Of Mississippi high school students...

48%

say they have had sex.1

**18**%

did not use anv method to prevent pregnancy.1 44% 83%

did not use

condoms.1

were never tested for HIV.1

Ranks 3rd in the nation in teen birth rate.<sup>2</sup>

### **GEORGE COUNTY IN 2017**



Rank among 82 counties in Mississippi: **54th** in teen birth rates

ages 15-19<sup>3</sup> 70th in HIV rates4

**ENGAGE IN THE PROCESS** 

### THE LAW: HB494

Requires sex education in MS public schools. Each school district must adopt an "abstinence-only" or "abstinence-plus" policy as well as a curriculum approved by the MS Department of Education.

### THE EVIDENCE:5

Evidence-based, "abstinence-plus" curricula meet the needs of ALL students and are shown to:

- Delay sexual activity
- Reduce # of partners
- Reduce frequency of sex
- Increase proper use of contraceptives

#### **Adopt CHART Policy**



Sign Memorandum of **Understanding with MS State Department of Health** 



**Train Teachers on Sex Education Curricula** 



**Conduct Implementation** and Evaluation

For more information, go to teenhealthms.org or contact **Josh McCawley** at josh@teenhealthms.org.

# **REDUCING TEEN BIRTH AND STI/HIV**

in George County



**Creating Healthy and Responsible Teens** 

# CHART,

an "abstinenceplus" initiative, HAS **BEEN ADOPTED IN** 

> 21 COUNTIES statewide.

## **WHAT IS CHART?**

- Abstinence-plus sex education
- Evidence-based, age-appropriate, and medically accurate
- A partnership with the Mississippi State Department of Health and approved by Mississippi Department of Education
- **FREE** training and technical assistance to school districts

1. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States, 2011. MMWR; 61(4)Retrieved from https:// www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/pdf/2015/ss6506\_updated.pdf. 2. Martin JA, Hamilton BE, Osterman MJK, et al. Births: Final data for 2017. National vital statistics report; vol 67, no 8. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2018. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr67/ nvsr67\_08-508.pdf 3. Mississippi Department of Health; Teenage Vital Statistics Data by County of Residence and Race of Mother; Mississippi, 2017: https://msdh.ms.gov/phs/2017/Summary/teensumm\_cnty\_2017.pdf. 4. Mississippi Department of Health; Reported Cases and Rates of HIV by District and County: https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\_static/resources/6001.pdf. 5. K. Underhill, et al. (2007). Systematic Review of Abstinence-Plus HIV Prevention Programs in High-Income Countries. PLOS Med 4.9 (2007): 3275.









