

# Project CONTACT

## Pima County Health Department

The Pima County Health Department's Project CONTACT (Community Outreach Network Teaching Adolescents Contraceptive Techniques) provides confidential teen services and education to hundreds of local teens.



# Project CONTACT (cont.)

- **Project CONTACT** provides quality reproductive health care to eligible teenagers at little or no-cost. The program focuses on reaching youth who are homeless, at risk of being homeless, or are high-risk for pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. All services are confidential, nonjudgmental, do not require parent permission, and can be provided on a walk-in basis.

Services currently are provided on the Mobile Health Clinic and specifically for students at:

- Desert View High School
- Sunnyside High School
- STAR Academic Center
- Toltecalli High School
- Ombudsman Charter High School



# What is Offered...

- Abstinence Education
- Birth Control resources and services
- STD Testing, diagnosis and treatment
- Comprehensive reproductive health education
- Pregnancy testing, counseling and referral
- Case management
- Community presentations and outreach services

# Project CONTACT Goals

- Promote parental involvement
- Increase abstinence
- Delay the age of first intimate relationship
- Reduce the number of intimate partners
- Reduce rates of pregnancy and STDs among teens
- Promote healthy lifestyle choices:
  - Relationships
  - Responsible behaviors



File Photo/The Daily Wildcat Noel Valle, Program Manager of the Pima County Health Department- Project CONTACT program, signs a student up for a free STD test during last year's "Get Yourself Tested" resource fair.

# Outreach and Education

- *Pima County Juvenile Court Center*: Prevention Services Program staff provide weekly health education classes to at-risk male and female detainee youth in temporary custody at the Pima County Juvenile Court Center.
- *University of Arizona*: Project CONTACT offers express STD testing (Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis and HIV) at 2 annual student health fairs. Approximately 150 college students receive this service annually.
- *Pima Prevention Partnership/Sin Puertas*: Prevention Services Program staff provide monthly Project CONTACT services and health education classes to high-risk youth enrolled in this program.

# Why it is needed...

- Although the birth rate for teens in Arizona declined significantly (38.6%) since 2012 (AZHDS, 2016), it remains **higher** than 35 other states in the nation and above the national average.
- Teen pregnancy impacts our community **disproportionately**. Hispanic or Latino females account for 55.4% of all teen pregnancies in 2016 (ADHS, 2016) and 37% of all teen births in Arizona during 2016 occurred among Hispanic or Latina females
- Teen pregnancy has an impact on the entire state. In 2010, unplanned pregnancies cost taxpayers an estimated \$671 million. AHCCCS and IHS paid for 77% of teen births in Pima County during 2016.

# Births: Teen Mothers ages 14-19

## Arizona vs. Pima County

Births Among Teen Mothers Residing in Pima County, Compared to State Wide Ages 14-19, 2016				
	10-14 Years Old	15-17 Years Old	18-19 Years Old	Total
Pima County	11	223	667	901
Arizona	90	1,710	4,932	6,724

Arizona Department of Health Services, 2016

# Cost of Labor and Delivery: Ages 19 and below in Pima County (2016)

Sources of Payment for Labor and Delivery, Females 19 or younger in Pima County, AZ, 2016					
Year	AHCCCS	IHS	Private	Self Pay	TOTAL
2016	74%	3%	18%	5%	100%

Arizona Department of Health Services, 2016

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# STDs and Teens

- Approximately 20 million new STD diagnoses in the U.S.
- Almost half of new STDs (10 million) occur among the 15-24 year old age group (CDC, 2015).
- Female adolescents are at a greater risk of developing Pelvic Inflammatory Disease and rates of STD's among those aged 10-24 (57%)- Arizona Annual 2016 Sexually Transmitted Disease Report.
- In 2016 there were 1,157 cases of chlamydia in Pima County in the 15-19 year old age group for females and 306 cases in males closely followed by 85 cases of gonorrhea in females and 59 in males. (ADHS 2016)

# Project Contact Female and Male Visits SY 2017 - 2018

Summary of Project CONTACT clinic visits by school, SY 17-18			
Student Visits Per School	Female	Male	Total
Desert View High School	118	67	185
Sunnyside High School	246	104	350
STAR Academic Center	61	8	69
Toltecalli Charter School	34	5	39
Other PC Schools (not done on a frequent basis)	66	17	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>726</b>

# Summary of Project CONTACT Clinic Visits

## School Year 2017 - 2018

- Project CONTACT provided over 700 medical visits for 495 (unduplicated) students
- Most (88%) of the students are between the ages of 15-19. Females made up 70% of clients and 30% were male.
- 381 females and 145 males tested for chlamydia. Chlamydia positivity rates were 5.3% and 4.8%, respectively.
- The positivity rates of chlamydia decreased among females and increased among males from the previous school year.