

SKYE Project Overview

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Fulton County Board of Health (FCBOH) Skills, Knowledge and Youth Empowerment (SKYE) Project is an adolescent health program funded by the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Population Affairs Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. SKYE utilizes a systems approach to promote healthy adolescence and to address youth sexual risk across the interrelated factors that promote optimal health and result in healthy decision-making. SKYE implements evidence-based programs, provides training and leadership opportunities for youth, makes professional development training available to youth-serving professionals, and supports teen-friendly health clinics. SKYE serves Atlanta youth and their parents/caregivers, with expanded programs and services for African American students in grades 9 – 12.

EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

SKYE collaborates with youth-serving organizations to implement evidence-based programs, including Making Proud Choices (MPC), and Plan A. SKYE health educators or contracted facilitators replicate all approved evidence-based sexual health education and interventions. The following provides more information about each program:

Making Proud Choices (MPC) is an 8-lesson curriculum that provides adolescents with the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to reduce their risk of STI/HIV and pregnancy by abstaining from sex or using condoms if they choose to have sex. MPC seeks to increase participant's knowledge, attitudes, and skills related to preventing sexual risk taking behaviors and includes a condom and contraceptive demonstration. Additional information about the curriculum can be found at [Making Proud Choices](#).

My Plan A is a short, 23-minute education-entertainment (edutainment) video intervention designed to reduce unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among African-American and Latina teen girls ages 15–19. Its purpose is to engage teenage girls and draw them into storylines that deliver health messages and model healthy behaviors. Additional information about the video can be found at [My Plan A | A theory-based, evidence-informed, entertainment- education reproductive health intervention](#).

GA Health Education Standards

The Making Proud Choices curriculum is aligned to the Georgia Health Education Standards and its lesson objectives address the social emotional learning standards adopted by Atlanta Public Schools.

Facilitators

Facilitation of the evidence-based curriculum and interventions is conducted by FCBOH Health Educators and contracted facilitators. All facilitators are trained in the curriculum and experienced in adolescent health programs. All facilitators have completed and passed a criminal background check and trained in classroom management, cultural sensitivity, answering sensitive questions, and the facilitator code of conduct.

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Incentives for student participation

Students who complete all required lessons in the curriculum may receive up to \$100 for their participation. Gift card incentives up to \$25 dollars are provided to My Plan A participants. Students are also given gift cards from the evaluation team to complete evaluation surveys. Participation in evaluation is not required.

Youth and Parent/Caregiver Engagement

FCBOH actively engages the community, families/caregivers and youth in the implementation, improvement, and evaluation of the SKYE Project through two mechanisms 1) a Youth Leadership Council, the SKYE Council and a 2) Steering Committee, the SKYE Steering Committee

Professional Development Trainings and Capacity Building for Youth Serving Organizations

The SKYE Project, through its network of training partners, offers trainings for community and faith-based organizations, schools, and other youth-serving organizations to form a learning and capacity building collaborative. Partners in the learning collaborative, the SKYE Lab, will have the opportunity to undergo a review of their policies and practices to determine if they are cultivating environments that are conducive to promoting optimal health of youth through integrating the principals of positive youth development throughout their organizations. Trainings include Positive Youth Development, Trauma Informed Practice, and Youth Mental Health First Aid.

Transform Clinics to “Teen Friendly” Clinics

SKYE funds implementation of University of Michigan’s Adolescent Champion Model (ACM) which provides assessments and technical assistance to clinics seeking to become adolescent-centered. ACM is a multi-faced intervention to address a health center’s environment, policies, and practices to ensure that all aspects of a teen’s visit are youth-centered.

Evaluation

Students can opt in or out of the evaluation activities. The evaluation criteria includes students completing surveys that measure knowledge, attitudes and skills related to teen pregnancy prevention and sex education. Evaluation activities are facilitated through two options, paper or electronic.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: www.fultoncountyboh.com/SKYE

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