

Proclamation

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MAY 2021 THE NATIONAL MONTH TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY

WHEREAS, in Palm Beach County during 2020, there were 505 births to teen mothers ages 15-19, the fewest in at least six years, and during that same year, about one-eighth (62) of those births were to teen mothers who already had at least one child, according to provisional early data; and

WHEREAS, the overall teen birth rate of 12.9 per 1,000 girls in Palm Beach County remains lower than the overall teen birth rate (14.9 per 1,000) in the state; and

WHEREAS, the rate (15.4) for births to Black teen mothers ages 15-19 in Palm Beach County remains higher than the rate (12.5) for White teen mothers, although both Black and White rates are the lowest in the past eight years; and

WHEREAS, the Black teen birth rate dropped by 22.2 percent from 2019 while the White teen birth rate dropped by 7.4 percent from 2019, resulting in the smallest racial disparity of teen birth rates overall in the county (1.23) in the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, the overall repeat birth percentage (12.2 percent) in Palm Beach County dropped to the lowest percentage in at least eight years, and it remains lower than the overall percentage (13.4 percent) in the state; and

WHEREAS, children of teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely and at low birthweight; and

WHEREAS, only about half of teen mothers earn a high school diploma by age 22, compared to 90 percent of women without a teen birth, and less than 2 percent of mothers who have children before 18 have a college degree by age 30. Teen births is closely linked to a number of critical social issues such as poverty, educational attainment, involvement in criminal justice and child welfare systems, and more; and

WHEREAS, nearly all teens and adults say that reducing teen births is a very effective way to reduce the high school dropout rate and improve academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, while the teen birth rate in Palm Beach County in 2020 remained the lowest rate in more than 20 years and more than 45 percent lower than 2011, the vast majority of both teens and adults agree that schools, medical providers, faith-based and community organizations should do more to prevent teen pregnancy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY that the following will be observed:

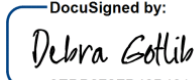
May 2021 – Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Council Member Debra Robinson, M.D., who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kathleen Kroll, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

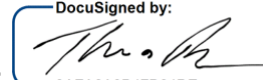
Thomas Bean	YES
Elisa Cramer	Virtual
Donald E. Fennoy, II Ed.D.	ABSENT
Vincent Goodman	YES
Kathleen Kroll	YES
Jose Luis Rodriguez, Esq.	ABSENT
Maria Sachs	Virtual
Debra Robinson, M.D.	YES
Thomas P. Weber	YES

The Chairman thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of May, 2021.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

DocuSigned by:

BY: 0E0B272FD49B401...
Debra E. Gotlib
Attorney for Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

DocuSigned by:

BY: 9AFA6A0B47B64DE...
Thomas Bean, Chair

DocuSigned by:

BY: EEFEC04CB70E497...
Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer