



# THEORY & INNOVATION SUPPORT HUB

## ACCELERATOR FOR TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

The Theory & Innovation Support Hub will develop, test, refine, package, and disseminate new interventions that incorporate theories of behavior change to reduce risky behaviors that improve health and opportunities for youth and reduce teen pregnancy.

### *HOW WILL THIS PROJECT ACCELERATE TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION INTERVENTIONS?*

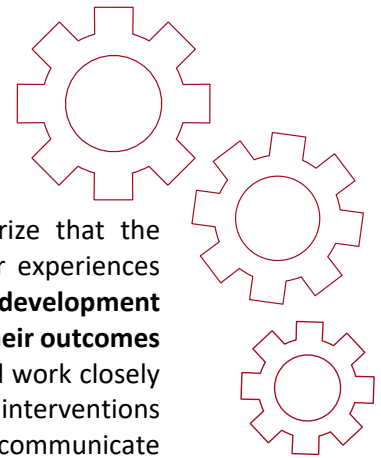
The Policy & Research Group (PRG) is recruiting intervention development teams with an idea or prototype for a new intervention. PRG will guide these teams through the intervention development process with the support of a diverse team of **subject matter experts**. Throughout the project, these experts will provide consultation to our teams on topics such as theories of behavior change, youth engagement, trauma-informed practices, medical accuracy, inclusivity, and age appropriateness. Over the course of (up to) 24 months, intervention development teams will work alongside other developers through a **supportive, cohort structure**. Teams will also have the opportunity to **run at least two pilot tests** of their interventions before they refine final packages and launch dissemination.

### *HOW ARE YOUTH AND TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED?*

**Youth ages 14 to 24 and individuals who work with youth will be involved in all aspects of the project.** From providing feedback as prototypes are developed and refined, to helping test the newly designed interventions, we believe stakeholder involvement is critical to innovation and the development of successful interventions. **We encourage interested youth and stakeholders to contact us to get involved!**

### *WHAT ROLE DOES THEORY PLAY IN THIS ACCELERATOR?*

We believe it is essential for intervention developers to be able to articulate *how* and *why* their prevention interventions are intended to work. To have a positive impact on youth, intervention developers must understand **theories of human behavior**, have a **clear set of outcomes of interest**, and a well-articulated map (i.e., a **logic model and/or theory of change** diagram) of how they theorize that the components of their intervention will lead to those outcomes. Based on our experiences rigorously evaluating prevention interventions, we have found that **this development structure increases the potential of interventions to be effective at achieving their outcomes of interest**. Therefore, from start to finish, intervention development teams will work closely with each other, subject matter experts, and research analysts to ensure their interventions have a strong theoretical foundation and teams have the tools to effectively communicate their theory.



### *WHO IS LEADING THIS PROJECT?*

PRG was awarded an *Adolescent Sexual Health Innovation Hubs (Teen Pregnancy Prevention Tier 2)* grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Population Affairs, to conduct this five-year project. **Learn more about PRG at [www.policyandresearch.com](http://www.policyandresearch.com).**

### *HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?*

Interested parties will be invited to have an informal 20-minute phone call to learn more about the accelerator and determine whether it is a good fit for their intervention. Intervention development teams will be selected in the spring/summer of 2024. **We look forward to hearing from you and learning about your intervention!**



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