



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative Strategic Plan: Pursuing Hope for Our Youth

One of the greatest challenges to our community is the impact of teen pregnancies. In 2006, nearly 300 Jackson County teens had their futures dramatically changed by having a child before they were ready. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy estimates the long-term cost of these births to exceed seven million dollars. Nearly 75% of these mothers will require public assistance within five years, while almost 65% of the delivery cost will be paid by taxpayers.



In 2005, the [United Way of Jackson County](#) (UWJC) brought community stakeholders together to form the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI). This collaborative group includes experts in youth programs and teen pregnancy prevention. They assessed the teen pregnancy prevention programs currently in place in Jackson County, compiled data and research, conducted focus groups and interviews, and identified gaps in teen pregnancy.

The TPPI is pleased to present to you *Pursuing Hope for Our Youth*, a strategic plan to reduce teen pregnancy in Jackson County. This plan provides a solid foundation to make a real difference in the lives of young people in our community. [Click here](#) to access a PDF version of the document.

Community input and support is needed in order to reverse the long-standing pattern of high teen pregnancy rates here in Jackson County.

For more information on teen pregnancy and How to Talk to Your Child About Sex, [click here](#) or call Michelle White, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative Coordinator at (517) 768-2150.

Additional resources can be downloaded from the sites below:

[Advocates for Youth](#)

[Centers for Disease Control Teen Pregnancy](#)

[MDCH Talk Early Talk Often Parent Education Tool](#)

[National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy](#)

[Pregnant Teen Help](#)

[Stay Teen.org](#)

Smaller versions of the two billboards placed around Jackson in March 2008 are shown below:



