

Arizona Partners for Abstinence Education



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

Abstinence Education in Action

Zogby Poll: Most Parents Want Abstinence Education Parents prefer abstinence education over comprehensive sex education by a 2 to 1 margin, once parents understand the actual content of abstinence education. This poll, commissioned by NAEA, was conducted through a telephone survey of parents of children age 10-16 by Zogby International. You can find the full ZOGBY Poll on the NAEA website, www.abstinenceassociation.org.

January 18 - Desert View High School, Tucson, 7:30PM; April 25 - Tucson High School, 7PM. See a live performance of the Breakdown Abstinence Performing group. Check their website at www.breakdownunited.com.

March 5-7 Teen Maze - Verde Valley, Clemenceau Bldg., Cottonwood, 9AM to 1PM. This event is sponsored by the North Star Youth Partnership (Prescott).

April 23-25 Teen Maze - Prescott Activity Center, 823 E. Gurley St., 9AM to 1PM. This event is sponsored by the North Star Youth Partnership (Prescott).

May 7 - Teen Pregnancy Month Annual Community Breakfast, Hassayampa Inn, Prescott 8AM. This event is sponsored by the North Star Youth Partnership (Prescott).

May 17 - Girls & Sports Day Prescott YMCA, Prescott 8AM to 3PM. This event is sponsored by the North Star Youth Partnership (Prescott).

Check the APAE website www.azabstinence.com for upcoming training opportunities.

Mission

APAE supports the development and use of research-based abstinence curricula and promotes the public awareness of abstinence programs - their curricula, resources, and effectiveness in teaching students the

WINTER EDITION

- [4th Annual Legislative Luncheon - February 28, 2008](#)
- [Abstinence Education Successful in Virginia](#)
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4th ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON: TEENS TALK

Sponsored by Arizona Partners for Abstinence Education and Pima Prevention Partnership of Tucson

Teens from around the state will gather at the state capitol to visit their legislators, learn about the legislative process and to share what they have learned about relationships, issues affecting Arizona teens, choices and consequences, life and love and the impact of abstinence education on their lives.

Arizona legislators are invited to hear first hand from Arizona teens how abstinence education has empowered their lives, to learn about the healthy outcomes abstinence education provides families, the resulting savings to Arizona taxpayers, and to get an update on abstinence education and youth development programs in Arizona.

The luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2008 from 11:30 to 2:00 p.m. on the House Lawn. Legislators are invited to RSVP by Friday, February 22, 2008 to Stan Hovey, stanhovey@aol.com or by calling 480-966-5850 or 602-318-5265.

ABSTINENCE EDUCATION SUCCESSFUL IN VIRGINIA

The Virginia Department of Health Services teamed up with the Institute for Research and Evaluation to study the effectiveness of one of its abstinence education (AE) programs in suburban Virginia. The evaluation measured the program's impact on 7th grade virgin students one year after their participation with regard to: (a) the number of virgins who initiated sexual intercourse and (b) teen attitudes and

benefits of sexual abstinence until marriage.

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values that influence the decision to abstain (called *cognitive mediators*).

One year after participating in the Reason of the Heart (ROH) curriculum, the program youth were about one half as likely as the comparison youth to have initiated sexual intercourse. The full article, which appears in the January-February issue of the *American Journal of Health Behavior (AJHB)*, entitled "An Abstinence Program's Impact on Cognitive Mediators and Sexual Initiation" can be found online at www.atypon-link.com/PNG/doi/pdf/10.5555/ajhb.2008.32.1.60.

This Virginia program is an example of the effectiveness of abstinence education in delaying the initiation of sexual activity.

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FUNDING UPDATE

The President signed the Omnibus Appropriations Act (OAA) and the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007. These pieces of legislation continue the Community Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) program and the Title V abstinence education program until June 30, 2008. Five Arizona agencies receive federal CBAE grants and about 10 Arizona agencies receive Title V and state matching funds from the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). APAE is very appreciative of our Arizona State legislators, who value abstinence education by appropriating \$1.5 million for abstinence education.

Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP) of Tucson received an Adolescent Family Life Demonstration grant from the federal Office of Adolescent Pregnancy. The goal of the program is to delay the onset of sexual behavior among 3,200 sixth grade students (over five years) through a combination of classroom education, parent and family support and community activities that promote abstinence and the role of parents in adolescent decision making. PPP's efforts are an example of how abstinence programs are finding ways to enrich and expand their services.

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FROM WILCOX TO WILLIAMS: AZYP FEATURED AGENCY

Arizona Youth Partnership (AzYP) agency of Tucson continues to find ways to expand its services to rural Arizona in spite of having to stretch its federal CBAE grant from 3 years to 5 years. This school year AzYP is expanding its abstinence education program into Wilcox and Williams. Last year they initiated services in Bullhead City. AzYP is adding a new youth development component to its program, called the Ambassadors, which will train youth in public speaking skills. The ambassadors will then be given public speaking opportunities in their community. AzYP continues to provide abstinence education and youth development in rural Pima County and in Apache, Navajo, Santa Cruz, Pinal, and Gila counties.

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