

Personal Responsibility Education Project (PREP)

The Pennsylvania PREP Project (Project) is a state-wide project that will serve adolescents in licensed residential programs serving delinquent children, youth development centers, youth forestry camps, licensed residential drug and alcohol treatment facilities, and psychiatric residential treatment facilities. The goal of the Project is to empower adolescents to change their behavior in ways that will reduce their risk of becoming infected with HIV, other STDs, and their risk for pregnancy. The target population for the Project is youth aged 10-19 who are receiving services in the aforementioned facilities and programs. No youth will be excluded from participating in this Project based on race and/or ethnicity. Specific effort will be made to ensure that programming is culturally appropriate/sensitive to all youth, including lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth in these facilities.

The Division of Child and Adult Health Services (DCAHS), within the Department of Health (DOH), will grant sub-awards to up to 17 local organizations to replicate one of two evidence-based programs: Street Smart or Rikers Health Advocacy Program. Sub-awards will be granted to local organizations through a competitive bid process. Implementation sites will be required to address abstinence, contraception and at least three adulthood preparation subjects: healthy relationships, adolescent development, and healthy life skills. The expected outcomes for this Project include: delayed onset of sexual intercourse among sexually inexperienced youth, reduced frequency of sex among sexually experienced youth, increased condom/contraception use, decreased teen births among program participants and decreased sexually transmitted diseases/sexually transmitted infections (STDs/STIs) among program participants.