

#ProtectPAKids NEWSLETTER

MAY 2019 · LEARN MORE AT PA-FSA.ORG



May Is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, recognized every May, calls our attention to the importance of being present for teens. Since early 2017, cases of teen pregnancy have declined due to two main reasons:

- **1.** A greater number of teens abstaining from sexual activity
- **2.** More sexually active teens using preventative measures like birth control.

However, teen pregnancy rates in the United States remain significantly higher than other countries.

Prevention begins with conversations. Teen pregnancy creates social and financial stressors for young parents and their children, such as life-long impacts on health, individual development, and education.



While beginning a conversation about teen pregnancy prevention with your child may feel difficult, it shows you are there for them, unconditionally. When parents communicate with teens about tough matters like safe sex and pregnancy prevention,

they create teachable moments focused on proactive solutions.

Navigating such discussions can be challenging, even intimidating. At PFSA, we believe all families deserve access to two vital resources: High-quality, reliable information and support for the good and difficult moments of parenting. Take some time to visit our online store at pa-fsa.org/Online-Store to request a sample pack of publications like "Responding to Teen Pregnancy." Be sure to visit often — there are more to come!

New Residential Training Available June 1, 2019

The PA Office of Children, Youth and Families convened a workgroup in 2018 to review the roles of mandated reporters in residential facilities and clarify what should be reported to ChildLine. As a result of that workgroup's diligence, the PA Family Support Alliance created a three-hour training for providers and other child-serving entities that addresses:

- What allegations must be reported to ChildLine as suspected child abuse
- What constitutes a reportable incident to the HCSIS (Home and Community Services Information System)
- When an alternative plan of supervision must be put into place

This training also teaches minimal facts interviewing skills to better determine when to make a report and explains how ChildLine categorizes and handles reports of suspected child abuse. Lastly, it discusses internal follow-up recommendations and communication.

This new curriculum, titled "Reporting Requirements for Children Served in Residential Care Facilities," was piloted with facilities that participated in the workgroup and will be available as a new training option for residential facility staff in PA starting June 1, 2019.

Email PFSA at training@pa-fsa.org or call 800-448-4906 to find out more and schedule this new training for your organization.



One Agency, One Community At A Time

We believe every child and every family has strengths. Similarly, every agency and familyserving organization has its own unique qualities and characteristics that make it a source of strength in our communities. None of us can do this work alone!

Through networking and teamwork, we share a commitment to using these strengths to promote child and family resilience, provide support, create community connections, and educate families and professionals to make PA a safe place for kids.

We invite you to join our network of Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Agencies.

Together, we create a statewide alliance for social and family service providers, parents, and children.

To join our network or learn more about the unique programs and professional development opportunities we offer, please reach out to Kayla at 800-448-4906 or visit us online at www.pa-fsa.org.

#ProtectPAKids!