

Child Advocates of Blair Co.  
November 2018 Board Report  
Submitted by – Elizabeth Montgomery 11/9/2018  
Teen Link Connection

**Teen Link Connection (HSDF)**

Teen Link continues to accept calls from individuals 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 continues Case Management for a 15 year old whose son was delivered in the beginning of October. We meet for bi-weekly parent education visits to offer the teen mother and her parents support and education in cooperation with the ELECT program and Nurse Family Partnership.

**Teen Pregnancy Prevention Team (HSDF)**

**Teen Power Day** – We have begun preparations for Teen Power Day 2019. In order to avoid Keystone Exams we have moved the date of TPD to Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. We are currently in the process of establishing speakers for individual workshops. We have reached out to Family Services (Healthy Relationships), BDAP (smoking, vaping, prescription drugs and alcohol), UPMC Mental Health, ELECT (Teen Pregnancy Testimonials), Pregnancy Care Center (Birth Control and STDS), UPMC (Smoking Cessation Testimonials), Cove Forge (Choices and Consequences Testimonials).

**CHOICES** – We are looking forward to CHOICES again for the summer of 2019. We have received an OOT Grant for \$950.00 and have already begun brainstorming some ideas for the program.

**Parent Connection Support Group (BCC&Y)**

I continue to facilitate the Parent Connection Support Group, which meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Head Start Center in Tyrone. Home Nursing, ACRP and FICS have each contacted me about holding a Parent Support group in this area for some of their clients. I have received permission to begin another Parent Connection Support Group in Altoona at Hope Community Church. Hope is a centralized area of town as well as being located in an area of high-risk families, I am hopeful that this location will be ideal for attendance. I hope to meet for at least 2 meetings before 2019, to at least introduce the group and explain what we will be doing.

**All STARS (BDAP)**

All Stars began on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Luke's Episcopal Church and we are running right around 21 students most weeks. The students in this group are very active and it is the largest group we have ever had. All Stars was scheduled to end on November 20<sup>th</sup> but due to a Mandatory Chorus event of which the majority of students are a part of, we will divide our group

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and 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders will finish All Stars on the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> graders will finish on the 27<sup>th</sup>. This will accommodate all students, giving them the opportunity to keep their Chorus grade and participate in the All Stars Celebration without choosing only one.

**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. Having recently received a new client through Facebook, Teen Link Connection is currently serving 6 families. I 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.