



LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS

May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

The purpose of National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is straightforward. Young people should understand that they have the power to decide if, when, and under what circumstances to become pregnant and that they need to think seriously about what they would do in a stressful situation before they're caught in the heat of the moment. Parents and supportive adults also play an important role in ensuring that youth have the skills they need to make good choices. Join the conversation this month at the activities listed below and help us build awareness!

- **May 9** – City Council Proclamation for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in the City Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.
- **May 16** – ACAP Quarterly Meeting at the Beatley Central Library starting at 4:00 p.m.
- **May 19** – Titan Takeover Teen Night at Charles Houston Recreation Center with music and activities beginning at 7:00 p.m.

ACAP Program Reaches Over 1,500 Youth at Hammond Middle School

This spring, ACAP partnered with ACPS to implement the *Draw the Line Respect the Line* curriculum within its middle school Health and P.E. classes. As an evidence-based program, *Draw the Line* teaches 6th – 8th graders about the importance of setting boundaries in their lives to avoid risky situations and allows them to practice refusal skills through role plays. Implementation began in January at Hammond with the 6th grade and concluded with 8th grade in April. Through ACAP's strong partnership with ACPS, 1,590 youth were served. *Draw the Line* will also be implemented with some classes at George Washington Middle School and similar programs are taking place at various community sites through a partnership with Capital Youth Empowerment Program. For questions about *Draw the Line* and other evidence-based programs, please contact Rachel.Mendelson@alexandriava.gov.



ACAP Quarterly Meeting – May 16

ACAP invites you to join us at our quarterly meeting on Tuesday, May 16 beginning at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will take place at Beatley Central Library and will feature a presentation from ACPS staff, members of Capital Youth Empowerment Program, a youth participant, an ACPS parent and ACAP staff about the exciting work ACAP and its partners have been doing to bring medically accurate, evidence-based sexual health education to youth in schools and in the community. Hear directly from facilitators and participants about the impact this information is making on young people's lives and in their decision-making. Learn more about what work still needs to be done and how you can support this initiative. Please email Lisette.Torres@alexandriava.gov to RSVP. We look forward to seeing you there!



ACAP's Mission

To prevent adolescent pregnancy through culturally and age appropriate education, advocacy, technical assistance, direct service prevention programs and public awareness. Collaboratively, we work with our young people, their families and the community to secure brighter futures.

ACAP and Partners Launch @AlexandriaTeenLife

ACAP, together with the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria and the Alexandria Sexual Assault and Domestic violence program have launched the @AlexandriaTeenLife platforms on Instagram and Twitter. @AlexandriaTeenLife will combine messages from the three partners and serve as a one-stop-shop for all youth related information and resources in Alexandria. Youth interns will help develop the content and drive the messaging from their perspectives to ensure the platforms maintain a strong youth voice. Please follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and encourage the young people you work with to follow us too!



RESEARCH & RESOURCES

Taking Care of Sexual and Reproductive Health: Latino Groups Create Handy Resource Guide

The National Coalition for Sexual Health (NCSH) has teamed up with groups like California Latinas for Reproductive Justice and the Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR) to issue a call-to-action in hopes of bringing awareness and improving preventative sexual health services in the Latino community. The NCSH launched a free and easy-to-use bilingual guide and website called [Take Control of Your Sexual Health](#) and in Spanish [Tome el Control de Su Salud Sexual](#) to help take down the barriers and open the lines of communication on sexual and reproductive health. (NBC News, 4/21/2017)



@ACAP_VA

Counseling LGBT Clients in Challenging Times (Webinar)

June 14, 2017

12:00 PM ET

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people are being confronted with constant news of anti-LGBT incidents and threats. A climate of heightened crisis can create stress and anxiety, exacerbating existing mental health issues, particularly for people who have experienced discrimination and trauma throughout their lives. How can mental health providers support LGBT clients in these difficult times? [This webinar](#), hosted by Cardea, will help participants to respectfully assist LGBT people as they confront the challenges of increased bigotry and bias. Participants will learn principles of culturally proficient mental health care from presenters with a wealth of experience in the field.

Let Her Learn: Stopping School Pushout

National Women's Law Center has released [a new set of reports](#) on the intersecting barriers that threaten girls' educational success. This past year, they surveyed over 1,000 girls ages 14-18 and based on their feedback and gathered new data on the experiences of girls who have suffered harassment and sexual violence, pregnant and parenting girls, girls who identify as LGBTQ, girls with disabilities, girls of color, girls involved in the juvenile justice system, girls in foster care, and girls who have experienced homelessness. The report also offers recommendations to address the educational barriers girls face.



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