

## WHY PREVENTION MATTERS:

# Teen Pregnancy in Georgia 2010 Fact Sheet

### In Richmond County...

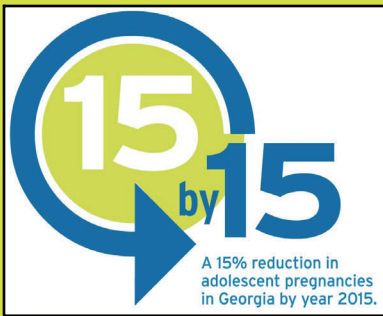
- Over 629 pregnancies a year occur among teenage girls.<sup>1</sup>
- More than 12 new pregnancies occur every week.
- Over one-fourth (29%) of teen pregnancies occur among girls who have already been pregnant at least once before.<sup>2</sup>

### Teen Pregnancy (Ages 15 to 19) in Richmond County<sup>3</sup>

County	# of pregnancies	Rate / 1,000	% Repeat Pregnancies
Richmond	629	86.6	29%
GA	22,231	66.7	27.2%

### What impact does teen pregnancy have on Richmond County?

- 40% of teen mothers do not graduate from high school and only 2% graduate from college.<sup>4</sup>
- Children of teen mothers are at a higher risk of: having chronic medical conditions, problems in school, ending up in foster care, becoming incarcerated or continuing the cycle of teen parenthood.<sup>5</sup>
- Nearly 80% of fathers of children born to teen mothers do not marry the mother. Two-thirds of families begun by a young unmarried mother are poor.<sup>6</sup>
- Teen pregnancy cost Richmond County taxpayers **approximately 15 million dollars in 2004.**<sup>7</sup>



## WHY PREVENTION MATTERS:

# We Can Make A Difference

**The Richmond County teen pregnancy rate declined by 14.6% between 2007 and 2008. We can help the county continue moving in the right direction by—**

- Advocating for state and local-level teen pregnancy prevention efforts, including adolescent public health services, educational programs and youth development initiatives.
- Supporting public investment in programs that address the early risk factors of teen pregnancy, such as school failure, child abuse and neglect, and child poverty.
- Endorsing research-based prevention programs that are proven to be effective.<sup>8</sup>
- Championing local prevention initiatives in your community.
- **Working together with G-CAPP in support of the 15 by 15 state-wide reduction goal, an effort to reduce Georgia's teen pregnancy rate another 15% by year 2015.**

**Richmond County's teen pregnancy rate will drop to 84 per 1,000 if the 15 by 15 goal is met.<sup>9</sup>**

Contact G-CAPP for more information on how teen pregnancy impacts our state and how you can help (404) 524-2277 or [www.gcapp.org](http://www.gcapp.org).

<sup>1</sup>Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS) Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Information and Policy. Data accessed on September 14, 2010 from <http://oasis.state.ga.us/>.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid

<sup>3</sup>Ibid

<sup>4</sup>The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (2006). *Why it Matters: Teen Pregnancy and Education*. Retrieved February 26, 2010 from [www.thenationalcampaign.org/why-it-matters/pdf/education.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/why-it-matters/pdf/education.pdf).

<sup>5</sup>The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (2006). *Why it Matters: Teen Pregnancy, Poverty, and Income Disparity*. Retrieved February 26, 2010 from [www.thenationalcampaign.org/why-it-matters/pdf/poverty.pdf](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/why-it-matters/pdf/poverty.pdf).

<sup>6</sup>Ibid

<sup>7</sup>The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (2006). *By the Numbers Calculator*. Retrieved on September, 14, 2010 from [www.thenationalcampaign.org/costs/calculator.asp](http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/costs/calculator.asp).

<sup>8</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Adolescent Reproductive Health. (2007). *Promoting Science-Based Approaches*. Retrieved August 1, 2007 from [www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/AdolescentReproHealth/ScienceApproach.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/AdolescentReproHealth/ScienceApproach.htm).

<sup>9</sup>Rate based on 15% reduction from 2000 teen pregnancy rate of 98.8/1000.