



MAIN OFFICE

1250 Hollipark Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
Phone: (208) 522-0310
Fax: (208) 525-7063
www.phd7.idaho.gov

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 29, 2011

Contact: Geri Rackow, PIO
Office: (208) 533-3155
Cell: (208) 705-4615

Teen pregnancy is 100% preventable!

Across the state of Idaho and throughout the nation, May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is a community effort to raise awareness about teen pregnancy and the need for effective, comprehensive teen pregnancy prevention programs.

Each day in Idaho, 6 babies are born to teen girls between ages 15 and 19. While this is an improvement over past years, it is still far too many vulnerable young lives being affected by the far-reaching consequences of early pregnancy.

The focus of this month is to increase public awareness of teenage pregnancy. This is a time when Idahoans can come together to emphasize the importance of a strong partnership between the community and the family in helping young people develop responsible and healthy attitudes about sexuality and enhance decision-making skills that lead to positive life choices.

A new program implemented in our area this winter is "Reducing the Risk", an evidence-based program to build skills to prevent pregnancy, STD & HIV. Students in Ririe Middle School's 7th grade health class received this curriculum and formed a peer group they titled Ririe Reducing the Risk Team.

To promote Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in May, the team will hold a poster contest for the RTR students and provide incentives to all 6th – 8th graders who vote for their favorites. These posters will be displayed in the Middle School cafeteria throughout the month of May to encourage students to reduce their risk of teen pregnancy and to build healthy teen relationships.

For more information about Eastern Idaho Public Health District's Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, contact Kaylene at x150.