Teen Pregnancy & Prevention Partnership Annual Conference
April 17, 2020
2020 Conference Agenda

8:30 – 9:00 am  REGISTRATION/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST/EXHIBITS

9:00 – 9:15 am  WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

9:15 – 10:15 am  MORNING KEYNOTE: ...But I don’t see color!: Sex Education with 2020 Technicolor Vision

Sex education is a social justice issue sex educators are (obviously) uniquely equipped to advocate and fight for. Yet, along the way we have separated social justice in sex ed from ourselves, our work, and our way forward. What we need is a little vision as we shift into a new decade. We need 4k vibrant colors, not black and white tvs with various shades of gray. This session will discuss awareness and integration of cultural and racial differences with an emphasis on Black female sexuality for sex education that is innovative, intersectional, and shines in all is color glory to bring equity and social justice back into sex education.

About Our Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Donna Oriowo (oreo-whoa) M.Ed, MSW, CST, is an author, international speaker and, certified sex and relationship therapist in the Washington D.C. metro area. The owner of AnnodRight, Dr. Donna specializes in working with Black women on issues related to colorism and texturism and its impacts on mental and sexual health. She is the author of Cocoa Butter & Hair Grease: A Self Love Journey Through Hair and Skin. Dr. Donna is an advocate for sexual freedom, self-love, acceptance, and accomplishment for WoC, especially Black women. Dr. Donna collects inspiring quotes, travels to learn, gives firm handshakes, warm hugs, and knocks on the head.
Dr. Oriowo currently serves as part of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion committee with AASECT and is a member of the Women of Color Sexual Health Network (WOCSHN). She can be found on Facebook and Instagram @Annodright. OR you can visit her (day or night) at www.DonnaOriowo.com

10:15 – 10:30 am  BREAK/EXHIBITS

10:30 – 11:45 am  BREAKOUT SESSION #1

1A: Sexual Assault: Moving from Disaster Response to Sexual Violence Prevention
Dan Pearson, Prevention Educator, Safe Connections

Sexual violence is preventable when we understand it as a transaction of power and vector for trauma. The traditional approach to sexual violence effectively silences or blames and re-traumatizes survivors while shielding perpetrators from accountability. This is an examination/discussion of how social hierarchies, gender stereotypes, cultural attitudes, systems and institutions can be transformed to quell sexual violence as a public health crisis.
1B: Advocating for Healthy Sexuality: Working through the Gauntlet to Prevent Exploitation for People of All Abilities
Jessica Naslund, Owner, Adjunct Professor at UMSL and AASECT Certified Sexuality Educator Supervisor

This session will give participants information about the importance of working through family systems to allow sexuality education to happen with individuals who are neurotypical as well as those individuals with intellectual disabilities. It can be difficult to access individuals who are at risk of exploitation without understanding how one must work within their environment of caregivers and supports; therefore participants will be given tools and resources geared toward caregivers and support systems to advocate for the necessity of comprehensive sexuality education for all individuals. Participants will create action steps to promote advocacy within their system.

1C: Incorporating Sexual Health Education as Part of Trauma-Focused Therapy
Catherine Wright, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Washington University School of Medicine

Are you a mental health professional working with young people who have experienced trauma? Would you like to work with this population, but aren’t sure how to approach treatment or conversations about sexual health? Come learn about Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), an evidence-based therapeutic modality that helps children process their personal trauma experiences and initiates conversations with young people and their caregivers about sexual health. This presentation will take you step by step from assessment to termination, as you learn the eight key treatment components of TF-CBT. Creative strategies will be shared to help you envision what implementation of each component looks like with children who are at different stages of development. Effective ways to involve a trusted adult in the treatment process will be discussed, as well as ways to avoid or navigate potential barriers to implementation.

1D: Let’s Spill the “T”...A Trauma-Informed Approach to HIV/STI Prevention
Jeremy Beshears, Director-Testing, Outreach, Sexual Health Programs, Project ARK

Accepting an individual's experience with past trauma has greatly increased engagement in the HIV care continuum and created a humanistic approach for providers to retain clients in care. While trauma informed models typically begin with diagnosis and initiation into the HIV care continuum, this workshop will discuss the necessity for a trauma informed model that specifically addresses HIV prevention. Marginalized individuals may experience overlooked trauma resulting from our traditional prevention focus on risk, targeted demographic groups and safer sex messaging. This session will offer an alternative to traditional prevention focuses through interactive discussion on bias, language shifts and stigma within the HIV prevention continuum.

11:45 am – 12:45 pm  LUNCH and EXHIBITORS
2A: Let Me Tell You a Story: Missouri’s Data Resources and How to Leverage Storytelling for Action
Whitney Coffey, Research Analyst IV, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

In Missouri, nearly 1 in 10 youth have been forced to engage in sexual intercourse when they did not want to. For youth that identify as LGBTQ, that number jumps to 1 in 5. Statewide, more than 1,000 teens sought treatment for self-harm injuries in a single year. Less than half of Missouri’s secondary schools provide curricula or supplementary materials that include HIV, STD, or pregnancy prevention information that is relevant to LGBTQ youth. 62.5% of young women who have given birth recently, who were not trying to get pregnant, were also not doing anything to prevent pregnancy. Statistics can tell a story and compelling stories create avenues for change, which can potentially provide useful resources for community outreach. Would you be surprised to hear that the statistics above are publicly available in Missouri and that data experts are available to help you craft your community’s story? The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, Missouri Public Health Information Management System, School Health Profiles, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, among others, are a few of the information sources to be explored and highlighted today. This session will include a discussion of the data available for storytelling, as well as a frank dissection of the data’s limitations. Time will also be dedicated to crafting an effective data dissemination strategy and producing a grant application that is attractive to funders.

2B: The Power of Social Connections
Annie Philipps, Director of Training and Program Replication, Wyman

Humans are hard-wired to fare best when they connect with and attach to one another. Social connections support the development of self-esteem, social skills, and healthy peer relationships, while reducing loneliness, isolation and social anxiety. This presentation will explore research on the positive impact of social connections. Social connections and a sense of ‘social belonging’ can have powerful effects on adolescents’ long-term academic, mental, and physical health outcomes. Discussion will center on the importance of building social connections among adolescents. This presentation will also explore The Connection Project (TCP) as a case study of an innovative, evidence-informed program that builds social connections among high school age youth. TCP was created through a research-practice partnership between the University of Virginia and Wyman Center. It is a guided curriculum designed to enhance teens’ social and emotional skills and psychosocial functioning by building cohesive, supportive peer groups that demonstrate the value of deep, caring relationships to teens and support them in reaching out and spreading that message to others in their worlds. TCP’s design is based on several key, research-based factors: 1) the social experiences and social and emotional skills of adolescents are incredibly strong mediators of their academic and life outcomes; 2) adolescence is one of the most socially-focused stages of the lifespan as teens are biologically and developmentally wired to learn to manage peer relationships; 3) adolescent peer experiences are ripe for change and can lead to powerful social and emotional learning and enhanced life outcomes.
2C: Leveraging Youth-Centered Contraceptive Access for Sexual and Reproductive Health Equity
Raissa Ameh, Clinical Manager, Missouri Family Health Council, Inc.
Ashley Kuykendall, Program Manager, Missouri Family Health Council, Inc.

According to the Equity Indicators project, Black youth in St. Louis City are almost 10x more likely to be diagnosed with chlamydia than white youth, making it one of the most significant health disparities in our region today. In St. Louis County, Black women are 2.4x more likely to die from childbirth than white women. In Missouri, Black youth ages 15-19 are 2x more likely to experience pregnancy compared to white youth. These stark disparities represent some of the key issues that need to be addressed in order to move towards equitable health outcomes. What does birth control access have to do with it? How can we, as youth-serving professionals, best support adolescents in getting the healthcare they need? Join us to discuss how youth-centered family planning care can serve as a key component of addressing sexual and reproductive health disparities for young people in our region.

2D: Centering Reproductive Justice to Achieve Equitable Care in Adolescent Sexual Health
Brittany Jones, Missouri Organizing Fellow, ReproAction

This breakout session will explore common barriers adolescents experience pertaining to their sexual health and how current policies and events serve as a contributing factor. We will discuss the importance of centering reproductive justice and acknowledging reproductive oppression to better understand how to deliver care in an equitable and safe manner.

2:00 – 2:15 pm  BREAK
2:15 – 3:15 pm  CLOSING PANEL
3:15 to 3:30 pm  ATTENDANCE PRIZES/EVALUATIONS/ADJOURNMENT

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