



# LCHC Teen Coalition

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# Lowell Community Health Center (LCHC)

## ***Our Mission***

- ❖ To provide caring, quality, and **culturally appropriate** health services to the people of Greater Lowell, regardless of their financial status.
- ❖ To enhance the health of our community and to empower each individual to maximize their overall well-being.



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## ***Our Motto***

**LCHC: Linking Community to Health Care**

***Located in Lowell, Massachusetts***

# LCHC Teen Coalition

- Founded in 1988, with the direct involvement of local youth, our Coalition has been successful in developing a range of after-school youth development programs including Teen Action Group, Teens Reaching Out, Pride Alliance, Youth Leadership Project, Cambodian Youth Development Partnership, League of Youth, Youth Reaching Out and Teen Outreach Program.
- The Coalition has nurtured the “youth as assets” approach and carved out youth involvement opportunities. Youth members have served on community boards engaged in grant making and leadership development. Youth members have designed dynamic youth campaigns, special events, peer-led trainings, and resources to address local concerns including the *Teen Help Card*, now in its 13<sup>th</sup> printing. Over 10,000 pocket-size Teen Help Cards are distributed annually offering youth an easy access point for local services.
- Local youth established the Young Women’s Project and cultivated annual youth-organized events including Human Red Ribbon, National Alcohol Screening Day, National Day to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancies, Youth Recognition Ceremony, and Dance 4 Peace. Each of these initiatives requires youth involvement in planning, implementation, sustainability, and evaluation.
- For more info, visit [www.lchealth.org](http://www.lchealth.org)

# LCHC Teen Coalition Teen Outreach Program

- **11<sup>th</sup> highest teen birth rate** in MA; disproportionate rates for minority youth
- The Teen Outreach Program has been implemented in Lowell since 2004. The program targets approximately 50 adolescents ages 14-18, from Southeast Asian and Latina backgrounds, as well as emerging populations such as Portuguese speakers (from Portugal and Brazil) and Africans.
- The LCHC Adolescent Health Program Coordinator (AHPC) along with the United Teen Equality Center Young Women's Coordinator (YWC, subcontractor) delivers two cycles of the TOP program engaging youth in community service learning projects after-school for approximately 50 sessions, two hours a day, two days per week.
- LCHC's AHPC has also expanded services to other local community agencies, school settings, residential homes and provides technical assistance to other youth service agencies to provide TPP services.

# LCHC Teen Coalition

## Current TPP Initiatives

- Facilitated “Project 9” documentary (a youth driven documentary of perceptions and attitudes toward teen pregnancy and sexual health) workshop at Connecting for Change to over 80 teens and youth workers
- Facilitated a “Project 9” documentary workshop to 50 youth serving providers at the Youth At Risk conference
- Created and facilitated 15 workshops for pre teens at Girls Inc.
- Created a public service announcement about Stereotypes
- Attended Lobby Day at the State House and met with legislatures. A young women participant, Natalie spoke about program in front of over 150 attendees.

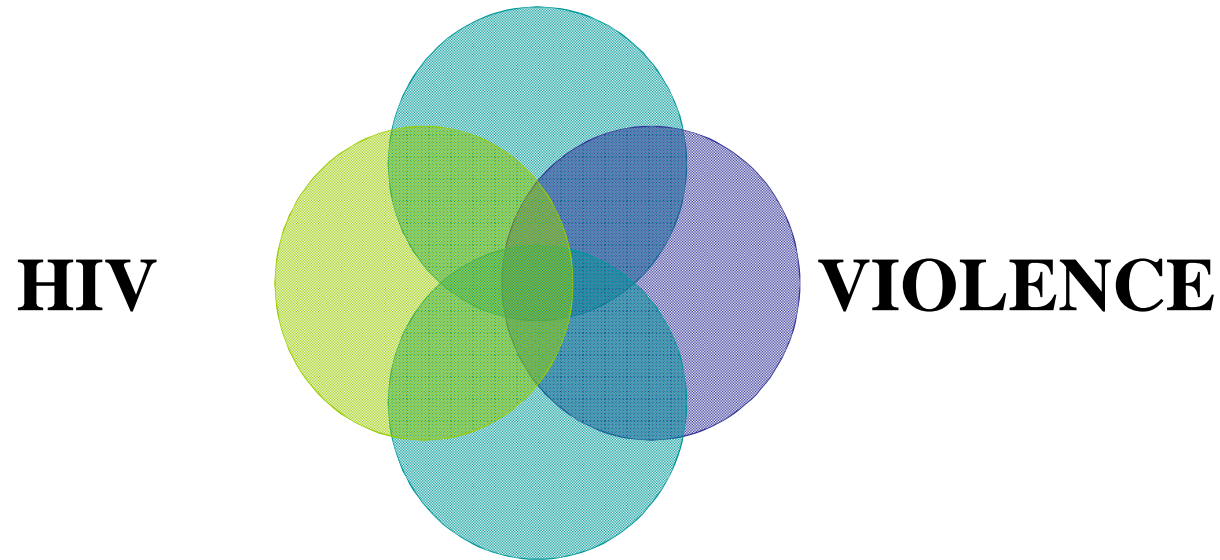


# Key Coalition Shifts

- In 1988, the Teen Coalition began as a single-issue effort focused on teen pregnancy prevention.
- The Coalition broadened its mission in 1995 (violence prevention), and then again in 2001 (HIV & Substance Abuse prevention).

# LCHC Teen Coalition Priorities

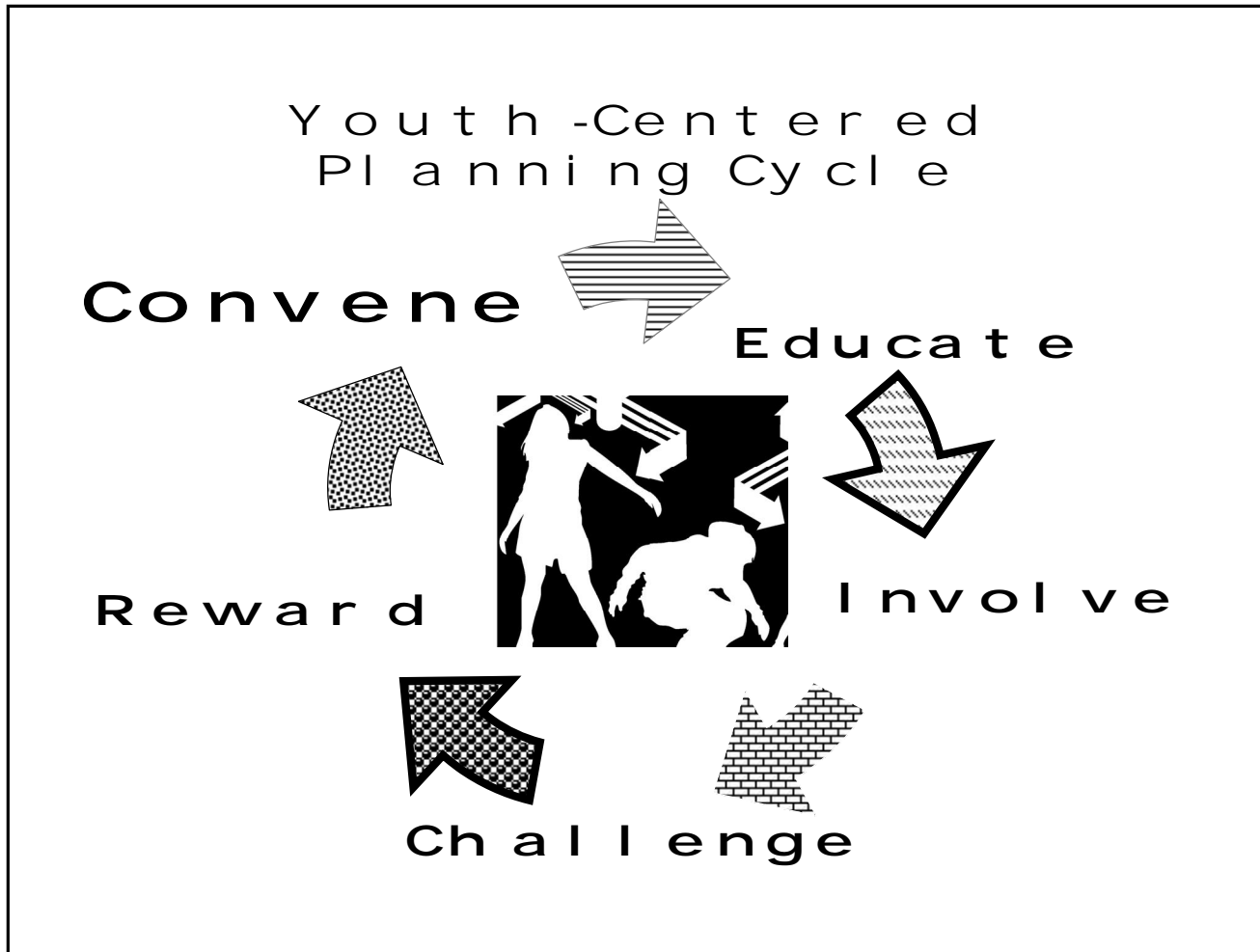
**SUBSTANCE ABUSE**



**TEEN PREGNANCY**

MULTI-ISSUE APPROACH DRIVEN BY COMMUNITY NEEDS THAT  
SHAPE COALITION PRIORITIES

# LCHC Teen Coalition Planning Model





# Youth Driven Community Initiatives



# Convene



# Educate



# Involve



# Challenge



# Reward



# LCHC Teen Coalition Funders

- MA Dept. of Public Health
- U.S. SAMHSA CSAP
- City of Lowell, Comm. Dev. Block Grant
- City of Lowell, Shannon grant
- Faith Home
- U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement
- Private donations

# Contact Information

For More Info:

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