Fostering positive outcomes among Minnesota teen mothers using a school-based model that includes case management

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Background/Objectives

Broadway High School is devoted exclusively to young mothers (ages 14-21) and their children (ages 0-4).

Broadway intervention model consists of:
- Intensive one-on-one case management
- Holistic integration of academic and parenting skills into an alternative, small-scale school setting
- On-site child care
- Co-location of community agencies and services at school

Evaluation assesses the impact of the Broadway model on:
- Helping students make progress toward graduation
- Delaying a repeat birth
- Keeping children fully immunized

Study Design

Evaluation project consists of two studies:
- Serial, cross-sectional study to describe pregnant and parenting students attending Broadway School
- Quasi-experimental study that evaluates outcomes over time among three cohorts of Broadway program participants and non-participants

Study 1 Methods & Results

A general profile of Broadway students

Goal: annually describe pregnant and parenting students who attend Broadway (n=350-400)

Data sources:
- School district data and case manager records
- Demographic characteristics, graduation/GED rates, accumulated credits, standardized test results, school attendance, and case management utilization

Evaluation model:
- Helping students make progress toward graduation
- Delaying a repeat birth
- Keeping children fully immunized

Survey Progress and Preliminary Results

CoHORT 1: baseline and follow-up data collected (70% response rate)

Data sources:
- Baseline and 12-month Adolescent Family Life (AFL) and CORE surveys

Measures:
- School status/progress toward graduation, pregnancy status, child immunization history, and confidence in preventing repeat pregnancies, keeping up-to-date with child immunizations, and following plans to graduate

Survey Progress and Preliminary Results

- Cohort 1: baseline and follow-up data collected (70% response rate)
- Attrition analyses for Cohort 1: few differences between those lost to follow-up and participants at both time points
- Initial comparisons are promising (although not significant given small sample sizes)

Survey Progress and Preliminary Results

- Cohort 2: baseline complete; follow-up being collected
- Cohort 3: baseline being collected; follow-up will be collected Fall ’10

Assessment of key survey measures (Cohort 1)

Survey Progress and Preliminary Results

- Initial comparisons are promising (although not significant given small sample sizes)

Limitations/challenges to this evaluation include conducting follow-up surveys with a highly mobile population and combining multiple data sources.

Study 2 Methods & Results

A quasi-experimental study

Goal: compare key outcomes between 3 cohorts of Broadway students (n=250) and a control group of young women (n=150)

Data sources:
- Baseline and 12-month Adolescent Family Life (AFL) and CORE surveys

Measures:
- School status/progress toward graduation, pregnancy status, child immunization history, and confidence in preventing repeat pregnancies, keeping up-to-date with child immunizations, and following plans to graduate

Implications

Supported by school-based, intensive case-management, young mothers facing difficult challenges can make progress toward graduating from high school and succeed at building strong and productive lives for themselves and their children. Our job is to learn and implement strategies that inspire their lives and support their efforts.

School-based model strategies and their key components, such as one-on-one case-management, continue to require analysis and refinement.

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