

every woman southeast

EWSE Reproductive Life Planning from a Life Course Perspective: Pilot Projects (2012 – 2015)

Through the Every Woman Southeast Reproductive Life Planning pilot projects, we have been fortunate to work with eight excellent demonstrations that modeled innovative ways of promoting reproductive life planning from a life course perspective. Based in Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, all of the projects targeted populations with the highest risk for unintended pregnancy and/or inequities in birth outcomes and were managed by teams that were interdisciplinary and included at least one non-traditional partner.

The projects could be categorized into three major themes: Peer education, community linkages, and media and communications. Please see below for a brief description of each project and contact Erin McClain at erin@everywomansoutheast.org for more information.

PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION

- **Cradle Me 3** – NC Central University – NC
Based in a Historically Black University, the Cradle Me 3 project used preconception peer educators to deliver on-campus information about RLP and preconception health, integrated RLP into the nursing and early childhood education curricula, and provided outreach to a neighboring housing community.
- **Peer Education for the Soul** – Duval Co. Health Dept. – Jacksonville, FL
The Duval Co. Health Dept. worked with 18-24 year old Peer Health Advisors from four area churches to address RLP and preconception health for young adults in the faith community and surrounding neighborhoods, bringing a variety of training opportunities to community young adults and sparking inter-generational conversations about health and other needs of young women and men in the churches and the community.

COMMUNITY LINKAGES

- **RLP During Post-Abortion Care - Choices** – TN
Choices revamped their post-abortion counseling to shift away from solely contraceptive methods counseling to true RLP, and they strengthened their referral process to and from local community agencies that address social and economic needs of clients so that they could provide warm referrals to meet a variety of patient social, emotional, and economic needs.
- **RLP for Young Men** - Delta Health Partners – MS
Provided series of trainings and technical assistance to community agencies that engage with boys and young men, including the Sheriff's Office, juvenile justice, churches, and the middle and high schools. Training topics have included male health needs, contraception and STIs, RLP, parenting, and communication and conflict resolution skills.
- **RLP & Life Course Approach** – Barren River Health District – KY
The Health District formalized RLP within their clinical settings, including creating an appropriate RLP tool for their setting, and they worked with a local maternal and child health group and middle and high schools to educate the community about the life course approach.
- **Transportation Across the Life Course** – Urban Health Partnership – Miami, FL
UHP assessed transportation access to existing RLP & preconception care services – conducting ~300 surveys with community members about transportation use, knowledge of clinics and clinic services, and how they access those clinics – and disseminated those findings to health, urban planning, and transportation partners.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

- **Choose Today a Healthy Tomorrow!** – PASOs – SC
PASOs used *promotores*, or lay health educators, to reach the Latino population through radio shows on Spanish-language stations. The *promotores* provided evidence-based information on preconception and RLP topics, as well as warm referrals to community resources.
- **Great Start** – Healthy Start New Orleans – LA
Healthy Start New Orleans provided in depth RLP and interconception health care training and TA for Healthy Start care managers, produced and distributed “Map Your Life” RLP tools for women and men, and worked with Bounce TV to produce RLP-focused commercials and a website: www.greatplan.net.