



*A community-based program  
to delay second pregnancies  
among adolescent mothers*

Contact: Pat Mosena

Subsequent Pregnancy Program  
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## **10-Year Reunion for Successful Teenage Mothers**

*Community-based program designed to delay second pregnancies  
among adolescent mothers celebrates milestone*

**Chicago** – The Illinois Subsequent Pregnancy Program (ISPP) is one of the few adolescent programs in the country focused specifically on delaying second pregnancies among teenage mothers. On Saturday, November 20, a very special group of young women from Chicago and around the state will gather at noon at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place for a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon to celebrate graduates of the Program.

Each of these young women had her first child while still a teenager, but with the help of ISPP, they have successfully delayed a second pregnancy, graduated from high school, and have gone on to college or a career. One former ISPP participant just completed her masters in social work; another received a full scholarship to college, and this year, a young mother who had her baby at age 14, finished her freshman year at the top in her class of 600 students.

“These accomplishments are significant, but especially when each of these young women was also being the best mother she could be to her child,” said Pat Mosena, director of the Program. “When the program began, one-third of the births to teenage mothers in Illinois each year were not first births. Rapid repeat childbearing among adolescent mothers impacts not only the long-term opportunities of the young mother and her children, but also the communities in which they live.”

Primary goals of the Subsequent Pregnancy Project are to: 1) delay a second pregnancy and 2) remain in and graduate from high school. Created as a small demonstration project in Chicago in 1990, ISPP has served nearly 3,000 first-time adolescent mothers in more than thirty communities across Illinois. Only three percent (3%) of these young mothers experienced a second pregnancy while participating in ISPP and 80-85 percent graduate or remain in school each year.

Approximately 300 first-time adolescent mothers, ages 14-18, join the Program every year: two-thirds (62%) are African American, one-fourth Mexican/Mexican American (25%), 7% Puerto Rican and 6% Caucasian. Although implemented with diverse populations of adolescents, impacts of Program participation have been similar over time. Between 1996-2004:

- The proportion of young mothers who experience a second pregnancy while participating in ISPP activity each year has ranged from 2 to 4 %.
- Approximately one-third (23 -29%) graduate from high school every year; with 80-89 percent either graduating or remaining in school.

First-year ISPP participants receive intensive home visiting services coupled with bi-monthly group meetings. During the second year, participants are intensely trained to work as Subsequent Pregnancy Peer Educators, and every year, these Peer Educators reach more than 1,000 adolescents in their own communities with their personal message about “why” and “how” to delay teenage pregnancy.

Through its continued support of the Subsequent Pregnancy Initiative, the Department of Human Services and the State of Illinois are taking a leading role in programmatic efforts aimed at reducing rapid repeat childbearing among teenage parents.

The Subsequent Pregnancy Program is carried out as a collaborative effort between seven local agencies and serves adolescent in communities around the state. The agencies include: Advocate Health Care System at Illinois Masonic Hospital on Chicago’s north side; Cook County Dept. of Public Health in Harvey, Englewood Family Center , Evanston Health Dept., Lake County Health Department serving Waukegan, Zion and North Chicago, Sinai Community Institute serving Chicago’s west side, and Winnebago County Health Department in Rockford.

For further information on the program please call the Subsequent Pregnancy Program at: 773-288-1682 or 773-722-1178.

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# ISPP™

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*Supported by the  
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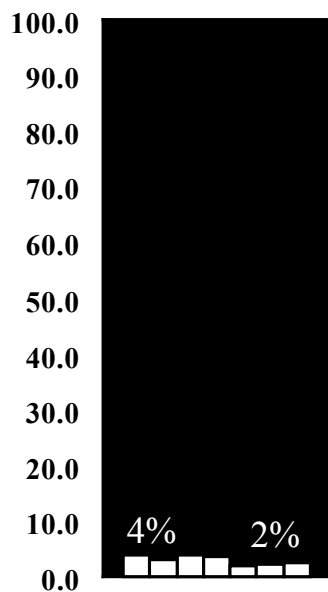
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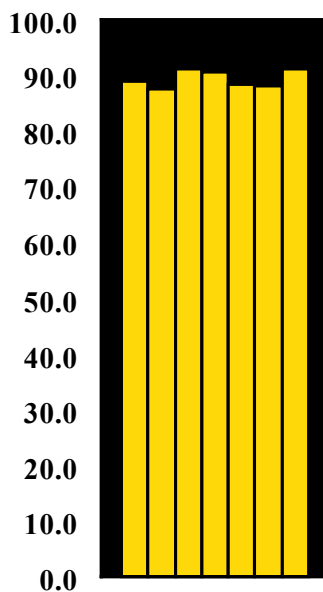


## ILLINOIS SUBSEQUENT PREGNANCY PROJECT

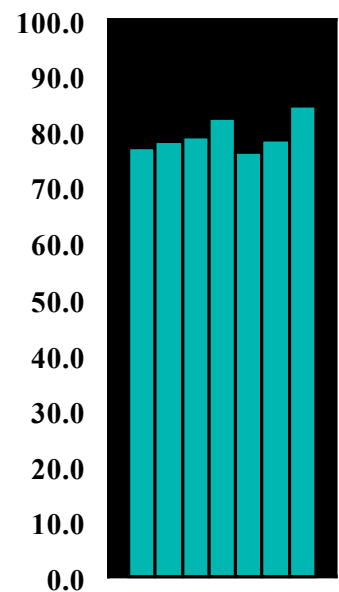
### ISPP PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES 1996-2002



**Pregnancy**



**Contraception**



**School/Graduate**