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Visit us at www.teenparentcollaborative.org
or contact us at teenparentcollaborative@gmail.com

The Teen Parent Collaborative

is a unified community of organizations that strives to build capacity and connection for our members and advocate for teen parents and their children.

Register Now for the TPC's 2nd Annual Conference!

This exciting event will take place Saturday, February 29th at the Courtyard Marriott at 1475 S. Colorado Boulevard in Denver. Our keynote speaker will be *Valerie Sedivy, Ph.D, Director of Capacity Building with the Healthy Teen Network*. She will discuss evidence-based approaches for successful co-parenting. Other speakers will discuss buffering against toxic stress and the resiliency of teen parents, strategies for engaging teen fathers, understanding substance use with pregnant and parenting teens, and providing culturally competent mental health services! **Register today**, registration is only \$35 and includes fantastic speakers, your lunch, a networking happy hour, and certificate documenting 6 hours of professional development. Hotel reservations can be made through the TPC room block on the registration page. ***Don't miss this exciting opportunity to network with your colleagues and get valuable professional development!***

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**2ND ANNUAL
TPC CONFERENCE**
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020

The **Teen Parent Collaborative's 2nd Annual Conference** will provide a forum for practitioners, researchers, policymakers, advocates, and stakeholders working with pregnant and parenting teens to share expertise, network, and gain professional knowledge to improve practice and service delivery. Please join us for keynote, **Valerie Sedivy, Ph.D, Director of Capacity Building and Evaluation with the Healthy Teen Network**, along with other experts and leaders in the field, to learn more about the different ways we can empower all pregnant and parenting teens to thrive. Conference topics will include sessions on research-based strategies for successful co-parenting, engaging teen fathers, three-generation approaches to service delivery, and much more. **Early bird cost to attend the conference is \$25 if registered by January 31st, \$35 thereafter.** Register through the TPC website (<https://teenparentcollaborative.org/tpc-annual-conference-registration>) and also reserve a room in our dedicated room block. **Conference scholarships are available**, please email us at teenparentcollaborative@gmail.com for information. **Travel stipends are also available to those traveling from outside the Denver metro area.**

**2nd Annual
TPC Conference**
February 29, 2020
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Courtyard Marriott
1475 S. Colorado Blvd, Denver

**COLORADO
TPC
TEEN PARENT COLLABORATIVE**

WWW.TEENPARENTCOLLABORATIVE.ORG

Conference Scholarships AVAILABLE

*Registration scholarships are available to support people's professional development to work with and support pregnant and parenting teens. We also have travel scholarships available for those traveling from outside the Denver-metro area, please **email us** for more information.*

SAVE THE DATE: The 2020 TPC Meeting Schedule is set!

Mark your calendars and join us for quarterly meetings! These meetings are an opportunity for our membership to come together and discuss upcoming events, workshop problems of practice, engage in professional development, and work towards common solutions for shared problems. There is always time to network with colleagues, and we get an inside glimpse into the hosting agency's program.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)***Spring Member Meeting******Thursday, April 9, 2020, 2:00 - 4:30***

*Location: Jefferson County Adolescent Pregnancy & Parenting Program (JCAPPP)
McLain High School*

Summer Member Meeting***Thursday, September 10, 2020, 2:00 - 4:30******Location TBD******Winter Member Meeting******Thursday, December 3, 2020, 2:00 - 4:30******Location TBD***

Don't miss these exciting opportunities to network with your colleagues and get valuable professional development!

TPC Advocacy Committee Begins Work as the 2020 session gets underway

The General Assembly convened the 2020 legislative session on January 8, 2020. Both the House and Senate leadership and the Governor spent the opening days highlighting the things they hope to accomplish before the session adjourns on May 6th.

Democrats outlined a wide-range of priorities in their opening addresses including school funding, school safety, addressing the problem of teen suicide, climate change, health care costs, gun safety, death penalty repeal, increasing mental health supports available in Colorado, paid family leave, retirement security, lowering prescription drug costs, and maintenance and improvements to our transportation infrastructure.

Republican priorities outlined at the start of the session included standing up to overreach of state government, providing more school choice to address school performance problems, addressing problems with teacher pay, pushing back against over-regulation of the oil and gas industry, protection of gun rights, push back against policies put forth by climate alarmists, opposition to safe injection sites, and legislation that addresses improvements to our roads and bridges.

Priorities for the Governor include paid family leave, a public option for health insurance, climate change and the desire to see Colorado seize the economic benefits associated with building a green economy, creation of bipartisan study

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for this session, pushing to expand the Colorado preschool program to meet 50 percent of those eligible (an increase of 6,000 slots). The cost of this expansion is currently estimated to be \$27.6 million. The Governor has also indicated that he intends to push for universal preschool for 4-year-olds by the end of his first term.

In the four weeks since the start of the session, over 400 bills have been introduced. Among these, several are of interest to the TPC including measures focused on expanding behavioral health resources in schools and in early childhood settings, supports for the ECE workforce, cost of living adjustments to public assistance payments under the Colorado Works Program, college credit for work experience, and expansion of home visiting services. The TPC will also be monitoring the introduction of legislation to establish a paid family leave program. Paid family and medical leave would provide wage replacement and job protection to Coloradans who need to take time off to care for their own medical needs or to care for a family member. This is a priority for both the Democrats in the General Assembly and for the Governor. As of yet, no legislation has been introduced, but a bill is expected this session. The 2020 session will mark the sixth year that attempts have been made to establish a program. Last year's attempt—SB19-188—ultimately shifted from program development to a task force study charged with providing recommendations on program structure and implementation.

In the past, opposition from the business community and concerns over the program's cost have prevented it from becoming a reality. These concerns will have to be balanced against providing protections for employees, though the details of the program are still unclear. Democrats are currently working to develop a proposal for a program focused on private employees that would be mandated by the state. Meanwhile, a program for state employees that has been proposed by Governor Polis has recently run into roadblocks as the Joint Budget Committee voted against funding the proposal based on the rationale that the Governor lacks statutory authority to mandate the program.

The FAMLI Task Force issued their analysis and recommendations on January 8. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

The TPC Advocacy Committee will be conducting bi-monthly conference calls from 1:00 – 2:00 pm during the legislative session. The TPC advocates on legislation and policies that impact teen parents and their children on a variety of topics including education and school finance, income supports, human services, child care, early childhood education, health care, and behavioral health issues. All members of the TPC network are invited to participate. **Please email us** with your questions.

Advocacy Committee Details - JOIN US:

Next Meeting: February 18, 2020 @ 1:00 pm

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Meetings are bi-weekly

Professional Practice & Program Highlight:

FAMILIA ADELANTE

The December TPC member meeting included a presentation by Julissa Soto, Director of Statewide Programs with Servicios de la Raza,

Familia Adelante, a program of Servicios de la Raza, provides a 12-week evidence-based program focused on prevention and early intervention tailored for at-risk Latino youth ages 10-17. Services are offered throughout Northwest Aurora, Montbello, Green Valley Ranch and Estes Park; Weld, Larimer and Milliken counties; as well as Southern Colorado and the Western Slope. Youth and their families are provided with techniques for overcoming risk factors and stressors, ultimately strengthening ties to social institutions. Families learn about acculturative stress, substance abuse prevention, sex education, HIV risks, and education through a cultural lens.

Group discussions aim to increase parents' understanding of their role in protecting their adolescent from risky behaviors, such as substance use and unsafe sexual behavior, and to facilitate parental investment in the adolescent's world.

For more information, see this short [video](#) or contact Julissa at JulissaS@serviciosdelaraza.org



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