



Family Services, Inc.

An affiliate of Sheppard & Emch Pratt Foundation

For Immediate Release

Contact: Wendy Enderson 301-840-3208; enderonw@fs-inc.org

New Satellite Clinic Responds to Rise in Teen and Young Adult Pregnancies

Despite impressive declines over the past decade, the United States still has the highest rates of teen pregnancy and births reported today. Over 750,000 teen pregnancies occur each year, at an enormous cost to the United States of at least \$7 billion. Montgomery County reported the average annual increase in the birthrate from 2004-2007 among females age 15-19 was 8.2 percent. Births among Hispanic females 18-19 increased by over 79 percent in the past decade. The urgency to provide reproductive and sexual health care has reached a critical level.

In response to the expressed need for affordable, bilingual reproductive health services in the Gaithersburg community, Teen And Young Adult (TAYA) Health Connection has coordinated with Family Services, Inc. to open a satellite clinic at its offices located at 602 East Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877.

TAYA provides confidential, comprehensive, and compassionate health care to teen, parents, and young adults. The TAYA satellite clinic in Gaithersburg provides bilingual services, including gynecological care (including Pap smears); all birth control methods; testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs); and pregnancy testing and counseling; as well as bilingual educational presentations concerning these topics.

TAYA has been serving clients, ages 12-35, from the DC metropolitan area for almost 10 years from its office located in Silver Spring, MD. Its goals are to encourage teenagers and young adults to take sex and pregnancy seriously, to stress the importance of personal responsibility and respectful relationships, and to make available extensive information about contraception.

Clients that fall within TAYA's required age range, including those that are uninsured and undocumented, are welcome at the clinic. Services are based on a sliding fee scale to make them affordable for people at all income levels. Currently, TAYA's satellite clinic is open two Tuesdays every month; it hopes to expand its hours in the near future to meet the growing needs of the community.

For more information about the services provided at the satellite clinic, or to schedule an appointment please contact 301-565-0914 ext. 101 or visit www.connectwithteens.com.

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