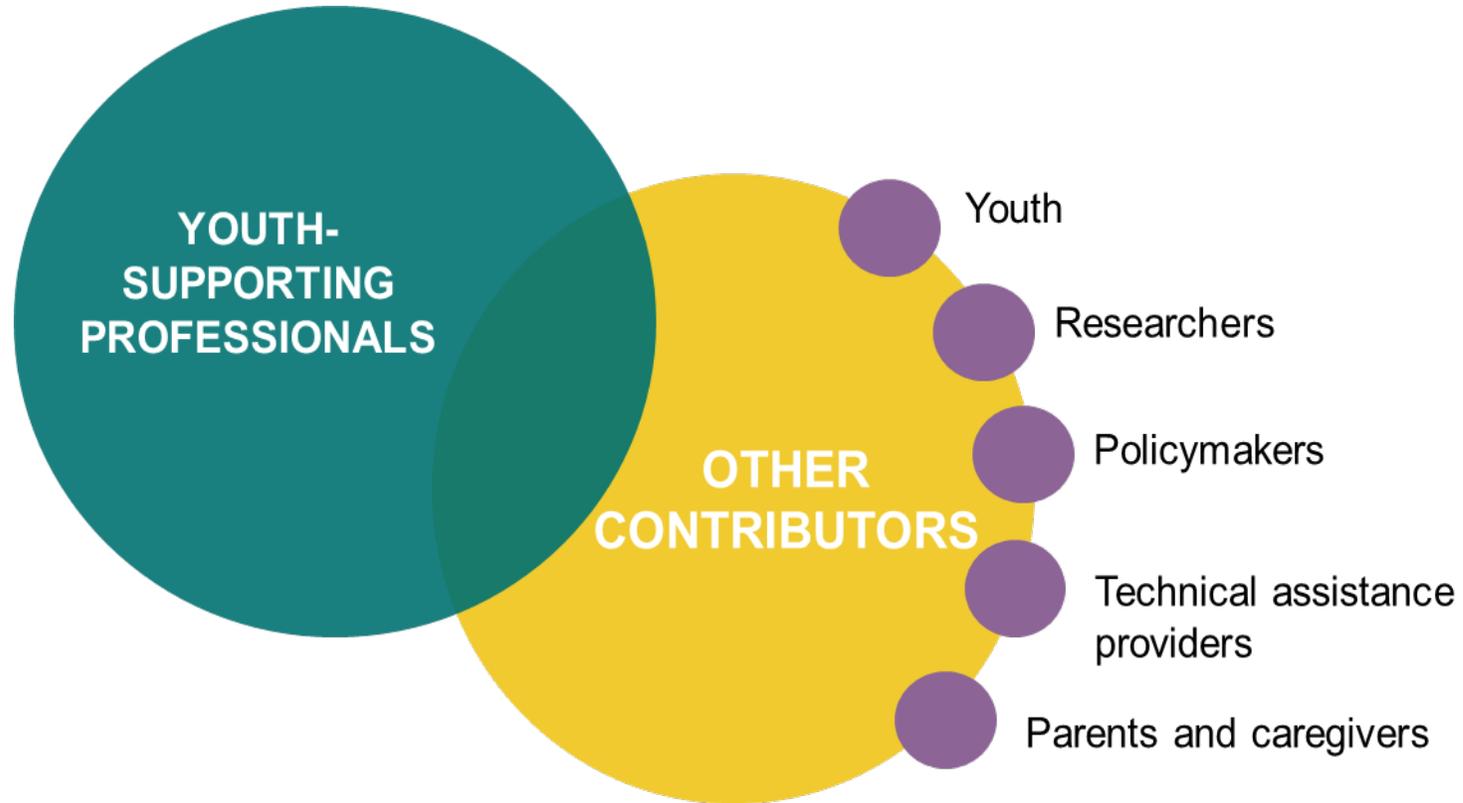
# Activate Objectives

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- Conduct and translate research into practice by creating resources for professionals who support:
  - youth who experience the child welfare or juvenile justice systems
  - youth experiencing homelessness
  - youth disconnected from school and work (sometimes referred to as opportunity youth)
- Gather, synthesize, and disseminate information
- Collaborate with other individuals, organizations, and coalitions

# Activate Audiences

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# Activate Resources



## **7 Tips for Youth-Supporting Professionals for Talking with Youth About Sexual and Reproductive Health**

February 13

This tip sheet provides youth-supporting professionals with seven tangible recommendations to promote effective and open conversations about sexual and reproductive health with young people, especially youth who are in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems.



## **Wish List for Creating Resources to Help Youth-Supporting Professionals Address Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health**

January 3

This Wish List of strategies for creating resources for youth-supporting professionals is meant to guide resource developers in the creation of resources for youth-supporting professionals who work on behalf of youth with experience in the child welfare system, the justice system, and/or homelessness and opportunity youth.



## **Fact Sheets: Understanding the Resources on Condom Use & STIs Among Youth Involved with Systems or Experiencing Homelessness**

February 4

These fact sheets present findings from research on condom use and STIs among youth involved with the child welfare or juvenile justice system or youth experiencing homelessness.

# Sexual and Reproductive Health Resource Explorer

Use the drop-down options below to find the resources best suited to your work. [Click here for a guide to using the explorer.](#)

- Database with resources for professionals

- Users can search for resources based on youth population, sexual and reproductive health topic, and resource format

Youth Population

Sexual/Reproductive Health Topic

Resource Type

**The Sexuality of Young Women with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: A Neglected Focus in the American Foster Care System**

**Juvenile Injustice: The Unfulfilled Rights of Youth in State Custody to Comprehensive Sexual Health Care**

**Developmentally Appropriate Approaches to Discussing Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights with Foster Youth**

# Forthcoming Resources

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- Research-Based Q&A
  - Intimate Partner Violence/Teen Dating Violence
  - Sex Trafficking
- Trainings
  - 3 modules on sex-based harassment in the workplace
- Tip Sheets & Practice Guides
  - Birth control conversation guide, methods matrix, and information booklet
  - Social determinants of sexual and reproductive health among youth in foster care
  - Trauma-responsive, LGBTQ+ affirming approaches to sexual and reproductive health
- Data visualization
  - Sexual and reproductive health behaviors of opportunity youth

# Activate Research Translation Priorities

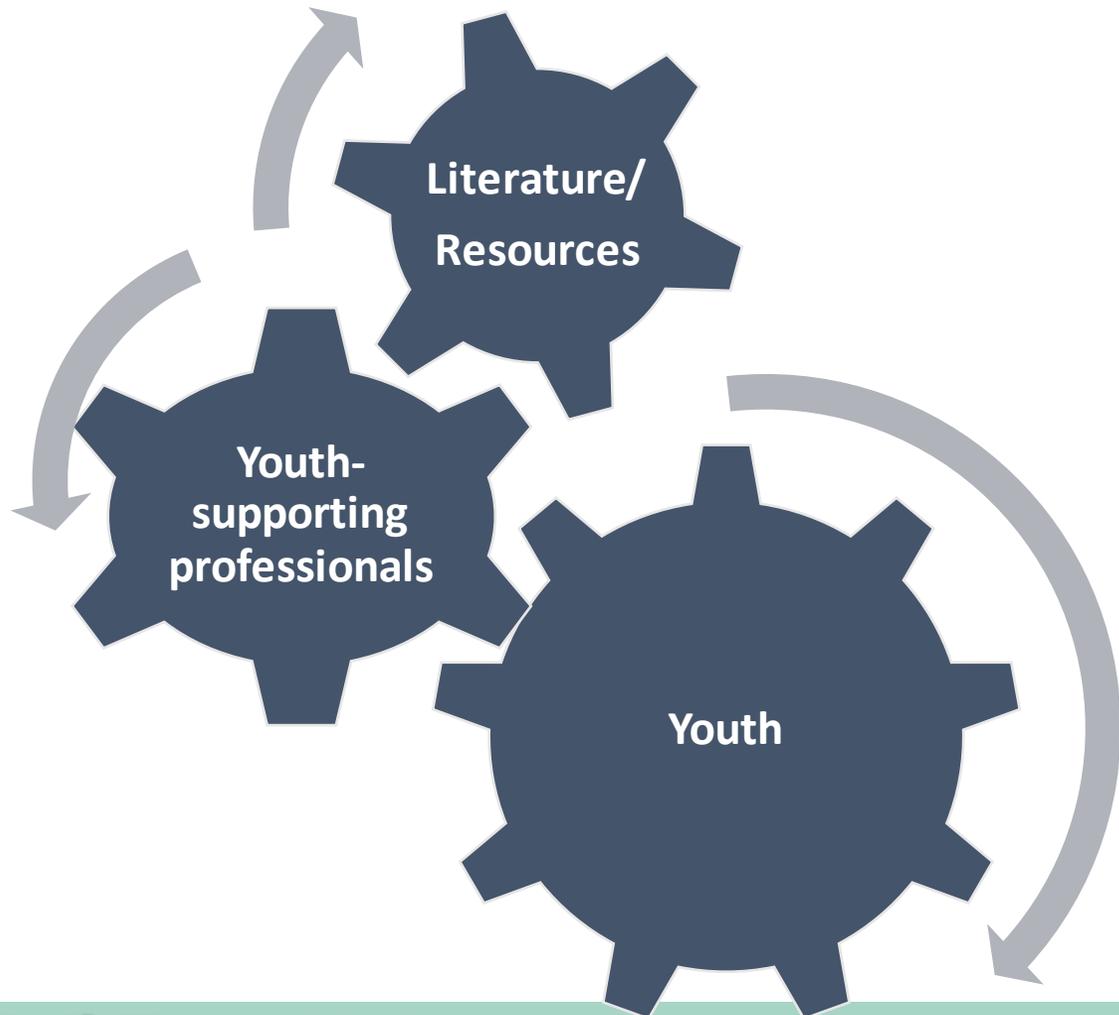
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Engage youth-supporting professionals, youth, and researchers to ensure our work is:

- Relevant
- Timely
- Reflective of what is current practice in the field
- Reflective of the latest research
- Prioritizing professionals' and youth voice
- Accessible

# Engaging Youth and Youth-supporting Professionals in Activate Resource Development

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- ◆ Lessons learned
  - Youth contributions make the content real and authentic
  - Importance of providing foundational knowledge
  - Be realistic of the capacity of youth-supporting professionals
  - Present not only what to do, but *how* to do it, and examples of it being done

# Collaborate with Activate

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- Sign up to:
  - Receive Activate resources and information via a newsletter and other updates
  - Share Activate resources with your networks
  - Provide feedback about resource needs
  - Evaluate Activate's resources
  - Participate in discussion groups, conference, or other activities
  - Cross-post or share Activate resources and updates
- <https://activatecollective.org/contact-us/>

**Grantee Spotlight:  
Ohio Department of Youth  
Services**

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# PREP

*Personal Responsibility  
Education Program*

**Educating Youth in Foster  
Care and Juvenile Justice  
Systems about STD, HIV and  
Pregnancy Prevention.**

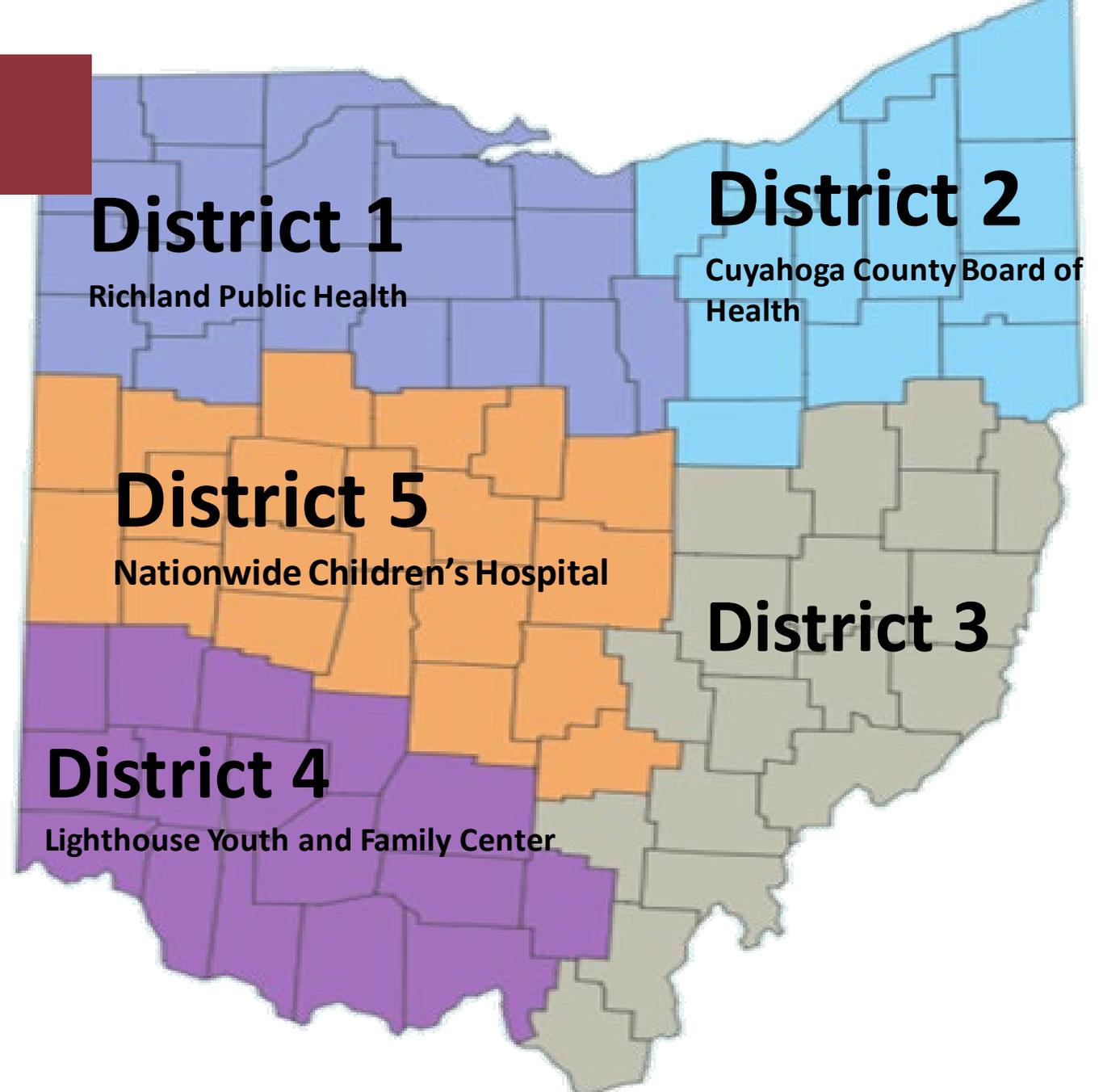
**Ohio's Plan for Serving all Foster Care and Juvenile  
Justice Agencies in the state and Creating  
Sustainability**

**Ohio**

**Department of  
Youth Services**

**Tecca Thompson  
PREP Program Manager**

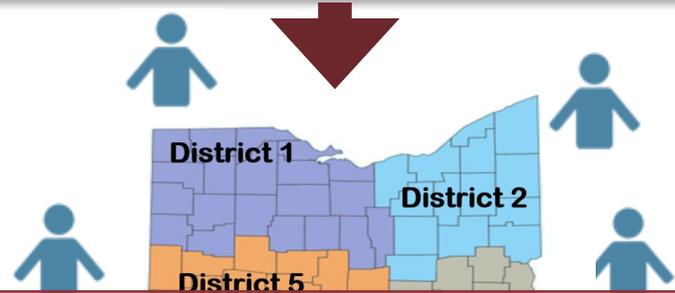
# Five Dis



Every youth will have an opportunity to achieve their potential • What we invest in is what we value

Train the  
Trainer  
Model

Curriculum Adapters and Developers



Regional PREP Regional Coordinators



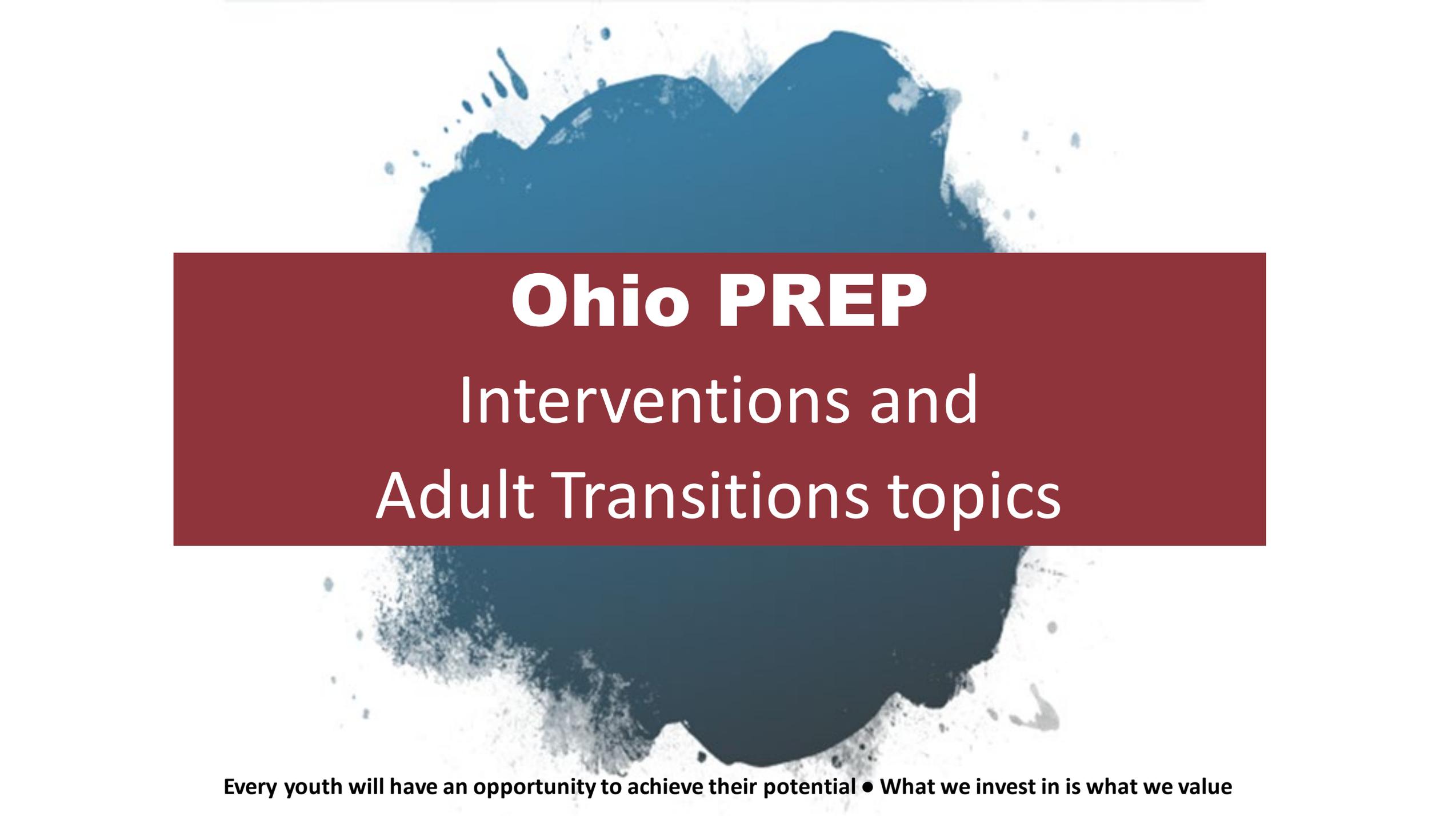
Agency Staff



Youth



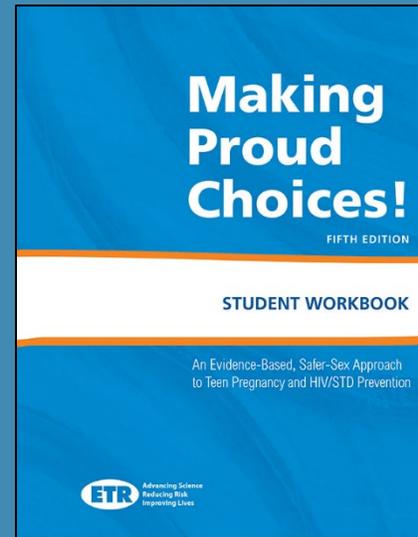
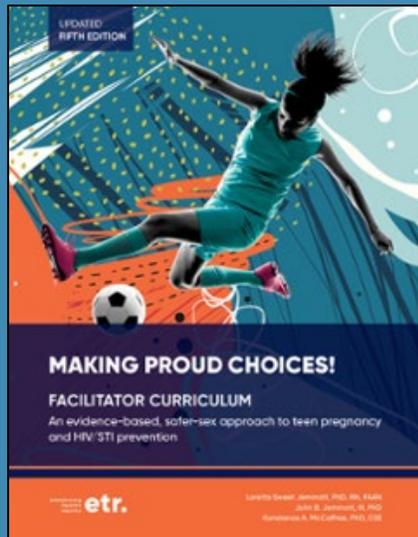
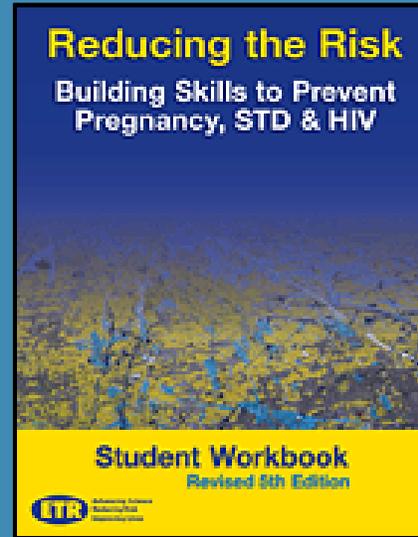
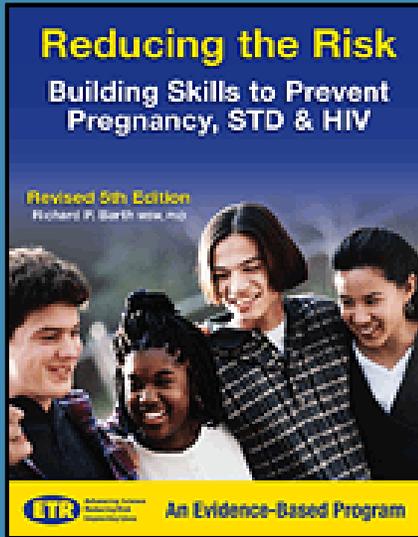
Every youth will have an opportunity to achieve their potential • What we invest in is what we value

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# **Ohio PREP**

## Interventions and Adult Transitions topics

**Every youth will have an opportunity to achieve their potential • What we invest in is what we value**



13

Instructional  
Hours

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Evidence Based Programs

# Adulthood Topics

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Developed by the Ohio PREP



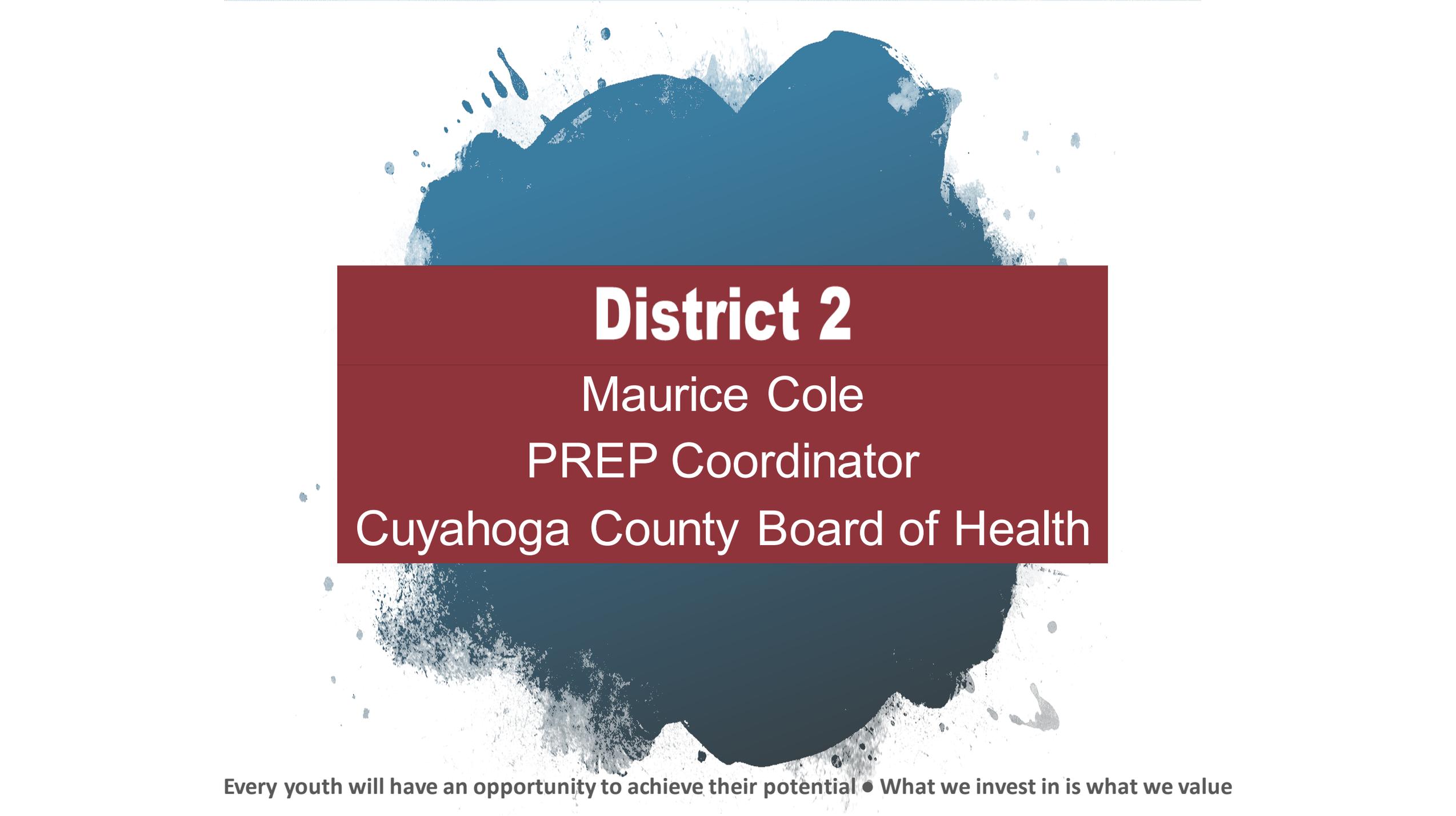
**Education and Career Success**



**Healthy Relationships**



**Financial Literacy**

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# District 2

Maurice Cole

PREP Coordinator

Cuyahoga County Board of Health

Every youth will have an opportunity to achieve their potential • What we invest in is what we value

# District 2 Our Partners

*Juvenile Justice  
and Foster Care*



**CONSISTENCY  
IS THE  
BUILDING BLOCK  
OF TRUST**



Every youth will have an opportunity to achieve their potential • What we invest in is what we value



Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas

# JUVENILE DIVISION

Juvenile Justice Center, 9300 Quincy Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 216-443-8400

Length of PREP partnership

Program Implementation

How we support our community partners

Every youth will have an opportunity to achieve their potential • What we invest in is what we value



Length of PREP partnership

Program Implementation

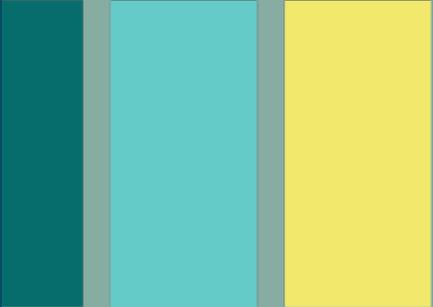
How we support our community partners

# **Grantee Spotlight: Health Care Education and Training**

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# Indiana Proud and Connected Teens (IN-PACT)



*Approaches for Addressing Sexual and Reproductive Health with System-Involved Youth*

*September 20, 2022*

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
(ACYF) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB)

Rebecca James, BA

# Partners in Reproductive & Sexual Health

In 1994, Health Care Education and Training (HCET) was formed out of the belief that all people should have access to high quality family planning and reproductive health care and education, regardless of their income and geography. These services and programs should be provided by clinicians, educators, and other professionals that are receiving the best training and support available. HCET fills the gap between training, education, and practice. We support direct services providers so they can deliver high quality care tailored to their agency and community.

With offices located in Indianapolis, IN and Madison, WI, HCET's work is focused on the states that surround the Great Lakes (IN, WI, IL, MN, MI, OH). We are continuously expanding as we find new partners, advance the integration of reproductive and sexual health into new sectors, and focus on finding “what works” through impactful program evaluation and moving data to action.

# HCET FYSB Grant

10-year FYSB Grantee

Indiana Proud and Connected Teens

- Power Through Choices, Teen Outreach Program, Be Proud Be Responsible
- Implemented with youth involved in juvenile justice and child welfare systems

ADULT & CHILD  
HEALTH

**FIREFLY**  
Children & Family Alliance

  
**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF INDIANAPOLIS

IN-PACT

POWER  
THROUGH  
Choices

Planned  
Parenthood®  
Care. No matter what.

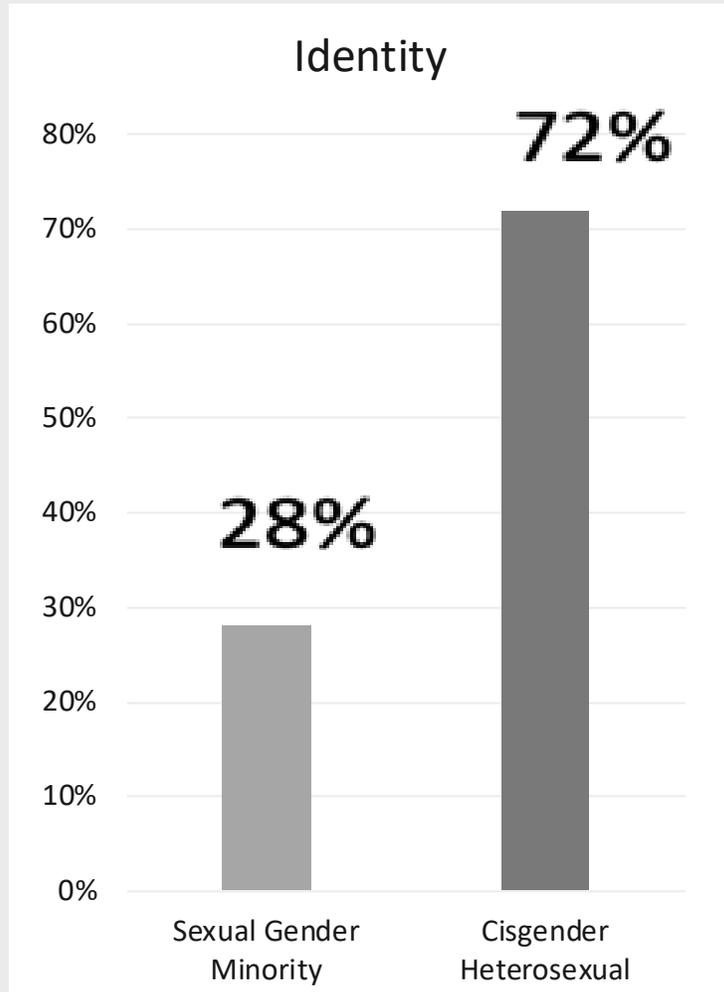
# Lessons Learned

Gender and sexual minority youth

High levels of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

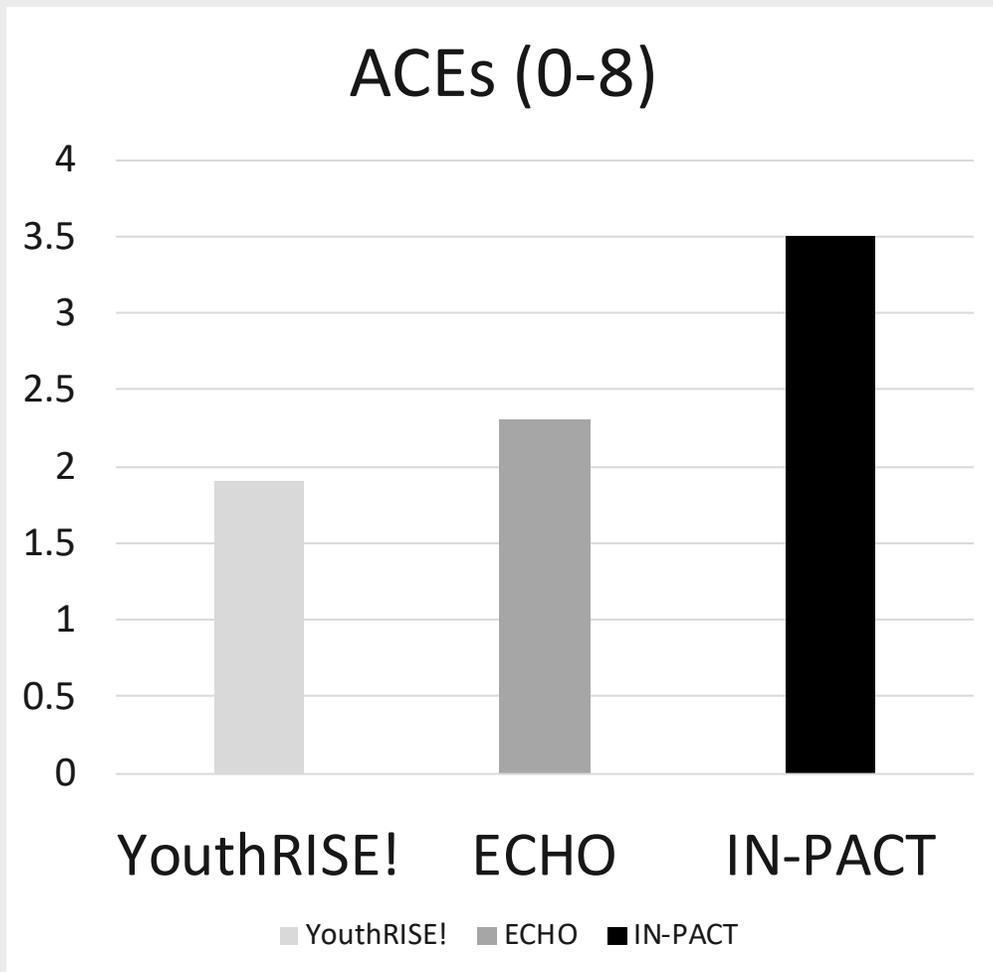
Secondary prevention

# Gender and Sexual Minority Youth



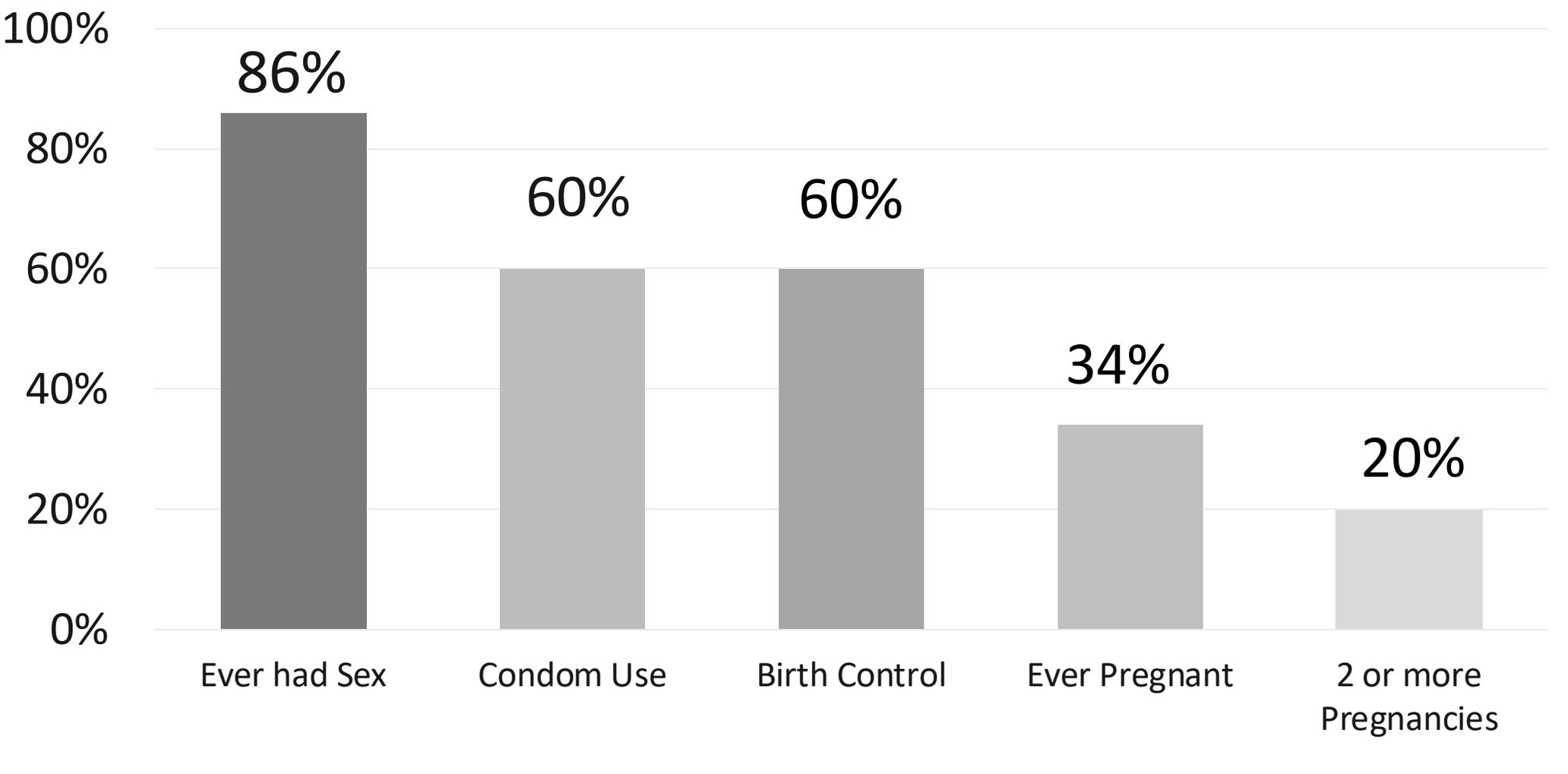
- 1635 Youth Surveyed, more likely:
  - Foster care or dual system-involved (rather than juvenile justice)
  - Identify as female
  - Experience dating violence victimization and perpetration

# High Levels of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)



- Measured only ACEs related to environment
- ACEs associated with:
  - Dual system involvement
  - Higher pregnancy risk behaviors (e.g. condom non-use, substance use, # partners)
  - Negative attitudes to abstinence
  - Positive attitudes to pregnancy

# Primary vs. Secondary Pregnancy Prevention



# Secondary Prevention Youth Feedback

- **Males**

- **Primary: How to be a good parent**

*“How to take care of kids”*

- **Secondary: Practical aspects of sex**

- **Females**

- **Primary: Sexual victimization and trauma**

*“Talking to partner about safe sex without being scared”*

- **Secondary: Gender identity and sexuality**

# Self-reflection and Share

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Reflect and share the answer to the following:

- What have you learned today that might shape your work moving forward?

# Q&A



# Resources: The Exchange

## Tip Sheet

Adolescent Pregnancy  
Prevention Program

**FYSB** Family & Youth  
Services Bureau



### Opportunities to Provide Personal Responsibility Education Program Services to Youth Involved with Juvenile Justice

January 2020

### Integrating the Needs of Foster Care Youth in Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Programming: Trauma-Informed Approaches

April 21, 2016  
3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m. ET

## Resource Guide

Adolescent Pregnancy  
Prevention Program

**FYSB** Family & Youth  
Services Bureau



### Addressing the Needs of Youth in Foster Care: A Primer for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grantees

January 2020

**TIP SHEET**  
Personal Responsibility  
Education Program

**FYSB** Family & Youth  
Services Bureau

### Adverse Childhood Experiences: Implications for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Programs

September 2021

# Contact Information

- Maurice Cole: [mcole@ccbh.net](mailto:mcole@ccbh.net), (216) 201-2001 x1326
- Tecca L Thompson, MCJ: [tecca.thompson@dys.ohio.gov](mailto:tecca.thompson@dys.ohio.gov), (614) 357-1548
- Rebecca James: [rjames@hcet.org](mailto:rjames@hcet.org)
  
- Reach out to [apptta@rti.org](mailto:apptta@rti.org) if you would like one-on-one assistance.
  
- Reach out to your project officers if you have PREP program administration questions.



THANK  
YOU

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