Health Grant Outline: A Grant Proposal to the Federal Government on Adolescent Sexual and

Reproductive health

**Executive Summary**

* Problem-The impact of unplanned pregnancies among teenagers varies, with the majority of girls dropping out of school to take care of their newborns, getting married at an early age, practicing unsafe abortions, and being exposed to sexually transmitted diseases such as HPV and chlamydia (Science Daily, 2017).
* Solution- Resources should be directed towards the advancement of sexual education in schools to make sure that teenagers understand the dangers associated with early intercourse so that they can modify their behavior to avoid these risks. The government should collaborate with positive youth development programs to increase awareness of the dangers of unplanned pregnancies as well as advocate for the use of contraceptives.
* Funding Requirements- Positive Youth Development Network (PYDN) requests $635,472 for eight months-sexual health education program for teenagers in southwestern Minnesota. Sexual health education will be offered in schools. It will include promoting the need to abstain, increasing awareness of the dangers associated with irresponsible sexual activities, and advocating for the use of contraceptives.
* Organization and its expertise- Positive Youth Development Network is a not for profit organization based in Minnesota that empowers youth as well as addresses youth concerns in areas of reproductive health services and education.

**Statement of Need**

* A study by Vázquez-Nava et al. (2013) indicated that unintended pregnancy makes 33% to 82% of adolescent pregnancies globally.
* The impact of unplanned pregnancies among adolescents includes girls dropping out of school to take care of their newborns, getting married at an early age, practicing unsafe abortions, and being exposed to sexually transmitted diseases such as HPV and chlamydia.
* In nations that abortion is not legalized, teenagers are at risk of practicing unsafe abortions that are increasing mortality. Other complications associated with unsafe abortions include long-term damage and injury to internal organs, infections, bleeding, and incomplete abortions.
* Unplanned participation in sexual activities among teenagers exposes them to sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia.
* However, increasing sexual health awareness and providing contraceptives among teenagers is likely to reduce the impact of early and unintended pregnancies among teenagers.
* A study by Oringanje et al. (2016) demonstrated that interventions comprising a combination of sexual health education and contraception reduced unplanned pregnancies among teenagers significantly. The study also showed that behavioral outcomes had gaps across trials.
* Fox and Barfield (2016) also revealed that since the Affordable Care Act has increased teenage access to contraceptive methods to reduce unintended pregnancies, public health workers and healthcare professionals need to educate women about the availability and use of these methods.

**Project Descriptions**

* Objectives- Fox and Barfield (2016) indicate that women of all ages are likely to use contraceptive methods when these methods are accompanied by patient education and counselling.
* A committee report by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist (ACOG) (2017) revealed that pregnancies in adolescents have been reducing the past years because adolescents are using contraceptives effectively. Data gathered from 201 to 2013 demonstrated that more teenagers used contraceptives at the time of their first intercourse compared to females before 1985. As a result, the birth rate among adolescents in the United States reached a historic low of 22.3 per 1,000 in 2015. Data collected from 2007-2015 showed that unintended pregnancies in females aged 15-17 years fell by 54% while in women aged 18-19 years, unplanned pregnancies fell by 43% (Adolescent Pregnancy, Contraception, and Sexual Activity - ACOG, 2017).
* Methods- The methods used to achieve the goals of the project include providing increasing sexual health education as well as providing contraceptives. A study by the World Health Organization (2011) on interventions to reducing unplanned pregnancies among teenagers revealed that a combination of interventions (contraceptive and education) reduced the impact of unintended pregnancies.
* Staffing/Administration- This project will involve 10 healthcare staff (two physicians, six social workers, and two nurses). The role of physicians and nurses will include supporting social workers in providing education about positive sexual health. While social workers will focus on counselling and providing education to teenagers in schools, physicians and nurses will recommend treatment to students who are already affected.
* Evaluation- The success of the project will be measured by a quantitative measure that will reveal a statistical analysis of the project. The expected results include a drop in the number of pregnancies among teenagers. The evaluation process will consist of conducting studies among targeted populations and publishing the evidence involved.
* Sustainability- After the success of the first project, the organization will solicit other funds from the state government and other foundations that empower youth.

**Budget**

* Expenses will be divided into two sections: personal expenses and direct project expenses.
* Personal expenses are costs for staff who will work on the project. Since the project will take eight months, expenses of staff will include:

For 6 social workers working on the project for eight months: $3,400\*8\*6= $163,200

For two nurses working on the project for eight months: 4,100\*2\*8=$65,600

For the two doctors working on the project for eight months: $6,667\*8\*2=$106,672

* Direct project expenses are non-personal expenses that the team will incur, and they include travel costs, supplies, insurance, equipment/rental costs, and meeting expenses. The projected direct project costs are $300,000.
* Therefore, the total budget of the project is $635,472

**Organizational Information**

* This will include structure, program, expertise, history, project fit for mission, target audience, special needs of audience, activities, staff, and board.

**Conclusion**

* A combination of interventions (education and contraceptives) will reduce unintended teenage pregnancies.

**A standard Proposal Letter**

* Ask for funding request
* Outline the need
* Explain the methods used to achieve objectives
* Budget data
* Appendices

**References**

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