



**NYSCAP News :**

**Registration for the  
March 21, 2017 Summit**

at the Desmond Hotel , Albany, NY

**is now open!!!**

Genesee Valley Educational Partner ship and NYSCAP presents:

**Come together: Schools and Communities  
Working Together to Support  
Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

*The Genesee Valley Educational Partnership is an approved provider of CTLE hours.*

**[Click here to access online registration](#)**

**It Takes a Village: Uniting School and Community Efforts for Adolescent Sexual Health**

Nora Gelperin, Advocates for Youth

**Human Sexuality: So Much More Than Disaster Prevention**

Nora Gelperin, Advocates for Youth

**The Role of Schools and Communities in Recognizing and Responding to  
Adolescent Trafficking**

Sharon King, NYSOPDV; Agnes Pala-Bukhala , NYSOPDV; Bonnie Allen , NYSOPDV

**Adolescent Sexuality in the Digital Age**

Janis Whittlock, Cornell University; Jane Powers, ACT for Youth; Jutta Dotterweich, ACT for Youth

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** If you are aware of a person, or organization, interested in joining NYSCAP, we are making the application available online and open to anyone who supports our vision and mission. Membership is free! [Link to Membership application](#)

**Summit Planning:** Supports for the Summit are underway, including the preparation of Summit materials.

**Advocacy:** Preparations are underway to connect with statewide organizations whose vision and mission align with NYSCAP and be in support of comprehensive sexuality education K-12 in public schools and the NYS Youth Sexual Health Plan, 2016.

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The New York State Council on Adolescent Pregnancy, Inc. is a non-profit organization providing leadership in teen pregnancy prevention and supporting healthy adolescent development and well-being across New York State.

**Our mission** is to promote healthy adolescent development and well-being, reduce the incidence of adolescent pregnancy and increase the capacity of pregnant and/or parenting youth to become productive members of society.

**Our Vision** All student (pre k - 12) receive quality comprehensive sexuality education in order to make safe and healthy decisions about their lives, bodies, relationships and well-being.

**Contact us at:**

[nyscap@gmail.com](mailto:nyscap@gmail.com)

**We're on the web!**

[www.NYSCAP.org](http://www.NYSCAP.org)

**Find us on Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/NYSCAP>

We welcome your suggestions and recommendations so let us know if you hear about things worth sharing!

## Focus on ...Long Island & Buffalo



On December 9, 2016, the Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc., the Suffolk County Teen Pregnancy Advisory Board, Legislator William Spencer, Legislator Monica Martinez and Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare hosted a Teen Parent Conference: "Prevention, Education, and Support: Connecting the Dots to Healthy Families." The Suffolk County Teen Pregnancy Board members represent the County Legislature, the County Executive's office, a non-profit teen sexuality and pregnancy education agency, Suffolk County law enforcement, an organization supporting victims of domestic violence, a nonprofit drug and alcohol prevention and education organization, a school, the Department of Social Services, child welfare advocacy, the Suffolk County Youth Bureau, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, and the medical and adolescent health field.

Teen pregnancy has been considered an epidemic in Suffolk County and throughout the state and nation. A multi-dimensional issue, it impacts people from all backgrounds and faiths. Through increased educational efforts in schools, family and community supports, and more comprehensive services, there has been a reduction in teen pregnancy rates in recent years. While this is good news, continued efforts are key if these trends are to persist.

49 students at the Conference were pregnant and/or parenting, and attended a variety of workshops in support of healthy family development. Thank you to all of the partners who made the Conference a success! Our combined efforts help support our youth, our families and our community.



NYSCAP representatives were in attendance at a conference in Washington, DC, where sex education administrators, advocates and education professionals discussed sex education practice and policy. NYSCAP gained valuable information about comprehensive sexuality education nationwide, what still needs to be done, and strategies to do so. There was an emphasis on creating safe and supportive environments as well as gaining support on all levels of the community. The

conference was saturated with a number of panel discussions, brainstorming sessions, and workshops specific to youth development and engagement. A congressional reception was also held at the Hart Senate Building and hosted by Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ)



On December 6, 2017, Asunta (Sue) Ventresca received an award from the NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute and was among those recognized for their commitment, contribution and response to improve and promote the health and well-being of all New Yorkers, contributing to NY State's plan to end the AIDS epidemic by the end of 2020. Sue has been Director of Health Related Services for **Buffalo Public Schools** for more than 13 years.

Through her efforts, the District administered the CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey (YRBS) for the first time in 2011. The data drove the development of a comprehensive wellness policy which was adopted by the Buffalo Board of Education in April 2012. Under her direction, the district established a health council, school wellness teams and district health committees. She spearheaded the successful adoption and implementation of the BPS Condom Availability Program. The Program was developed to assure students have the skills, knowledge and resources they need to be safe and healthy.

