



SAHRC/LEAH Teleconference
Connectedness: A Fundamental Need of All Young People
Thursday, February 11, 2010

A teleconference focused on *connectedness* as a fundamental human need of all young people. Research shows that different forms of connectedness are prevalent and robust among youth, and needed for positive youth development and transition to adulthood. Presenters will consider how different forms of connectedness play out in the lives of young people, demonstrating the need for and benefit of interdisciplinary connections across agencies to address specific elements of connectedness. Using examples from school connectedness initiatives in Minnesota, this teleconference will explore the role of different state agencies and how one makes the case for connectedness through the lens of public health.

Teleconference/Webinar Agenda
(times noted are Eastern Time)

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| 1:00-1:10 pm | Introduction and Welcome |
| 1:10 – 1:40 pm | <i>Connectedness as a fundamental human need</i> Presenter: <i>Michael D. Resnick, Ph.D.</i> Professor, and Gisela and E. Paul Konopka Chair in Adolescent Health and Development Director, <i>Healthy Youth Development Prevention Research Center</i> Division of Adolescent Health and Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, University of Minnesota |
| 1:40 – 2:00 pm | <i>Applying a connectedness frame to school settings</i> Presenter: <i>Paul V. Snyder, MSW, MDiv</i> Program Director Konopka Institute for Best Practices in Adolescent Health University of Minnesota |
| 2:00 – 2:30 pm | <i>How do we apply connectedness to state adolescent health efforts?</i> Discussion Moderated by: <i>Rosemary Reilly-Chammat, Ed.D.</i> Adolescent Health, Manager Perinatal and Early Childhood Team Division of Community, Family Health and Equity Rhode Island Department of Health |

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About Our Presenters

Michael D. Resnick, Ph.D.

Professor, and Gisela and E. Paul Konopka Chair in Adolescent Health and Development
Director, *Healthy Youth Development Prevention Research Center*
Division of Adolescent Health and Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, University of Minnesota

Dr. Resnick is Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health, and Director of Research in the Division of Adolescent Health and Medicine. He holds degrees in sociology, social work and health services research and has been a member of the University of Minnesota faculty since 1981. Dr. Resnick has been principal or co-investigator on numerous federal and foundation research projects focusing on health and risk behaviors, resiliency and protective factors in the lives of young people, with a particular emphasis on issues related to adolescent sexual behaviors and violence. He is currently Director of the Healthy Youth Development • Prevention Research Center, funded by the CDC, conducting research and evaluation studies on best practices in pregnancy prevention and promotion of healthy youth development, as well as providing leadership training to postgraduate health professionals specializing in community-based prevention research. Before that, he directed the National Adolescent Health Resource Center, a Maternal and Child Health Bureau project that collaborated with state Maternal and Child Health directors and adolescent health coordinators in conducting state-wide assessments of adolescent health and service needs.

Dr. Resnick has served as a consultant and reviewer for the World Health Organization, the National Science Foundation, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the National Institutes of Health, and for numerous professional journals. His teaching is directed at the development of leadership competencies among graduate and postgraduate interdisciplinary health care providers. His courses and seminars include U.S. health care policy and organization, critical appraisal of empirical research, adolescent pregnancy prevention, and healthy youth development. Dr. Resnick has received four awards for outstanding teaching and research to interdisciplinary audiences. He is particularly interested in the translation of research into programs, policies, and practices through active collaboration with community-based health and social service providers, educators, legislators, the media, and others working with and on behalf of young people.

Paul V. Snyder, MSW, MDiv

Program Director
Konopka Institute for Best Practices in Adolescent Health
University of Minnesota

Paul Snyder is Program Director for the Konopka Institute for Best Practices in Adolescent Health at the University of Minnesota. Paul has directed a four-year \$3.3m Minnesota statewide initiative focused on reigniting the spark for learning in middle school and high school youth, with principal funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Paul serves on several interdisciplinary task forces and groups at the statewide level, including the Dropout Prevention, Retention, and Graduation Initiative; the Systemic Middle Level Redesign Initiative; and the Student Engagement Indicators Work Group. Recently, Paul was Principal Investigator and lead author for a Minnesota Department of Education sponsored publication on Minnesota students' voices on dropout prevention. He led an effort resulting in the first partnership between a Children's Defense Fund Freedom School and a Minnesota institution of higher education, completing its third year in 2009. Paul serves as Social Work Faculty for the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) Fellowship program in the Division of Adolescent Health and Medicine, where he provides team leadership and ongoing supervision to graduate academic fellows and interns.