



Public's Most Asked Questions

What does your organization do?

We help youth make responsible decisions for their future (or to grow up to be productive members of our community).

Are you part of or do you work with the Crisis Pregnancy/Pregnancy Care Centers?

No. We are two separate organizations. Their primary focus is ministering to women who are already pregnant and/or parenting. Our organization's focus is on PREVENTION. If we are successful, then the number of teen and unintended pregnancies should decline.

Where does your organization stand on the abortion issue?

We are a pregnancy prevention agency not a birth prevention agency. If we are successful at accomplishing our mission - preventing teen pregnancies - no organization will have done more to reduce the number of abortions in our community.

Does your organization pass out condoms/contraceptives?

No. We stress and educate that abstinence the healthiest choice for teens young people. However, we also believe that we need to meet young people where they are. Which means that young people, should they choose to be sexually active, need to have the knowledge about being responsible in order to avoid pregnancy and/or an STD until we have the opportunity to work with them to make healthier choices.

Does your organization promote contraceptive use?

We stress abstinence until marriage is the first and healthiest choice for all young people. However we also believe in **meeting teens where they are**. We know that approximately 51% of SC teens report being sexually active (and that number increases to about 75% for high school seniors).

Therefore we use **research proven interventions** which are shown to PREVENT pregnancy, STD's and HIV and PROMOTE healthy relationships and responsible decisions. These interventions are shown to give youth the knowledge and skills they need in order to make smarter choices and postpone becoming sexuality active until an older age. Additionally, if at some time in their life they do become sexually active, they will be more likely to take the necessary precautions in order to prevent an unintended pregnancy or becoming infected with an STD or HIV.

Do you work in our schools?

Yes. Probably our most well-know partnership with the Aiken County Public School District is The Real Care Baby infant simulator program and the Girls Circle Program.

In addition, upon request the staff is invited into classrooms to provide education to teens within the guidelines required by the school system.

We also conduct parent workshops and conduct teacher training's such as Aiken Summer Institute for Teachers and Stewards of Children.

Do you involve parents in your education?

Our most important Guiding Principle is that parents should be their child's primary sexuality educator. We know that parents have the most amount of influence when it comes to their child's decisions regarding sexuality. Unfortunately about 75% of parents never talk to their children about sexuality and the dangers of premature sexual activity.

We offer Parent Power Workshops through parent groups and churches on a variety of topics in order to support parents and other adult caregivers to have more open and honest talks with their children of all ages about issues related to sexuality.

Do you support the Comprehensive Health Education Act?

Yes. We support the The Comprehensive Health Education Act which was enacted in 1988 to ensure that South Carolina students receive an age-appropriate, comprehensive, education program developed with community control in compliance with the provisions of the law.

As explained in the South Carolina Speaks study, the South Carolina Comprehensive Health Education Act, enacted in 1988, requires schools to take an abstinence-based, age-appropriate approach to reproductive health education and pregnancy prevention education.

Research shows that comprehensive sexuality education does not encourage sexual activity and in fact, it delays the onset of first intercourse.

Do you support Emergency Contraceptive?

We are a prevention organization. If someone is seeking EC then we have not done our job. We are not medical professionals and refer our clients with questions to medical personnel such as their family doctor, Health Department or Margaret J. Weston.