

LIVINGSTON COUNTY
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"IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE TODAY, FOR A HEALTHIER TOMORROW"

PRESS RELEASE

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Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month May 2020

Teen pregnancy rates still continue to decline across the country. Per the CDC in 2017, 39.5% of all high school students reported that they had sexual intercourse (38% females and 41% males). One in eight adolescent females will become pregnant before turning 20. Per the New York State Department of Health, in 2016, the teen pregnancy rate for Livingston County females ages 15-19 years was 9.6. This is far lower than New York State's rate of 20.6.

Preventing teen pregnancy helps expand opportunity, create positive social change, and allows young people to be stronger contributors to their communities. According the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, parents are the most important influence on a teen's decisions about sex and relationships – even more important than friends, siblings, or the media. Most teens say that it would be easier to make decisions about sex if they could talk openly and honestly with their parents.

Teens who talk with their parents about sex are more likely to put off having sex until they are older. They are also more likely to make healthy choices, like using condoms to prevent pregnancy and STDs (sexually transmitted diseases), if they do choose to have sex.

For more information on teen pregnancy prevention contact the Livingston County Reproductive Health Center at 243-7540 or visit our website at <http://www.livingstoncounty.us/doh.htm>. Other resources include the following websites:

- <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/gradeschool/puberty/Pages/Talking-to-Your-Child-About-Sex.aspx>
- <https://www.bedsider.org/methods>

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