

## Southeastern U.S. Symposium: Teen Pregnancy Prevention for Hispanic/Latino Youth

*November 7, 2002, Chapel Hill, North Carolina* - Latina teens have had the highest birth rates of all major racial/ethnic groups in the nation since 1994. The rate of 94.4 per 1,000 Latinas 15-19 in 2000 is almost double the overall national teen birth rate. This all-day symposium, the first to specifically address Latinos in the Southeast, focused on the demographic characteristics of Latina teen pregnancy and then discussed programs that are effectively meeting the challenge. Latino youth have higher than average rates of sexual activity and lower than average rates of contraceptive use. The model teen pregnancy prevention programs for Latinos are based on increasing awareness of and creating dialogue on issues of sexuality and contraception among teenagers and parents and other adults in the community. Community outreach is essential given the high school drop out rates and the important role of adults for Latino teens. Many of these programs garner further success as they provide broader youth and adult development for their network of participants.

### Welcome:

**Linda Riggsbee**, President, Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina

**Rob DuRant, M.D.**, Wake Forest University School of Medicine; Chair, Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina Board of Directors

### Introductions:

**Adrienne Knowles**, Director of Education and Outreach, Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina

**Angela Bayer**, Program Officer, Population Resource Center

### Speakers:

*Topic: The Challenge in Context*

**Nolo Martinez**, Director of Hispanic/Latino Affairs, North Carolina Governor's Office

*Topic: Effective Practices: What We Know from Research and Practice*

**Debra Delgado**, Senior Associate, Annie E. Casey Foundation

*Topic: Demographic Trends: Reproductive Health Behaviors of Latino Adolescents*

**Anne Driscoll**, Institute for Health Policy Studies, University of California, San Francisco

*Topic: Lessons Learned from Practice: Helping Young People and Families Address Sexual Health Issues (Panel)*

**Chantal Quintero**, Family Health Centers of San Diego

**Felipe Ayala**, Children's Aid Society, New York City

Facilitator: Debra Delgado

*Topic: The Psychological Impact of Immigration on Adolescents*

**Rafael Ruano**, Family Life Council of Greater Greensboro

*Topic: Three Program Models: What's Working in North Carolina (Panel)*

**Rafael Ruano**, Jóvenes Sabios (Wise Guys), Greensboro, NC

**Carolyn Spivey**, Cambios (Teen Outreach Program), Sanford, NC  
**Laura Oberkircher** and **Maria Pannese**, Sin Fronteras and Steppin' Up, Raleigh, NC  
Facilitator: Adrienne Knowles

### Co-Sponsors:

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina and the Annie E. Casey Foundation

### Factoids:

"The Latino population is the fastest-growing major racial/ethnic group in the United States. In the next 20 years, the Hispanic teen population will grow 60 percent while the total teen population will grow by only 8 percent. By the year 2020, 1 in 5 teens will be Latino."

"Teen Sexual Activity, Pregnancy and Childbearing Among Latinos in the United States." Fact Sheet. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. December 2001

"Latina teen birth rates vary substantially from state to state: in 1999, rates for teens aged 15 to 19 ranged from 33.8 per 1,000 in Louisiana to 219.0 per 1,000 in North Carolina."

"Teen Sexual Activity, Pregnancy and Childbearing Among Latinos in the United States." Fact Sheet. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. December 2001

"Between 1988 and 1995, contraceptive use at first sex *decreased* from 55 to 53 percent for Latina teens aged 15 to 19 and *increased* from 65 to 71 percent for all teen girls aged 15 to 19."

"Teen Sexual Activity, Pregnancy and Childbearing Among Latinos in the United States." Fact Sheet. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. December 2001

"Lack of communication between parents and their children was cited most frequently . . . [as the reason] why rates of teen pregnancy and birth were so high in the Hispanic community."

"It All Starts at Home: Hispanic Parents Speak Out on Preventing Teen Pregnancy – A Focus Group Report." The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. 2001.

### *In Attendance:*

Office of the Governor of North Carolina

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health

Davidson County Health Department

Durham County Health Department

Lee County Health Department

Lee County Schools

Mecklenburg County Health Department

Montgomery County Health Department

Orange County Health Department

Orange County Schools

Person County Health Department

Randolph County Schools

Rockingham County Health Department

Wake County Cooperative Extension

Wayne County Health Department

Wake County Human Services

Wake County Public School System, ParentScope

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools

Chapel Hill-Carborro City Schools

Kannapolis City Schools

and members of numerous non-profit organizations