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**Milwaukee's Future: IT'S IN OUR HANDS**

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Family and Community Health Services

web site: [www.milwaukee.gov/health](http://www.milwaukee.gov/health)

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## **TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH**

### ***City of Milwaukee Health Department joins community partner to raise teen pregnancy prevention awareness***

The City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) in partnership with United Way of Greater Milwaukee will hold teen pregnancy awareness events throughout the entire month of May to recognize Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

MHD's Plain Talk Initiative will host a dinner with Dr. Natasha Travis on Thursday, May 6 from 6-7:30 pm at McKinley Gardens, located at 2215 West Vliet Street, to address questions on health from the community. Dr. Travis is an assistant professor and internal medicine physician at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Child care and a light dinner will be provided. The event is free.

Plain Talk will also host *Relationship Boot Camp 2010: Dating, Romance & Sex* from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 22 at McKinley Gardens Community Center. The free event will feature workshops and a panel discussion for adults and teens on how to establish and maintain healthy and safe relationships. Lunch will be served and child care will be offered for children ages 11 and under. All children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Other sponsors of the event are Children's Outing Association, Cream City Medical Society, Milwaukee Fatherhood Collaborative, Comprehensive Health Education, Inc., and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

May 5<sup>th</sup> marks the ninth annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. The purpose of the National Day is to focus the attention of teens on the importance of avoiding teen pregnancy and other serious consequences of sex. United Way's Healthy Girls program partners are administering the National Day Quiz ([www.stayteen.org/quiz](http://www.stayteen.org/quiz)), and others are promoting the observance through public events. Members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee will perform the play "It's in Your Hands, Damen" followed by an audience discussion about relationships and sexual health. Another partner, PEARLS for Teen Girls, is hosting viewing parties of MTV's *16 & Pregnant*, and then discussing what they have viewed, using National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy's viewer guides.

The United Way will also participate in the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Salute to Hispanic Women conference on May 15. This year's topic, "Courageous Conversations," focuses on parent-child communication about sexuality and relationships, and the keynote speaker, sponsored by United Way, is Ruthie Flores, Senior Manager-Latino Initiative for the National Campaign to Prevent Teen/Unplanned Pregnancy.

United Way of Greater Milwaukee is also launching its latest public awareness campaign this month in partnership with SERVE Marketing, focusing the message towards youth and teens about how challenging being a parent can be. The creative campaign "hits home" with very real and timely things young people would have to give up if they became parents.

The United Way and MHD previously announced a goal to reduce the birth rate to 30 births per thousand teens 15-17 years by 2015. Data show that there were 46.73 births per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years old in 2008. This is a slight drop from 2007 when there were 47 births per 1,000 in the city.