



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

August 2019

Dear Partners,

Back-to-school season brings a lot of excitement in DASH. As millions of students head back to school, we are reminded of the influence that schools can have in the daily lives of youth around the nation. Throughout August and September, DASH will be continuing to remind the public, public health professionals, and stakeholders about the important role schools play in promoting adolescent health.

We will be specifically highlighting the powerful impact that school and family connectedness can have on adolescents' health outcomes later in life. Schools can create environments that are safe, and provide a sense of being cared for, supported, and belonging. Families can provide these feelings of care and support at home, and help to influence healthy behaviors in adolescents. DASH is committed to establishing safe and supportive environments for all youth. I thank you for the commitment you have also shown in creating environments where all youth can thrive.

Make sure to follow DASH on Twitter ([@CDC_DASH](https://twitter.com/CDC_DASH)), if you do not already, to stay up-to-date on all of our back-to-school promotion and resources.

Best,

Kathleen

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

What's New With DASH?

CDC/DASH Updates and Resources

- **New Webpage on Adolescent Connectedness:** [This webpage](#) describes the positive, lasting effects that school and family connectedness can have on adolescents' health and well-being, and actionable recommendations for promoting connectedness among youth.
- **Cooperative Agreement Update:** Funding for the second year of CDC-DASH's five-year cooperative agreement ([PS18-1807](#)) began on August 1st. This cooperative agreement supports education and health agencies for school-based HIV/STD prevention and surveillance. It also supports non-governmental organizations to provide technical assistance to these agencies. More information about implementing the school-based prevention model can be found in the [PS18-1807 Program Guidance](#).
- **Back-to-School:** [Nine CDC Health Hacks for Back-to-School Success](#) provides tips and resources for parents and schools to help children and teens stay healthy.
- **New Webpage for the STI Federal Action Plan:** [This HHS webpage](#) is the leading source of information on the development of the STI Federal Action Plan and will house the plan, information about its implementation and progress towards goals after it is released.

Recent Publications with DASH Authors

[Confidentiality Matters but How Do We Improve Implementation in Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Care?](#)

[Key factors influencing comfort in delivering and receiving sexual health education: Middle school student and teacher perspectives](#)

[Adolescent Connectedness and Adult Health Outcomes](#)

DASH Around Town

Connect with DASH staff at these upcoming events and meetings.

- **September 14:** Dr. Michelle Johns is presenting an oral session titled "Transgender Youth, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Health Care Acceptability" at the [37th Gay and Lesbian Medical Association Annual Conference on LGBTQ Health](#).
- **September 16-17:** Dr. Kathleen Ethier is presenting a plenary session at the [1st Annual Southern Symposium on Solutions to End Youth Homelessness](#).
- **October 2-4:** Several DASH staff will be presenting at the [2019 School Health Conference](#).
 - Carmen Ashley is presenting "School-Based Strategies to Reduce Adolescent High-Risk Behaviors" co-authored by Dr. Kathleen Ethier.
 - Dr. Catherine Rasberry is presenting "Facilitating sexual health service use through a school-distributed resources guide" co-authored by Drs. Susan Hocevar Adkins and Nicole Liddon, Valerie Sims, and colleagues from ICF and Broward County Public Schools.
 - Leigh Szucs is presenting "Reducing risk: Influence of high school sexual health education" co-authored by Drs. Catherine Rasberry and Terry Parker, and colleagues from ICF and Fort Worth Independent School District.
 - Dr. Nicole Liddon is presenting "School-wide STD screening events; Perspectives from students and staff" co-authored by Dr. Terry Parker, and colleagues from ICF, DC Public Schools, and DC Health.
 - Dr. Sherry Everett Jones is presenting "School-Level Poverty and Associated Student-Level Health Risks."
 - Dr. Nancy Brener is presenting "School Health Research: 2019 Updates from CDC"

- Jemekia Thornton is presenting “Youth Online: A web-based approach to sharing adolescent health-risk behavior data.”
- **October 19-21:** Sanjana Pampati and Drs. Riley Steiner and Nicole Liddon are presenting “Long-acting reversible contraception and implications for condom use: A systematic review and meta-analysis” at the [Society of Family Planning Annual Meeting](#).

Other News

Partner Updates and Resources

- The Trevor Project released the inaugural [National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health](#), the largest survey of LGBTQ youth mental health ever conducted.
- The National Association of School Nurses released a [new webinar](#) on HIV prevention strategies for health care providers who treat adolescents at risk.
- The National Coalition of STD Directors will be hosting [STD Engage 2019](#) from November 19-22 in Alexandria, VA.

Upcoming Health Observances

- September is Suicide Prevention Month and Sexual Health Month
- October is National Bullying Prevention Month and National Substance Abuse Prevention Month
- October 5 is World Teachers’ Day

For previous *DASH Partner Updates*, please visit the School Health Policy web page:

https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/about/partner_updates.htm.

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