

# Take the Next STeP: The STeP (Skills for Teen Parenting) Project

4/22/2015



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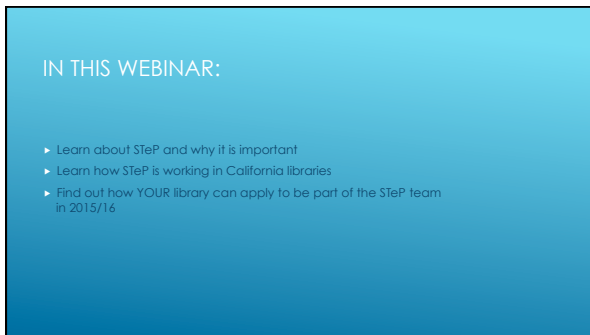
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EVOLUTION OF THE STEP PROJECT:



2007

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EVOLUTION OF THE STEP PROJECT:

- ▶ 2012 Eureka! Leadership Institute
- ▶ Life Skills for Teen Moms



LIFE SKILLS FOR TEEN MOMS

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EVOLUTION OF THE STEP PROJECT:



2007



2013

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## WHY IS STEP IMPORTANT?

- ▶ In California, the teen birth rate was reduced by 45% between 2000 and 2012. Nonetheless, the number of teen mothers in California remains significant, with nearly 35,000 children born to mothers aged 19 or under in 2012 (latest year for which data are available).
- ▶ In that year, California ranked 19th in the nation in teen birth rates, at 23.6 per 1000. 21 California counties had birth rates significantly higher than the national average.

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## WHY IS STEP IMPORTANT?

- ▶ Teen mothers face multiple, difficult challenges in their lives. Child care, education, employment, housing, health care, nutrition, and physical/emotional safety.
- ▶ Many teen mothers have limited or even no support system to teach and guide them on their parenting journey as they themselves try to navigate adolescence.
- ▶ Most high schools have cut funding for support services for pregnant and parenting students.
- ▶ Nearly 70% of California teen moms drop out of high school, according to the CA Department of Education.

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## WHAT IS STEP?

- ▶ The STeP project seeks to bridge the gap, by piloting a model for library services for pregnant/parenting teen moms in selected public libraries.
- ▶ Each library will work with community partners to recruit participants and implement a series of informational/ instructional workshops.
- ▶ Selected libraries will receive training, resources and funding to successfully plan and implement this project.

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## STEP IN 2015

- ▶ STeP was implemented in 5 CA libraries:
  - ▶ Berkeley Public
  - ▶ Fresno County
  - ▶ Los Angeles Public
  - ▶ San Diego Public
  - ▶ San Mateo County

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## STEP AT THE FRESNO LIBRARY:



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## STEP AT THE FRESNO LIBRARY:

- ▶ Challenges
  - Scheduling
  - Childcare
  - Teen involvement
- ▶ Rewards
  - Partnerships
  - Impact
  - Knowledge
  - Empowerment
  - Skills
  - Outcomes
  - Library users



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## STEP AT THE FRESNO LIBRARY:

- ▶ Expansions
  - ▶ Summer 2015
  - ▶ Fall 2015



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## IS STEP FOR YOU?

- ▶ The right person for this project is:
  - ▶ Someone who likes teenagers
  - ▶ Someone who likes teen moms and their babies
    - ▶ **Committed** to serving this population
    - ▶ Looking for a **challenge**
    - ▶ Focused on the **community**
    - ▶ Has the **capacity** to run the program (The Four C's)
    - ▶ Proficient in Organizational Skills
    - ▶ Willing to reach out to community partners

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## PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Recruit 20 or more teen moms
- ▶ Hold 10 workshops (or 5 workshops twice)
- ▶ Collaborate with one SOLID community partner
- ▶ Be available for monthly chats
- ▶ Attend one 6 hour training session prior to project implementation

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## EACH PROJECT LIBRARY RECEIVES:

- ▶ \$5000 to implement the project at one location within the library's jurisdiction
- ▶ A core library collection to support the project at the selected location
- ▶ Intensive staff training and ongoing technical assistance

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## APPLICATION PROCESS:

- ▶ Application period is April 23-May 22, 2015.
- ▶ Application information and materials are available at <http://www.library.ca.gov/grants/1sta/apply.html>
- ▶ Applications will be reviewed starting the last week of May. Online interviews will be conducted as part of the application process. Libraries will be notified by early July.

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## THANK YOU!

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A California State Library Webinar  
Hosted by Infopeople

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**Infopeople** *helping libraries think differently*

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