

JUVENILE JUSTICE INNOVATION & IMPACT NETWORK

DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH INVOLVED WITH THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT?

This project aims to develop new Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) interventions for Youth Involved with the Justice System (YIJS) that are based in **Social Network Theory (SNT)** and use **Motivational Interviewing (MI)** to reduce sexual risk behaviors and improve health and opportunities.

WHO IS LEADING THIS PROJECT?

The Policy & Research Group (PRG) is leading this project, funded by a grant from the HHS Office of Population Affairs. See more about PRG at www.policyandresearch.com.

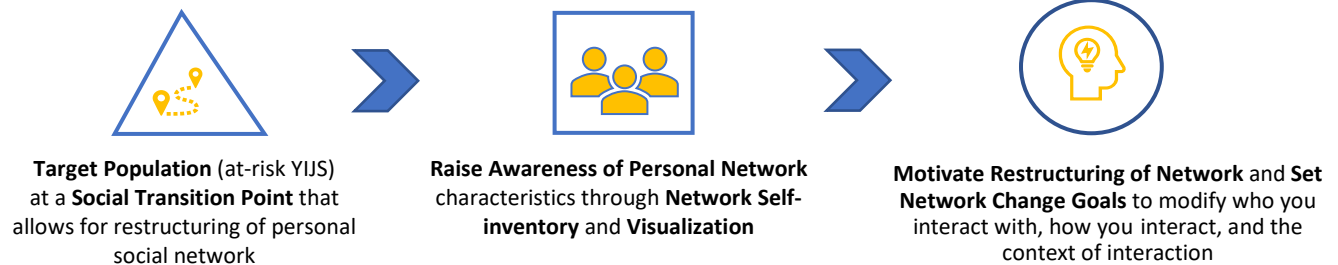
HOW ARE YOUTH AND JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED?

Youth who have experience with the justice system and individuals who work in the juvenile justice system will be involved in all aspects of the project, from participating in formative research as the interventions are being developed, to helping to test the newly designed programs, and providing feedback for improvement. **We encourage youth and stakeholders who are interested in getting involved in the project to contact us!**

WHAT IS THE THEORY OF CHANGE FOR THE SNT-MI INTERVENTIONS?

By increasing awareness of personal social network characteristics and the social influence on risky sexual behaviors, participants will have increased motivation to reduce their own sexual risk-taking behavior, and will work to restructure their social environments to reduce social influence on risk-taking.

WHAT ARE THE KEY COMPONENTS OF A SNT-MI INTERVENTION?



WHY DO WE THINK THIS APPROACH HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE EFFECTIVE?

- **Engagement** - adolescents are motivated to talk about their social networks
- **Trust** - participants “trust” the network information because *they* provided it
- **Personalized** - the network visualizations *and* network change goals are personalized
- **Context of Decisions** - risky sex commonly occurs when emotionally charged, non-rational decisions are made in the context of relationships and social environments; changing the environment can reduce risk
- **Timing** - interventions will utilize a transition point where YIJS have a natural opportunity to make compositional and structural changes to their social networks

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

Contact Alethia Gregory by email alethia@policyandresearch.com or cell 504-617-3487.