



G-CAPP Policy and Advocacy News

ACTION ALERT – 2007 Georgia General Assembly

Take action to support full funding of the state's Adolescent Health and Youth Development programming, including the Youth Development Coordinators in each of the state's health districts, within the Division of Public Health.

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Human Resources includes a \$3.4 million reduction in TANF funding for 'Adolescent and Adult Health Promotion' within the Division of Public Health. This significant reduction in funding threatens Adolescent Health and Youth Development (AHYD) programming, specifically the youth development coordinator positions and related community-based services located in each of the state's 18 health districts.

The state's 18 youth development coordinators act as the outreach and coordination point for the statewide youth development system. Working in partnership with families, schools, public agencies, community organizations, and the faith community, they organize local resources, create networks of support for youth and establish coordinated strategies for the prevention of a wide range of risk-taking behaviors such as violence, substance abuse, poor school performance, and sexual activity among our most vulnerable youth.

Georgia has worked hard to develop a comprehensive youth development system and our hard work has paid off with a steady decline in the teen pregnancy rate over the past 10 years. Without the youth development coordinators and the local collaborative relationships and community innovations that they facilitate, our progress could be reversed.

TAKE ACTION: Contact your state legislators and ask them to support full funding of Adolescent Health and Youth Development programming, including the youth development coordinators in each of the state's health districts, during upcoming budget hearings for the Department of Human Resources. Contact information for your legislators can be found here: <http://www.legis.state.ga.us/legis/FindLegislator.htm>.

Track 2007 Legislation

For the latest updates on legislation, visit the [General Assembly web site](#) and search by the bill number in the top right hand corner of the page. You may also find information for contacting bill sponsors and other legislators on the General Assembly web site, or find your legislators [here](#).

Register for the G-CAPP Annual Legislative Reception

Join G-CAPP at our 2007 Legislative Reception to thank state legislators and officials who work to support Georgia's adolescents, and to share our priorities with state leaders during the legislative session. The program features Dr. Betty Siegel, President Emeritus of Kennesaw State University, special youth presentations, and the official kick-off of the **15 by 15** statewide teen pregnancy reduction goal - to achieve another 15% reduction in the adolescent pregnancy rate in Georgia by the year 2015.

Visit the [G-CAPP web site](#) to register for the event, taking place on Thursday, February 8, 2007, from 5:00–7:00PM in the [Blue Room at the Georgia Freight Depot](#).

G-CAPP Fast Fact

According to Georgia's Family Connection Partnership, Georgia counties that have local collaboratives focused on reducing teen pregnancy are the counties that have seen the most rapid declines in teen pregnancy rates over the past decade.

Source: [Family Connection Partnership](#).

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