

Teen Link Connection (HSDF)

Teen Link continues to accept calls from individuals calling in about pregnant or parenting teens as well as individuals looking for services (shelter, counseling, clothing, etc.). Upon receiving these calls Teen Link will connect them with the most appropriate services to match their need. We will continue to receive Human Service Development Fund money to assist with case management services provided under Teen Link Connection.

Teen Link is currently doing Case Management for a young mother (17) whose child is 1 year old. We meet for Parent Education, to work on housing applications, and transportation to doctors appointments. Teen Link is also working with a 15 year old who is due to deliver her baby in November. We meet weekly for Parent/Prenatal education and support along with the teens parents.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Team (HSDF)

Teen Power Day – Plans are underway for Teen Power Day 2018 which is coming up on May 8th, 8:30 am to 2:00 pm at the Penn State Campus, Altoona. We have lined up the following speakers/topics: George Kattouf/Bullying, Essie Auker – Penn State/Click It (revealing myths and truths about alcohol use), BDAP/Alcohol, Smoking (cigs, vapes, cannabis), Family Services/Healthy Relationships, PA Health Dept/STDs (updates and myths), Todd Negola/Choices and Consequences, and Precious Life/Teen Pregnancy. We are expecting 4 Blair County school districts to participate. It has come to our attention that due to Keystone testing in the schools; May is a tough time of year for them to attend. We are looking at moving Teen Power Day up to March for next year.

CHOICES – We are discussing the possible need of dividing into 2 groups for this summer program, one being a prevention group and the other more of an intervention group. We are pleased to say that we have been given another grant for CHOICES for the summer of 2018. This grant will be used to purchase supplies and incentives.

Parent Connection Support Group (BCC&Y)

I continue to facilitate the Parent Connection Support Group, which meets every other Thursday morning in Tyrone. A light meal and free childcare are provided. We currently have 4 Moms and 1 Dad attending this group. Due to the lack of childcare attendants at this time we have begun doing activities; games and crafts with the children rather than just focusing on the moms.

Child Advocates of Blair Co.
March 2018 Board Report
Submitted by – Elizabeth Montgomery 3/13/2018
Teen Link Connection

All STARS (BDAP)

Our Spring All Stars session began on February 20 and will end April 10th. We began with only 8 students and are currently seeing 10 in attendance. Some of these students are returning students from the Fall, all of these students are high risk students and the majority are on a slightly lower learning level than a large portion of students their age.

Networking (BCC&Y)

The Networking Program continues to use evidenced based Nurturing Curriculum to provide in-home parent education services to families who express an interest in needing to learn parenting skills, understanding child development, etc. We continue to look for additional community partners and locations to meet with parents. Teen Link Connection is currently serving 8 families. We have begun receiving referrals from Nurse Family Partnership. I will continue refreshing brochures and fliers on bulletin boards/racks and with other agencies around the Altoona area as well as participating in any outreach event I can attend.

We have applied for an Impact Grant through United Way of Blair County for purchasing supplies for the Networking Program. These supplies would include items such as: Easy Reader parent curriculum books, pre and post-tests, craft and activity supplies, printing material for brochures, evaluations and test results as well as postage.