

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **DC CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY LAUNCHES BUS CARD BLITZ FOR “MAY IS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH”**

“If **you** don’t think teen pregnancy is a good idea, why is DC’s rate so high?” That’s the question posed by DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy on 700 posters that will appear in May in Metrobuses running throughout the city as well as on dioramas and the outside of buses. “May is teen pregnancy prevention month, which makes it the right time to ask this question and to focus public attention on the issue,” says Brenda Rhodes Miller, director of DC Campaign, “We’d like to hear from city residents what they think are the solutions to DC’s high teen pregnancy rate.”

The bright yellow, blue and white signs will be hard to miss, but they are only one of the ways the city is taking note of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

All over DC, organizations involved with teens will increase their teen pregnancy prevention outreach efforts. For example, The Department of Human Services, Family Services Teen Parent Assessment Project; DC Public Schools, HIV/AIDS Education Program; The Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health; Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington; The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington; and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. have partnered with DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy to provide a series of workshops for District teens.

These workshop topics will be presented at Ballou, Anacostia and Eastern Senior High Schools; Johnson and Browne Junior High Schools; and Evans Middle School.

- Messages in the Media
- Champions or Chumps
- Be Proud! Be Responsible!
- Relationship Issues
- A Time for Answers
- Hope is Not a Method
- I’m Worth the Wait
- Talk About It
- Responsibility, Respect and the Role of Males in Relationships
- Child Support and Paternity Acknowledgement

“By working with natural institutions such as family, church, schools, and neighborhoods; by mobilizing teens to guide and lead our work; by building upon the many programs that already exist; and creating a resource and clearinghouse for all District residents, we can achieve our goal of cutting DC’s teen pregnancy rate in half by 2005,” says DC Campaign Board Chair, Joyce Ladner.

DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is a non-profit organization that serves as a catalyst for improved services for teens; a convener of experts and networks in areas that involve teens; a promoter of best practices; a training resource; and a source of powerful messages about teen pregnancy prevention. It does not run programs or clinics but provides direct service to the community by keeping the spotlight on teen pregnancy prevention.