Authentic Youth Engagement

BY NIKKI PAYNE AND NAKISHA WATTS | DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE



Delta Futures Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Delta Health Alliance is a non-profit organization whose primary focus is on improving the health and education of those that call the Mississippi Delta home.



DHA Grants

IMPROVING HEALTH CARE

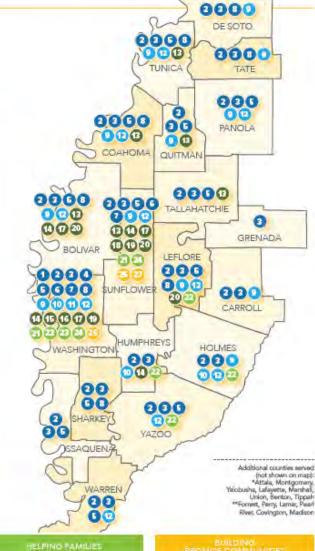
- t. Leland Medical Clinic
- 2. Mobile Medical Clinic
- 3. The Delta Heart Health Network*
- 4. Small Provider Quality Improvement Program
- s. Delta Futures Teen Pregnancy Prevention
- Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network
- 7. Delta Systems of Treatment And Rehabilitation (Delta STAR)
- Delta Opioid Task Force (DOT)

INCREASING HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- a. Electronic Health Services**
- 16. U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
- n. Delta Health Information Network
- 12. Medicaid Population Health Demonstration Project

EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL **OPPORTUNITIES**

- 13. Tobacco-Free Coalition
- 4. Imagination Library
- 15. Monsanto Delta EATS (Edible Agriculture Teaching Students)
- 16. Whole Kids Foundation Delta EATS
- 12 Delta EATS Community Foods Planning Project
- 18. Early Head Start Childcare Partnership
- s. Delta DREAMS
- 20. Delta Assault Response Team Network (DART)



- 21. Parents as Teachers
- 22. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy Start Collaborative
- 23. Universal Parenting Place
- 24. Sesame Street in Communities

- 25. Indianola Promise Community (IPC)
- 26 Deer Creek Promise Community (DCPC)
- 27. Phil Hardin Foundation Early Childhood Initiative (Promise Community Expansion)



Our approach to this work is that we are deliberate and intentional when it comes to engaging our youth.

Prior to our TPP 15 funding, we offered Becoming a Responsible Teen (BART) to our youth.

From the feedback we received from the youth that participated in that program, we developed our current program.

Youth specifically shared that they wanted more classes like the BART classes.



Youth Leadership Council

Since the Delta Futures program covers 10 Delta counties, it was decided that we would have three Youth Leadership Councils (YLCs).

It was important that we gave all our youth an opportunity for their voice to be heard and have input in decisions being made about the program.

Youth Leadership Council

When we met with our YLCs for the first time; it was expressed to them that the YLC was their group and we were there to support them however they needed support.

They selected officers and developed their own workplan.





After the first couple of meetings, we passed the baton to them.



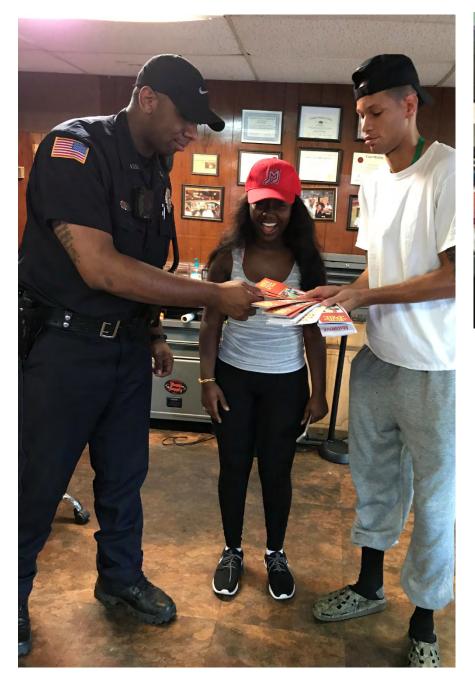
From there the YLC set their own meeting agenda.



They decided what projects they wanted to do.



Also, the YLC determined when, where, and how they were going to do their awareness campaigns.





Here are some of their projects

YLC of the Mid-Delta met with Mayor Rosenthal and discussed Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month and asked if he would sign a proclamation.



STEVE ROSENTHAL, MAYOR 101 Front Street • P.O. Box 269 Indianola Mississippi 38751

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PROCLAMATION Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

WHEREAS, Every May we take the time to assess our progress and renew our commitment to teen pregnancy prevention.

WHEREAS, This year, we celebrate National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month by highlighting a dramatic decrease in teen birth rates with substantial declines in all 50 states and among all racial and ethnic groups.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{WHEREAS}, DELTA FUTURES has implemented evidence-based programs or tested innovative strategies. \end{tabular}$

WHEREAS, The DELTA FUTURES, a project of Delta Health Alliance, focuses on linking young people to youth friendly healthcare and social services, and supports in their communities.

WHEREAS, Enormous progress in reducing teen pregnancy has been made, but we still have work to do, especially in addressing disparities.

WHEREAS, It's critical that we continue to design, implement, evaluate and improve teen pregnancy prevention programs that help adolescents and young adults thrive,"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Steve Rosenthal, Mayor of the City of Indianola, in the State of Mississippi do hereby proclaim May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

The Crown of the Delta







Teen Summit 2018







TPP Month Celebration

Homecoming and 3K Run/Walk













Youth Listening Session

Follow our journey...



https://www.facebook.com/DeltaFuturesTPP



Lessons Learned

Questions?







The Office of Population Affairs



Learn more about OPA: www.hhs.gov/opa www.hhs.gov/oah



Contact OPA: OPA@hhs.gov



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