

Parents Too Soon

Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)

OVERVIEW

Parents Too Soon (PTS) is a partnership between the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and the Ounce of Prevention Fund (OPF). PTS programs are based on the belief that comprehensive services to adolescents are best provided in the context of family, culture, and community. The goals of the program are to: assist teen parents to build strong parent-child relationships, raise healthy children, delay subsequent pregnancy, and prepare for future self-sufficiency.

Key services are:

- Voluntary, intensive home visiting (weekly)
- Parent groups
- Doula support
- Family needs assessment
- Developmental screening
- Resource and referral to other needed services such as medical care or educational and vocational opportunities

WHO IS SERVED?

Population(s)/Age Group:

New and expectant teen parents in specific communities

Eligibility Criteria and Screening Tools:

Pregnant or parenting teens in high-risk communities. Most sites recruit prenatally. All doula sites serve pregnant teens.

HOW ARE SERVICES DELIVERED?

Local Service System:

Parents Too Soon services are provided through community based organizations in specific communities within the state, including Chicago and surrounding areas, Danville, Moline, Bloomington, East Peoria, Champaign, East St. Louis, Rockford, Aurora, Bensenville, Vandalia, Waukegan, Freeport, Springfield, Carterville Mt. Vernon, and Joliet. For a complete listing of programs, please visit www.partnerplanact.org/programinventory.

Referrals into Program:

Programs establish referral agreements with clinics, hospitals, WIC programs, high schools, and other institutions that serve pregnant teens

Data Systems Used:

Ouncenet

STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR OR CONTACT

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