



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention  
Division of Adolescent and School Health

September 2018

Dear Partners,

As students across the nation head back to school, we are reminded of the important role schools play in promoting the health and safety of young people. Just as schools are critical to preparing students academically and socially, they are also vital partners in helping young people adopt healthy behaviors and providing environments that support and protect them. On August 1<sup>st</sup>, DASH launched a new five-year cooperative agreement (PS18-1807), and next week we are pleased to be hosting this group of recipients to Atlanta for their kick-off meeting. This funding aims to improve the health and well-being of our nation's youth by working with education agencies and other organizations to support school-based efforts to prevent HIV, STD, teen pregnancy among middle and high school students. Moving forward, we are excited to continue our collaborative efforts to improve the health and academic achievement of youth. For more information about newly funded local education agencies and DASH, checkout our web site (<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth>) and follow us on Twitter (@CDC\_DASH).

In this issue of the *Partner Update*, I am happy to share with you a variety of resources as well as DASH participation at recent and upcoming meetings.

A special thank you to our partners who promoted the release of our YRBS 2017 data and the [YRBS Data Summary and Trends Report](#) in June. With your help we were able to increase awareness of this invaluable national data set and the accompanying report on adolescent and school health. Thank you!

With kind regards,

Kathleen A. Ethier, Ph.D.

Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention

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## What's New With DASH?

### Selected Resources

Schools play an important role in supporting student health and [academic performance](#) now and as they transition into adulthood. DASH provides a number of [Back to School](#) resources and tools.

- DASH released the fact sheet [How Schools Can Support HIV Testing among Adolescents](#) updated with new data from the [2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(YRBS\)](#). The fact sheet provides information on how schools can encourage students to get tested for HIV.
- DASH released new [success stories](#) highlighting the impact of DASH funded work around the country:
  - [Duval County Public Schools](#) (Florida) increased the number of school-based health centers and expanded access to health services such as HIV/STD testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, access to condoms, and health education.
  - Recognizing the importance of connecting with teens at high risk, the [San Francisco Unified School District](#) developed The Young Men's Health Groups program, which provides tailored health messages for African American and Latino youth.
  - The [New Mexico Public Education Department](#) mandated health education as a graduation requirement. Mandatory student health education has contributed to increased training and information about sexual behaviors, decreased risk of STDs, and other social, emotional, and physical risks.
- Dr. Kathleen Ethier recorded an update to the CDC Beyond the Data video, based on a 2015 CDC Public Health Grands Rounds session on adolescent health. This session titled [Adolescence: Preparing for Lifelong Health and Wellness](#) is a discussion between CDC's Dr. John Iskander and Dr. Ethier about adolescent health including the results of the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the progress being made in adolescent health, and the challenges that remain.

**Adolescent and School Health Resources** – Below are a few resources that have been shared by our national partners.

- National Association of School Nurses (NASN) - *2018 Back-to-School Interactive Health Office* (<https://www.nasn.org/nasn/nasn-resources/professional-topics/bts>)
- GLSEN – *Back to School* resource page (<https://www.glsen.org/back-school>)
- Human Rights Campaign (HRC) - *Back to School Resources 2018* (<http://www.welcomingschools.org/resources/school-tips/back-to-school-resources/>)
- Youth Engaged 4 Change – This newly redesigned website has content to inspire and empower young people to improve their lives and the world around them. (<https://engage.youth.gov/>)
- FEMA Youth Preparedness Resources ([www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness](http://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness))

### **Extra! Extra! Read All About It! Recent Publications**

- [Sexual risk behavior differences among sexual minority high school students in the U.S.—2015–2017](#) – This is the first analysis of sexual minority youth (SMY) subgroup

differences using pooled data from the 2015 and 2017 cycles of the national YRBS, a nationally-representative, cross-sectional, school-based survey assessing health behaviors among U.S. 9th–12th grade students.

- [Condom Availability Programs in Schools: A review of the literature](#) – This review synthesizes findings from the peer-reviewed evaluation literature on condom availability programs (CAPs) in secondary schools.
- [Variability in Condom Use Trends by Sexual Risk Behaviors: Findings from the 2003–2015 National Youth Risk Behavior Surveys](#) – This study examined variability in condom use trends by sexual risk behavior among US high school students.

## **DASH Around Town**

**August 1<sup>st</sup>:** Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) LGBT Policy Coordinating Committee meeting – Dr. Kathleen Ethier presented on sexual minority youth data from the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey during the committee’s August meeting. The HHS LGBT Policy Coordinating Committee is comprised of senior representatives from each division of HHS. This committee coordinates LGBT-related policies across the department and recommends future actions that HHS can take to improve the health and well-being of LGBT individuals.

**August 8<sup>th</sup>:** DASH participated in the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Twitter Chat, joining @ThePartnership for a discussion about teen drug use and how to talk to teens about drugs. There were 1,159 total tweets using the #NIDAteens hashtag throughout the day, yielding a potential 13 million impressions.

**August 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>:** Dr. Ethier and several DASH staff participated in the [2018 National STD Prevention Conference](#) held in Washington, DC.

- Dr. Ethier engaged with several key partners and moderated a plenary session titled, "Sex, Money and Power: Sex Trafficking; Sexual Harassment; Sexual Discrimination."
- DASH staff including Riley J. Steiner, Sanjana Pampati, Catherine N. Rasberry, and Nicole Liddon presented an oral presentation titled, "Online Information about Confidential Sexual Health Services for Adolescents: A Content Analysis of Health Promotion Websites."
- DASH staff including Riley Steiner, Catherine Lesesne, Christopher Harper, and Kathleen Ethier presented a poster titled, "Parental Protective Factors During Adolescence and STI-related Outcomes in Adulthood: Are There Long-Term Effects?"
- DASH staff including Sanjana Pampati, MPH, Riley J. Steiner, MPH, Nicole Liddon, PhD, Susan Hocevar Adkins, MD presented a poster titled, "Provider and clinic factors influencing the implementation of STI/HIV-related services: A narrative review."
- DASH’s Malaika Washington presented a poster titled, "Access Matters: Successful Collaborations between Education Agencies and Health Departments."

**August 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>:** DASH staff attended a training for new YRBS coordinators hosted by Westat.

## **On The Horizon**

**October 2018:** DASH's 30th Anniversary

**October 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>:** Bill Potts-Datema, chief of DASH's Program Development and Services Branch will present on October 6<sup>th</sup> at the [American School Health Association annual conference](#) in Indianapolis, Indiana alongside Holly Hunt, chief of the CDC's School Health Branch in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. He will be providing an overview of DASH's new PS18-1807 cooperative agreement and funded recipients as well as addressing the closeout of PS13-1308 and PS16-1603 and selected recipient accomplishments. Additionally, DASH's Sherry Everett Jones will be presenting on "Tobacco Product and Marijuana Use among Students with Asthma, 2003-2017," and DASH's Nancy Brener will be giving an oral presentation on school health research.

**October 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>:** DASH's Nancy Brener will join an expert panel to review the Department of Education School Survey on Crime and Safety methodology.

### **Upcoming Health Observances**

- October 2018 – National Substance Abuse Prevention Month
- October 2018 – National Bullying Prevention Month
- October 16-18, 2018 – National Health Education Week

For previous *Partner Updates*, please visit the School Health Policy web page: [https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/about/partner\\_updates.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/about/partner_updates.htm).

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