Research on Teen Parent Programs:

Program Impacts on Repeat Pregnancies and Births

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Experimental Field Tests

**Voluntary**

→ **Job Start** ($6,000)
  Emp & Training
  Mixed Target Groups
  *↑ GED

→ **New Chance** ($9,000)
  Teen Parents Only
  Comprehensive Services
  Family Planning & Health
  *↑ GED, HS, Emp

**Mandatory**

→ **Ohio’s LEAP** ($1,000)
  Teen Parents only
  Sanctions & Lim. Services
  *↑ HS, GED, & Emp

→ **Teen Parent Demo**
  ($2,000 per year)
  Sanctions & Services
  Family Planning
  *↑ HS, GED, & Emp

**Welfare Based**
Family Planning: Variable Input and Output

- **Job Start**
  - Not program goal
  - No systematic services

- **New Chance**
  - Core goal
  - Core Service
  - 1 - 4 sessions per month
  - Case manager counseling
  - Referral to local clinics

- **Teen Parent Demo**
  - Core goal
  - On-site workshops (2 - 100 hours)
  - Case manager follow-up
  - Referral to clinics (sometimes co-located)

- **Ohio LEAP**
  - Not program goal
  - No systematic services
## Few Programs Help Postpone Future Births

### Measured Impacts (% Gains/Losses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Pregnancies</th>
<th>Births</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Job Start</strong></td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Chance</strong></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>San Jose</strong></td>
<td>-12.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ohio LEAP</strong></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teen Parent Demo</strong></td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camden</strong></td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elmira Home Visit</strong></td>
<td>-43%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Common Features in More Effective Programs:

- Clear, unambiguous message
- Build on teen’s goals
- Real family planning services
- No celebration of births
- Modest size case loads
- Consequences for noncompliance with program guidelines
Health-Based Programs Show Strongest Outcomes

- Not tested in universal program setting
- More costly than welfare-based programs