

Special points of interest:

- About 390 babies are born to teen mothers each year in Rochester
- The teen birth rate in Rochester declined 42% between 2008-2013
- Comprehensive strategies to prevent teen pregnancy are working in Rochester, but more needs to be done

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Needs and Resource Assessment Teen Pregnancy Prevention Rochester, NY January 31, 2016

Local Data re Youth and Youth Sexual Health

--**30,100 adolescents**, ages 10 to 19, live in the City of Rochester. The total population of Rochester is about 210,000.

--Rochester's **child poverty rate** is the second-highest among US cities of a population of 200,000 or more. 55% of children in Rochester live in poverty. (2014 American Community Survey). (Buffalo NY has the fourth highest rate of child poverty; more than half the children in Buffalo live in poverty.)

--**35% of all City residents** live below the poverty level.

--In Rochester, 68% of families with children under age 18 are headed by single parents. In NYS, 36% of families with children are headed by single parents.

--According to the 2010 Census Rochester's adolescent population is about:

White	17%
Black	52%
Latino	22%
Other	8%

--**Rochester's teen birth rate in 2013 was 46 per 1,000 girls.** The teen birth rate in NYS in 2013 was 18 per 1,000 girls. (NYS Dept. of Health). Nationally, the teen birth rate was 24 per 1,000 girls. Rochester's rate is 2.5 times higher than the rate in NYS, and twice as high as the rate nationally.

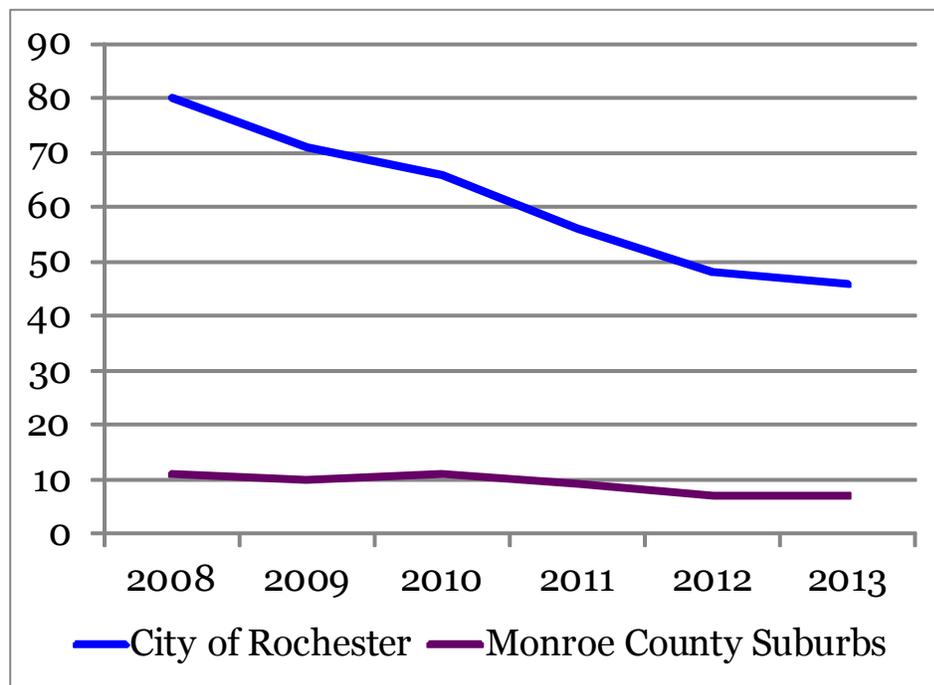


--**Teen birth rates in Rochester have declined** from a high of 128 per 1,000 girls in 1990 to 46 births per 1,000 girls in 2013--a 64% decline in the teen birth rate.

--388 babies were born to Rochester adolescents, ages 15 to 19, in 2013. **12% of the total number of babies born** in Rochester in 2013 were born to teen mothers. If grouped together, these 388 babies born to teen mothers in 2013 would fill 17 kindergarten classrooms in 2018. See zip code map for areas of City with highest rates.

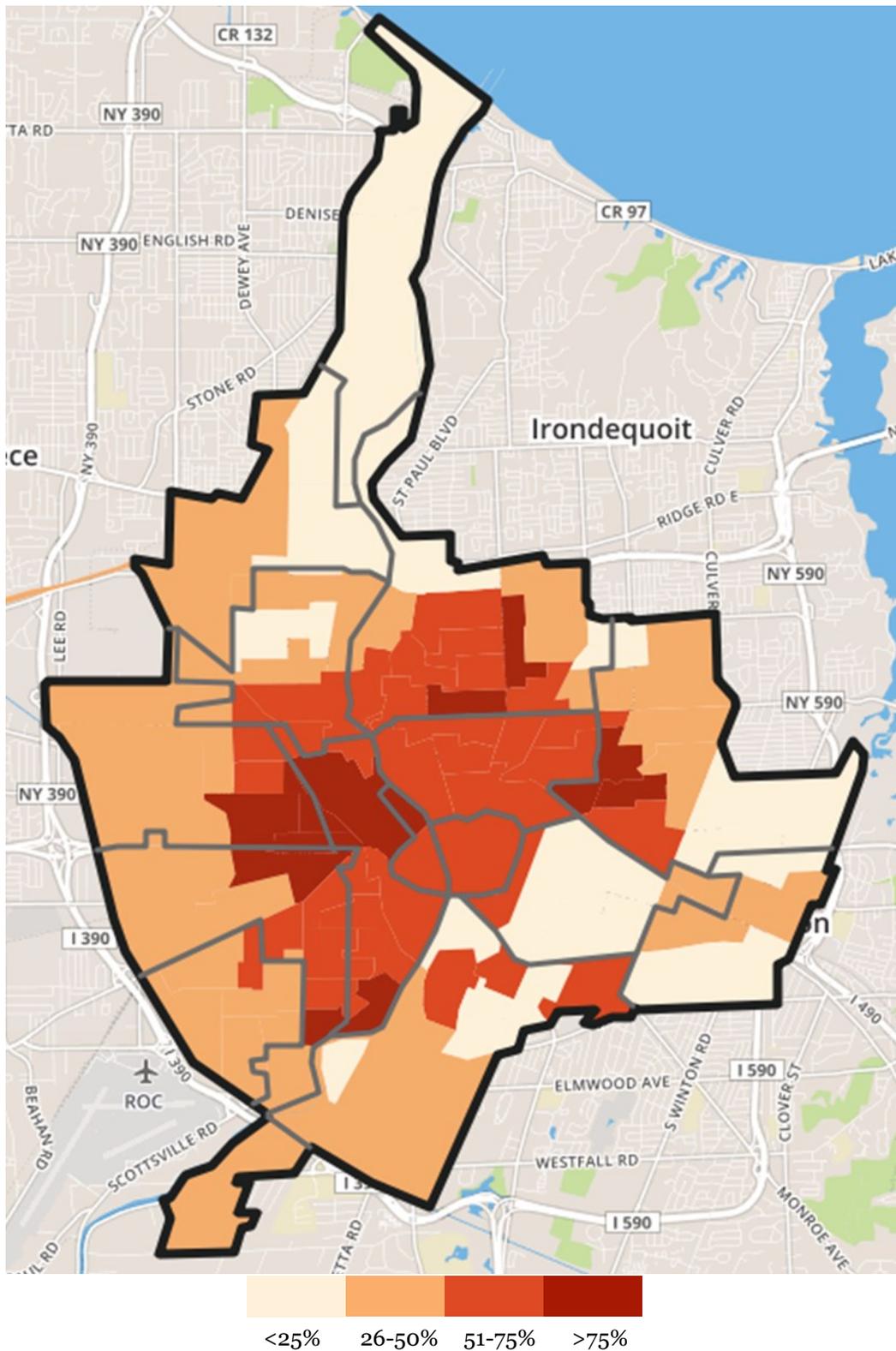
SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS SINCE 2008

Teen Birth Rates per 1,000 (Ages 15-19)



Source: Monroe County Department of Public Health

Rochester Child Poverty by Census Block Group (2010)



--Between the years 2006 and 2013, **teen pregnancy rates** declined significantly in the highest poverty zip codes of Rochester. However, the teen pregnancy rate in most Rochester zip codes is still three to five times higher than the NYS teen pregnancy rate. During the years 2011 to 2013, the **teen pregnancy rates** in two Rochester zip code areas were higher than 100 pregnancies per 1,000 females (ages 15-19). Those zip code areas were: 14608 (SW Roch); and 14605 (NE Roch). In four other zip code areas, the teen pregnancy rate was about 75 per 1,000 girls: 14621 (NE Roch); 14611(SW Roch); 14613 (NW Roch); and 14615 (NW Roch).

--Historically, the teen birth rate in Rochester has been higher than the teen birth rate in Buffalo, Syracuse or NYC.

--In 2013, there were **72 repeat births** to Rochester teen mothers, ages 15 to 19. 18% of all City teen births in 2013 were repeat teen births.

--The rate of chlamydia in 2011 among Rochester females, ages 15 to 19, is three times higher than the national rate for this age group. The rate of gonorrhea among Rochester females is more than three times the national rate for this age group. In Rochester, STI rates are higher for Black adolescents and for Latino adolescents, as compared to White adolescents.

--In 2011, the rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea among teens in Rochester were more than double the rates in NYC.

--Youth reported the following on the 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, completed at RCSD high schools:

- 43% of students in 9th to 12th grades had had sex.

- 31% were currently sexually active (had sex during past three months)

- 10% had sex before age 13

- 16% had had sex with four or more partners

- Among sexually active youth, 60% used a condom the last time they had sex

- 10% of sexually active youth used a long acting and reversible method of contraception (IUD or implant)

- 11% said they were ever forced to have sexual intercourse or were forced to touch or be touched sexually

- 20% of students described their sexual orientation as gay, lesbian, bisexual, questioning or other**

--Rochester students, like those in Buffalo, Albany and Syracuse, are isolated by race and class. (New York schools are the most segregated in the nation. UCLA Civil Rights Project, 2014.)

-- Rochester City School District student profile (NYS Education Dept. Annual Report Card 2012-2013 for Rochester City School District)

- 61% are African American; 25% are Latino; 10% are White

- 11% have Limited English proficiency

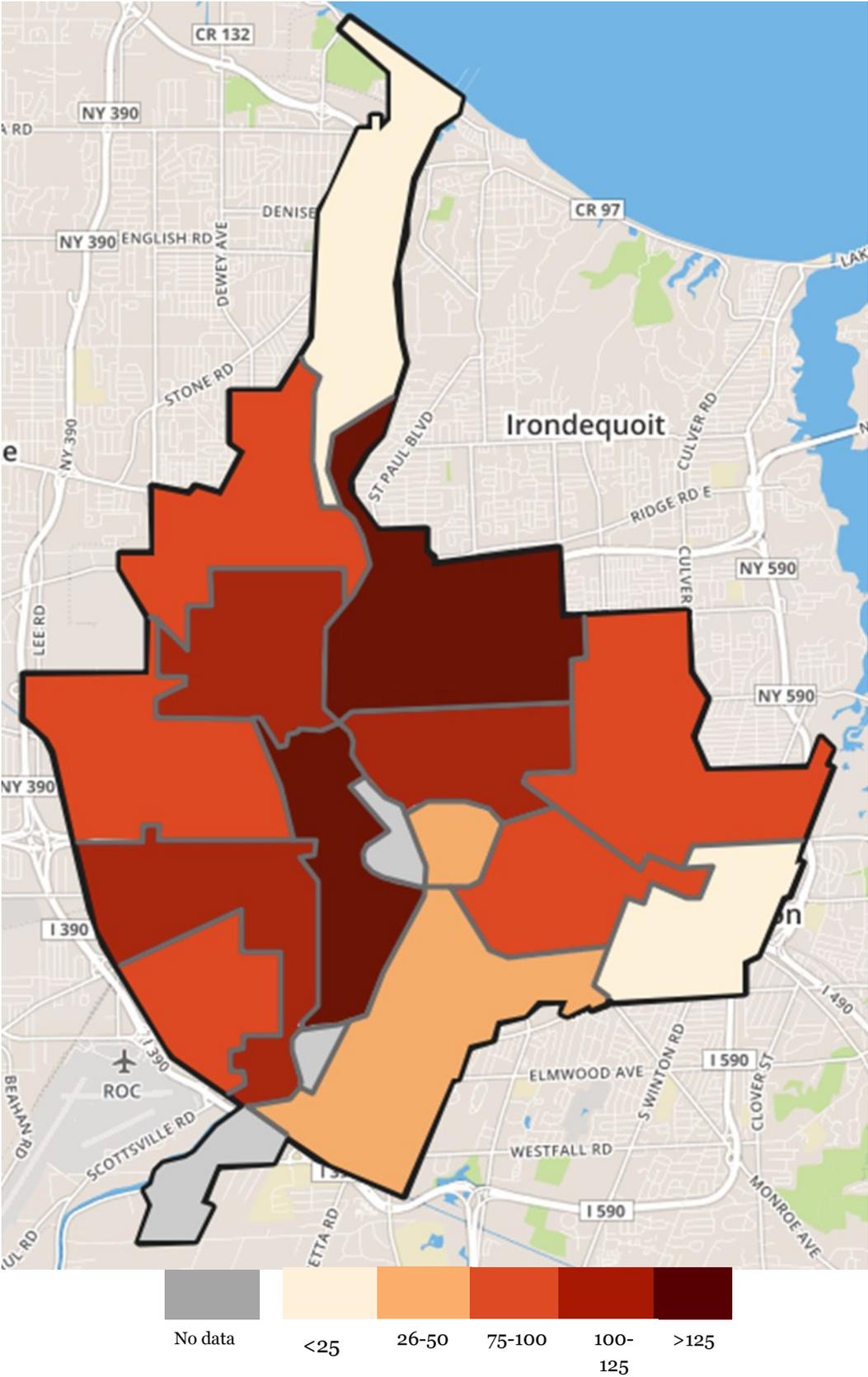
- 18% have disabilities

- 80% are eligible for free lunch

--In Monroe County, **teen pregnancy and birth rates are 4 to 5 times higher among African Americans and Latinas compared to Whites.**

Rochester Teen Pregnancy by ZIP Code (2010-2012)

per 1000 females ages 15-19



Relevant Risk Factors

--Low high school graduation rate. In 2014, 51% of Rochester City School District students graduated within four years of entering 9th grade. The graduation rate for African American students was 52.5%; for Latino students, the rate was 43%; the rate for Limited English Proficient students was 17.5% (Rochester City School District, Dec. 18, 2014).

--In the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2015), 18% of Rochester City School District students said they engaged in a physical fight on school property in the past year. 7% of students said they carried a gun in past 30 days; 7% said they carried a weapon on school property during the past 30 days. During the past year, 9% said they had been threatened or injured by someone with a weapon on school property.

--YRBS (2015): 11% said they were hit, slapped or physically hurt by a boyfriend/girlfriend the past year.

--YRBS (2015): 33% say that bullying, harassment or assault is a somewhat or very serious problem at their school. 27% of students say that bullying or harassment of GLBT youth is a somewhat or very serious problem at their school.

--YRBS (2015): 12% of students said they had been bullied electronically / on social media during the past year.

--High rates of gun violence and gang activity in Rochester. Homicide is the leading cause of death among City adolescents (Monroe County Adolescent Health Report Card). In 2009, there were about 630 emergency room visits due to assault among Rochester youth.

--YRBS (2015): 63% of students said that they had not talked with an adult in their school about a personal problem during the past year.

--YRBS (2015): 32% of City students said they felt so depressed for two or more weeks during the past year that they stopped their usual activities. 12% said they attempted suicide during the past year.

--YRBS (2015) 16% of students said that a parent or adult in their home had hit them or physically hurt them. 20% said they had lived with someone who was depressed, mentally ill or suicidal.

--YRBS (2015) 35% of students said that someone in their household had ever gone to jail or prison.

--YRBS: 20% of students drank alcohol in the past month; 10% of City students had engaged in binge drinking in the past month; 22% used marijuana in the past month.

--YRBS (2015) When asked about the statement "In my community, I feel like I matter to people", 54% of City students said they were not sure, or they disagreed or strongly disagreed.

--YRBS (2015) When asked questions about students and teachers demonstrating respect:

35% of City students disagreed or strongly disagreed that students show respect for each other;

41% disagreed or strongly disagreed that students showed respect for teachers;

19% disagreed or strongly disagreed that teachers show respect for students.

--YRBS (2015) 46% of students said that their health care provider discussed ways to prevent pregnancy, AIDS and STIs at their last check-up.

--YRBS (2015) When asked whether they had a chance to speak with a doctor/health care provider privately in the last twelve months, 43% said "no".

--Among Rochester residents, there are lower rates of health insurance, compared to Monroe County. More people obtained insurance in 2014 due to Affordable Care Act. In 2014, 8% of Rochester residents had no health insurance; and about 5% of Monroe County residents had no insurance.

--There is a disparity between Rochester youth and youth in the suburbs related to availability of adult role models. In Monroe County as a whole, there are 1.5 adults for every young person under age 25. In the City, there are 1.3 adults; and in the highest poverty zip code areas, there are 1.1 adults for every young person under age 25. (US Census 2010).

--Homeless youth: About 450 youth are housed in homeless shelters every year and about 900 youth per year (ages 16 to 20) are placed in emergency housing. "There is a critical need for suitable permanent housing for older adolescents living on their own, teen parents and supportive housing for youth with mental illness". Monroe County Adolescent Health Report Card.

--Need for male role models to provide mentoring and health education. 68% of Rochester families with children are headed by single parents. School administrators routinely report a need for additional male mentors and male life skills educators in their schools.

--Children of teen parents are more likely to become teen parents themselves. Historically, more than 15% of births in Rochester were births to teens.

Relevant Protective Factors

--YRBS (2015) responses regarding developmental assets:

"My family gives me help and support when I need it". 77% of City students agreed or strongly agreed.

"In my family there are clear rules about what I can and cannot do." 79% agreed or strongly agreed.

YRBS (2015) To the question "During a typical school week, what do you do the most number of days after school?" 27% said they participate in a school-related program, club, team or activity; 14% said they participate in a non-school program, club, team or activity; 42% go home; 16% go to a friend's house, or hang out in a neighborhood, mall or park.

--YRBS (2015) 83% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: "I have friends at school."

--YRBS (2015) 68% of students agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: "I get a lot of encouragement at my school." 63% of students agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: "I feel a sense of belonging at school."

--YRBS (2015) 70% of students report having a medical check-up within the last two years; 17% were not sure.

Resource Assessment

--Youth friendly comprehensive reproductive health clinics located in City of Rochester: Planned Parenthood, Highland Family Planning and Jordan at Community Place. The Family Planning Benefit is an accessible public health insurance program for NY residents who need family planning services.

--School-based health centers located at East HS, Franklin HS, Leadership Academy for Young Men, Edison and NE / NW College Prep.

--Monroe County Dept of Public Health STD/HIV Program (STI and HIV testing, prevention counseling, vaccinations, pregnancy testing).

--RCSD students receive a one half year health class in 11th grade (in most cases), that includes comprehensive sexuality education. RCSD students receive a one half year health class in 7th grade that addresses abstinence and contraception. These are the only health classes for most students.

--Three "Comprehensive Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Programs" (CAPP) funded by NYS Dept of Health serve youth in Rochester with sexuality education, youth development and media literacy.

--The LARC initiative educates clinicians and teachers and other adults who work with youth about the benefits and availability of long acting and reversible contraception.

--Rochester is fortunate to have high levels of collaboration between youth service providers, school system and local government re teen pregnancy prevention, with coordination provided by Metro Council for Teen Potential. In addition, Youth Services Quality Council (a membership group) and other organizations regularly offer free training to youth workers in cultural competency, social and emotional learning and trauma informed care.

--Condom availability policy in Rochester City School District high schools (nurse's office) and in City or Rochester Recreation Centers.

--After school programs and summer programs: School related clubs and teams, out of school clubs and teams, summer sports and summer youth employment programs.

--St. Joseph Villa and Hillside residential treatment programs.

--Family Talk workshop series (free for Rochester parents) that helps parents talk with children about sexuality topics. Workshop series has been well received for many years.

--Gay Alliance of Genesee Valley and MOCHA provide support and empowerment to GLBTQ youth and training to staff of youth serving organizations.

--Youth Leadership Clubs such as Youth Voice One Vision, SOAR youth, In-Control, Community Place CAPP Youth Leaders, and youth leadership groups in high schools. The Youth as Resource project provides funds to youth leaders to carry out community service projects.

--Teen parent services: The Nurse Family Partnership in Monroe County, SPCC, the YWCA and Pathways to Success are some of the organizations that offer services for teen parents and young adult parents.

SPCC's Teen Age Parent Support Services (TAPSS) serves about 50 teen parents and their 50-65 children each year. TAPSS prioritizes strengthening the teen parent / child relationship; improving parenting knowledge and skills through Parents As Teachers; increasing self-sufficiency through intensive educational and employment related programming including subsidized career exploration / work experience; and offers assistance with concrete needs. SPCC has maintained a lengthy waiting list; because of funding limits, the agency cannot serve all the young women requesting their help.

The YWCA provides support services for mothers at Edison Tech, East High School and Young Mothers Interim Health Academy. These services address basic needs including health and parenting skills. The YWCA also offers the Parents as Teachers- home visitation program. The focus is in on moving the young mothers towards graduation and self-sufficiency as well as helping the young mothers give their children the best possible start in life. Due to a lack of funding, the YWCA cannot offer these much needed supports to teen mothers at other Rochester high schools.

The Pathways to Success program provides assistance to teen parents and young adult parents to graduate high school and to succeed at Monroe Community college.

--Media: The daily newspaper, Democrat and Chronicle, regularly prints stories about teen birth and teen pregnancy trends. Local television stations are also interested in this content. Youth leadership groups and youth employment groups have produced numerous video public service announcements and video teleplays re teen birth, healthy and abusive relationships, LARC, parent youth communication, LGBT issues, STIs and HIV. These video messages are disseminated via the web, public access television, youth film fests and community meetings.

Social Media: Most groups that address youth sexual health maintain social media sites. Metro Council for Teen Potential, In-Control, Community Place CAPP, City CAPP (SOAR), Jordan Health and Highland Family Planning are on Facebook, with regular updates. Highland Family Planning frequently posts humorous and educational videos to Youtube. MCTP and Jordan Health have Twitter accounts.

Primary Population to be served

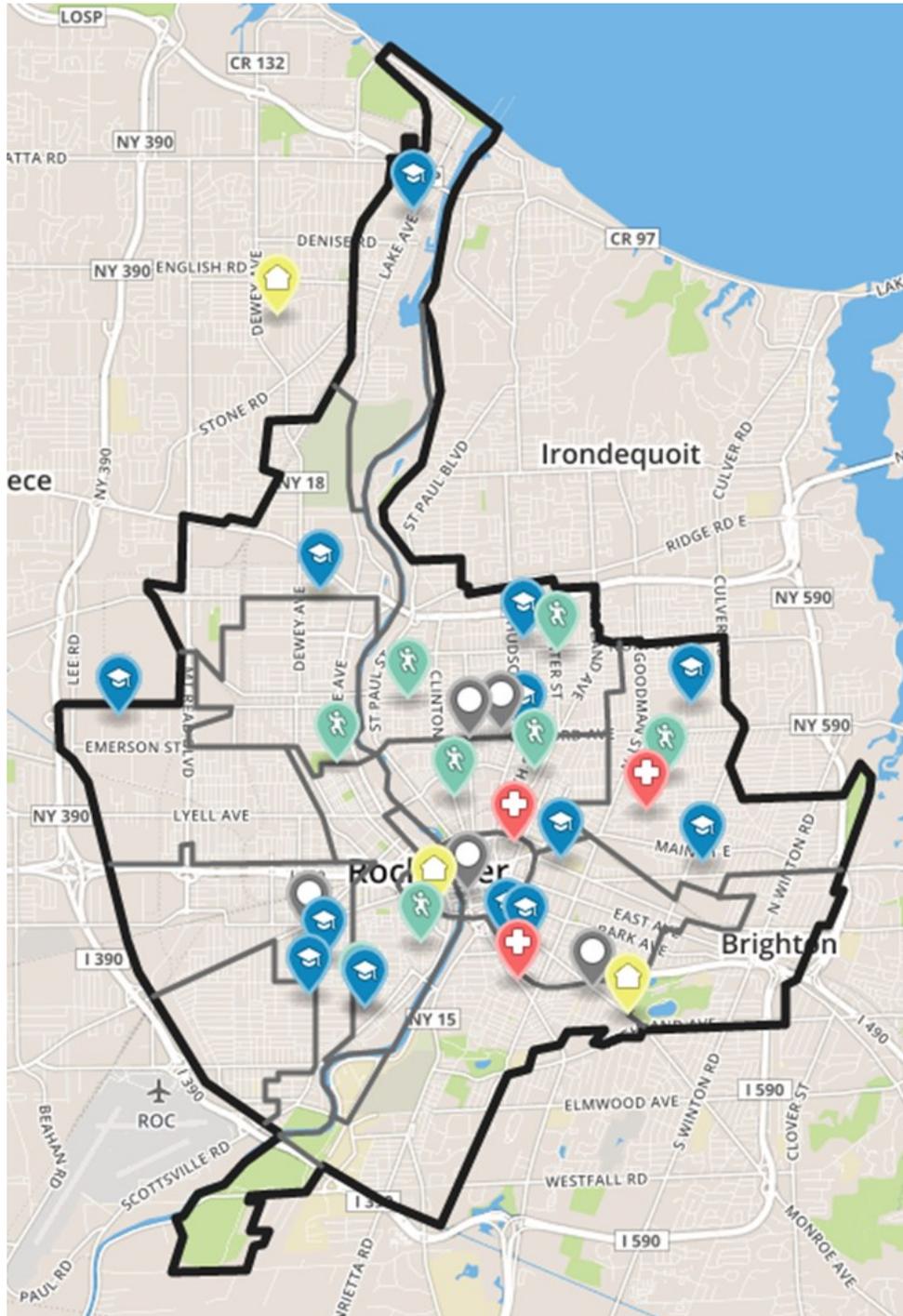
City of Rochester males and females, ages 11 to 19. At least 85% of participants will be African American or Latino.

Special attention will be paid to engaging youth:

- in City R Centers (Recreation Centers, which are primarily located in high poverty neighborhoods)
- in Rochester City School District high schools (which primarily serve low income youth and youth of color). In the YRBS 2015 (Rochester City School District) most students indicated that they feel a sense of belonging at their schools.
- in residential treatment centers for mental health / substance abuse issues;
- youth re-entering from juvenile justice system; homeless youth or youth in transitional housing;
- other vulnerable youth populations including GLBTQ youth and teen parents.

Youth Program Delivery Sites in Rochester, NY

Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program



Public High School



Youth Service Organization



Youth Residential Treatment Center or County Jail



City Recreation Center



Title X Health Center

Conclusion

Rochester has a high concentration of poverty, historically high teen pregnancy rates and high rates of teen STI's among our youth . Youth tell us that their some of their peers are not fully informed about the consequences of risky behaviors, and that there are multiple barriers that prevent youth from using health care and other resources. Services for teen parents are inadequate. Rochester adolescents report experiencing trauma including partner abuse, sexual abuse, violence in schools and neighborhoods, and living with family members with serious mental illness.

Rochester youth protective factors include youth feeling supported by their parents and their schools and youth access to health care. Many youth participate in after school or summer programs.

Our multi faceted approach to teen pregnancy prevention and healthy sexual behavior has had a significant impact on the teen pregnancy rate in the past five years. It is our intent to continue what has worked and expand our reach to all Rochester youth. We will engage more youth in programs that teach youth skills (communication, refusal skills) and foster positive attitudes related to:

- abstinence

- healthy relationships

- if sexually active, use of condoms and long acting and reversible contraception

- give youth more than one opportunity to engage with sexuality / life skills curricula

We will help youth to access reproductive health care and other services (education, mental health, career and work experience). We plan to increase community awareness of youth needs, to engage existing resources and to gain greater support from community leaders to address our priorities. We know from our work with youth that young people who are optimistic about their futures and who experience success will make healthier choices for themselves and their families.

For Additional Information

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