



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Teen pregnancy is a critical public health issue that affects the health, and educational, social, and economic status of teen parents, their children, families, and communities; and
- WHEREAS: In 2012, there were 4,469 teen pregnancies in Minnesota, and approximately 12 teens under age 20 become pregnant each day; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota's youth of color have significantly higher birth and pregnancy rates than their white counterparts; and
- WHEREAS: The cost of teen pregnancy and childbearing impacts society as a whole. It is estimated that the public cost to Minnesota taxpayers is approximately \$146 million per year; and
- WHEREAS: Comprehensive, evidence-based, sexuality education, and effective and culturally responsive teen pregnancy prevention programs help prevent teen pregnancy; and
- WHEREAS: By supporting healthy youth development and encouraging open communication between caring adults and teens, we can support and affirm their choices to avoid pregnancy, finish high school, and enjoy happy and fulfilling lives; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Department of Health joins with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, Advocates for Youth, the Office of Adolescent Health, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Family and Youth Services Bureau, and many dedicated local public health agencies, youth serving organizations, volunteers, health care professionals, schools and school districts, faith based organizations, and communities, in bringing awareness to Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month and the important goal of reducing teen pregnancy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2014, as:

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 5th day of May.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE