

# TAPP: Catalyst for Change

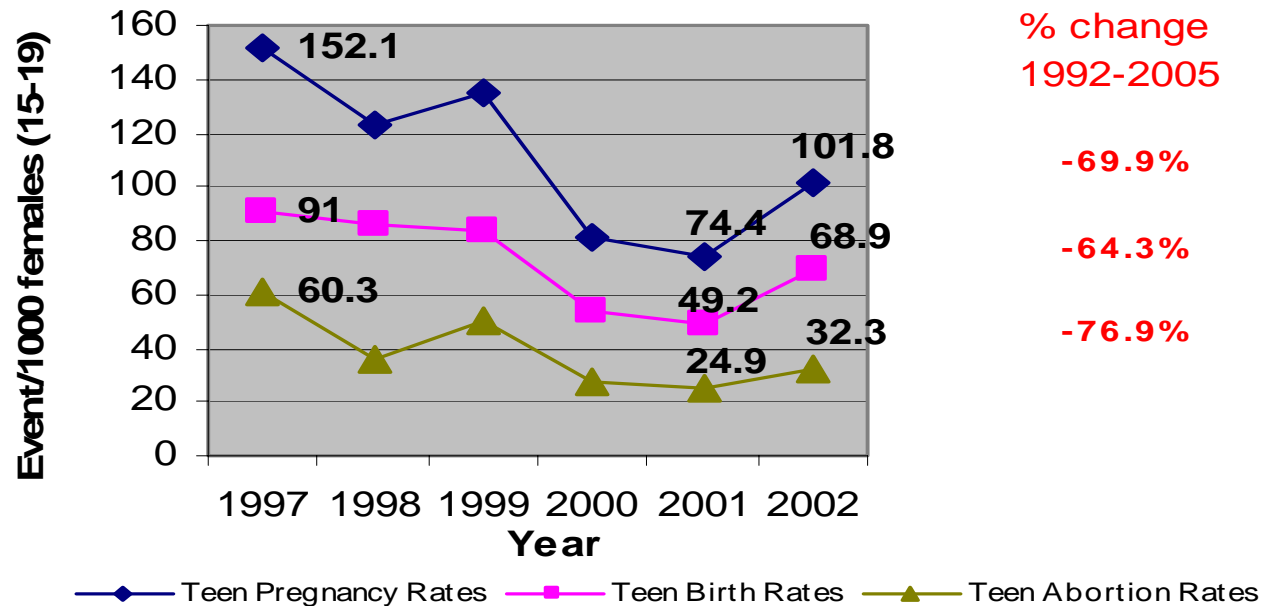


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## In DC, happened with teen pregnancy?

**Teen Pregnancy and Teen Birth Rates  
in the District of Columbia (1997-2005)**



**In 2005, TAPP served over 40% of pregnant teens ages 15 to 17 in DC**



## What does this mean for our community?

For example, if the teen birth rate in DC were comparable to that of the Netherlands, then just **66** youth under the age of 19 would become teen mothers in our city annually (*Advocates for Youth*).

In reality, **853** teens gave birth in DC during 2005.



## Ratio of Teen Birth Rates Non-Whites to Whites

- Clear and overwhelming downward trend for teen pregnancy and birth rates over more than a decade
- However, the size of the disparity between non-whites and whites has not changed much since 1990
  - In 1990 teen birth rate for blacks was 2.7 times that of whites
  - Remains roughly the same today
  - Stark contrast to the overall decline in pregnancy and birth rates



## Rates of Sexually Transmitted Infections among Youth Have Risen

- Sense of victory regarding decreased in teen pregnancy and birth has to be tempered with the reality that transmission rates of STI have risen during the same time period
- Disparity in rates among non-white and white youth remains stagnant or on the rise



## Equity for our youth

“Washing one's hands of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless means to side with the powerful, not to be neutral.”

Paulo Freire



# But why, really?

Economic, Household Structure, & Teen Birth Stats by Ward						
CITY		WASHINGTON DC				
YEAR		2000				
INDICATOR		Poverty Rate	% 16+ years Employed	% 26+ No HS Degree	Violent Crimes	% Births to Mothers < 20 years
WARD	1	21.9	63.1	31.5	17.1	12.8
	2	18.7	66.2	13.4	14.6	9.1
	3	7.4	66.1	4.0	2.4	0.6
	4	12.1	54.9	22.2	10.8	10.6
	5	20.0	47.5	27.6	16.9	14.3
	6	21.0	57.1	21.2	19.4	12.7
	7	24.9	46.5	28.9	17.4	16.9
	8	36.0	41.2	33.7	19.8	23.0
	Ave.	20.2	56.1	22.2	14.7	14.2

\*Average family income for 1999.

Data source: Urban Institute's Neighborhood Change Data Base (NCDB). The NCDB is based on Decennial Census data from 1980, 1990, and 2000.



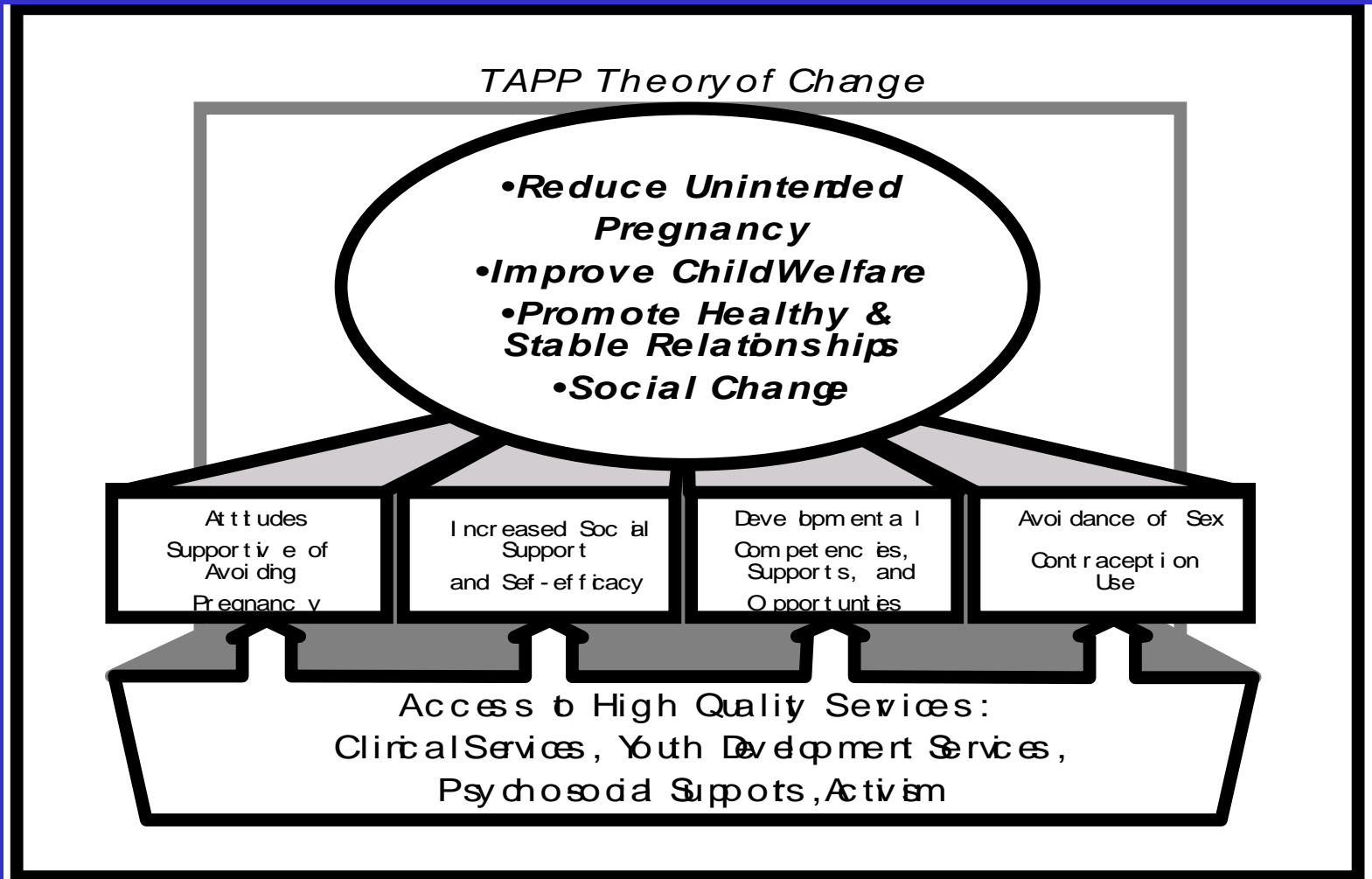
# Best Practices & Work for Justice

TAPP





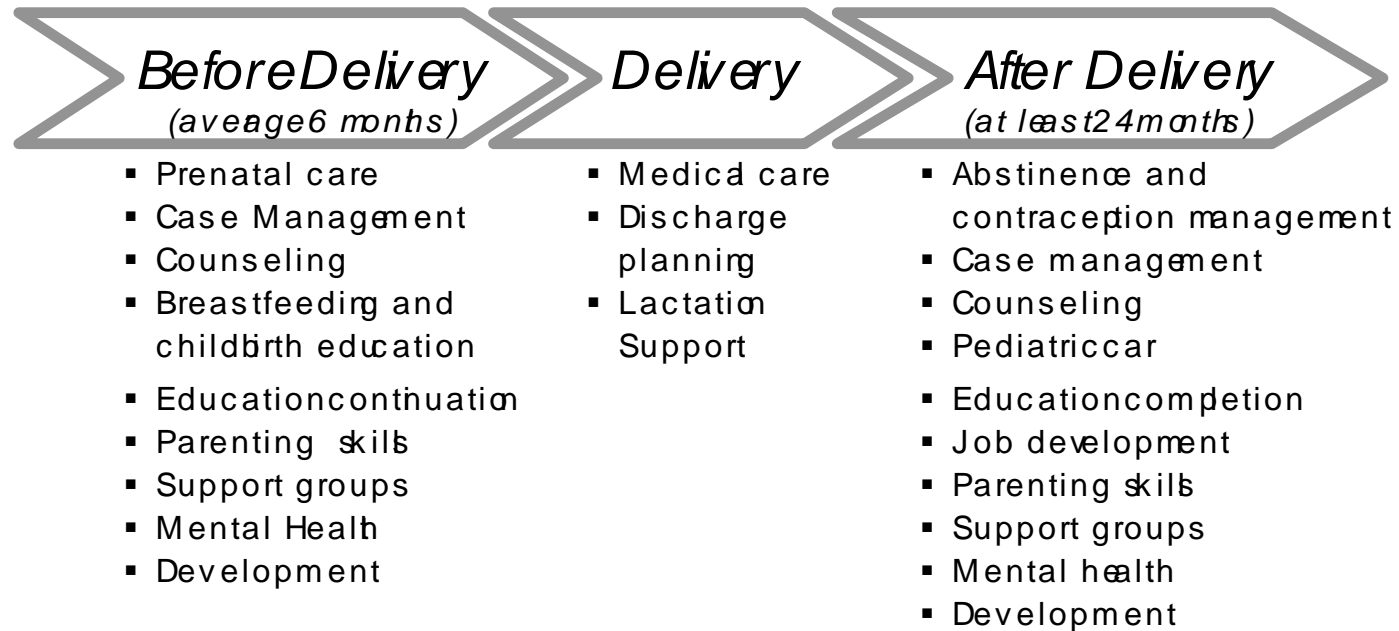
# Theory of Change





# TAPP Service Delivery

## *Continuum of TAPP Services*





## TAPP N2 the Youth TAPP N2 the Community

- Youth Activism Project of the Program
- Over 20 teen parents (mothers and fathers)
- Issues are defined and promoted by youth
  - Health and sexuality education in DC Public Schools
  - Child care for teen mothers in school



# Where and who we serve



Ward	Quantity	Percent
1	115	22
2	16	3
3	10	2
4	176	34
5	24	5
6	45	9
7	68	13
8	65	13
	<b>519</b>	
MD	38	
	80	
	<b>637</b>	



59% African American

72% in school

40% report involvement of the  
child's father

37% speak Spanish at home

52% have a mother who was a  
teen parent

40% have a sibling that was also  
a teen parent

Mean age of first sex was 14.5  
years

Mean age first birth was 15.7  
years

roughly one year after  
initiating sex

24% already had at least one  
child



# Three Year Outcomes Study

## Evaluation Study Goals:

- Document number / timing of subsequent pregnancy and birth;
- Document acquisition of developmental competencies; and
- Document the duration and intensity of participation, type of activities in which participants were involved, and nature of interactions between staff and clients.

Are social competencies protective against subsequent pregnancy and childbearing?



## Subsequent Fertility

19 subjects experienced an unintended repeat pregnancy during the study period (within 24 months after giving birth)

- unintended repeat pregnancy rate of 13.7%
- One pregnancy due to IUD failure

9 subjects experienced an unintended repeat birth

- unintended repeat birth rate of 6.3%
- average time to an unintended subsequent pregnancy was 15.9



# Contraceptive Utilization

Baseline contraceptive use was 40%  
Increases at all intervals after delivery

- 64% by 6-months
- 82% by 12-months
- 92% by 18-months
- 82% by 24-months

130% increase in contraceptive utilization from  
baseline through the 18-month interval

105% increase through the end of the study period



## Data on Developmental Competencies

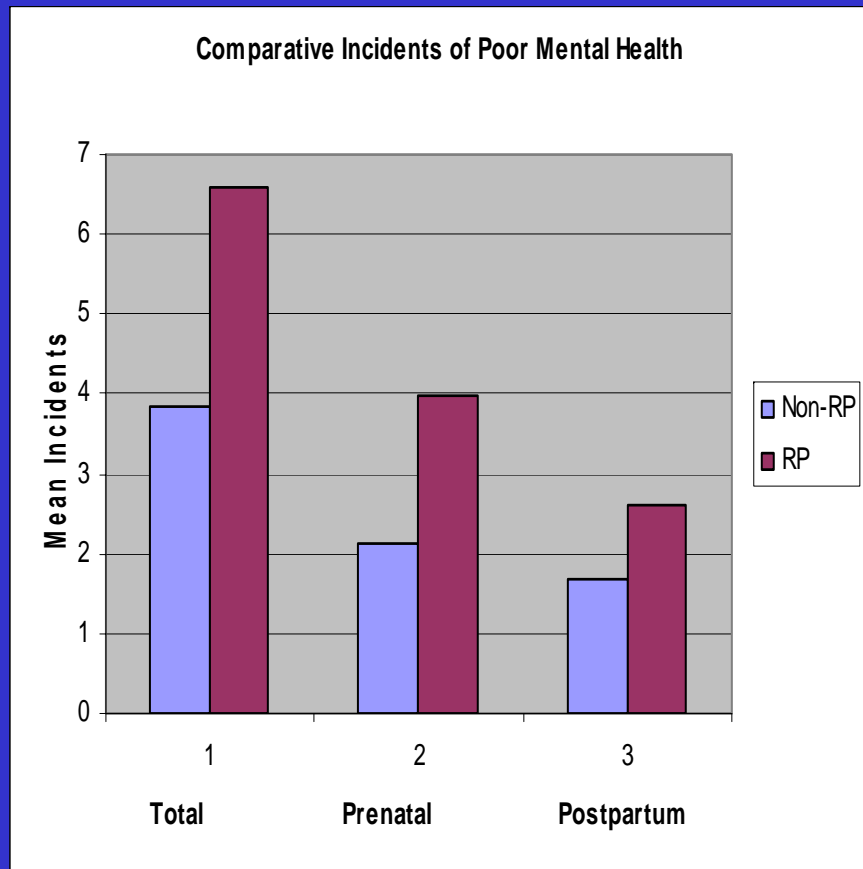
- Overall direction of change positive
- Not statistically significant  
sample size and effect  
issues measurement and data collection
- Promising but not as impressive results  
as increases in contraception utilization



## Comparative Incidents of Poor Mental Health

Participants who did and did not experience subsequent pregnancy

- Both groups appear to have poor mental health status compared to expected
- Fourfold increase depression/trauma history among participants with subsequent pregnancy





# Moving Forward

...increasingly critical awareness of (our) role as participants in social transformation...

Paulo Friere



Questions?