



No Kidding Ohio

Straight Talk from Teen Parents

Our Mission

- The mission of No Kidding Ohio is to educate youth about the rights, responsibilities, and realities of teen parenting so that they can make informed decisions on issues related to parenting and relationship commitment, while building life and leadership skills among the teen parents who serve as peer educators.
- The goal of the program is to promote responsible parenting while encouraging young people to delay parenting until they are financially and emotionally stable and in a committed relationship.

Need for the Program

- Ohio's teen pregnancy rate is the 21st highest in the nation costing Ohio taxpayers (federal, state, and local) more than \$340 million annually.
- Many of these young parents do not know the legal, financial, and emotional implications of unwed parenthood; the importance of establishing legal fatherhood; how to interact with the child support system; or what is really involved in raising a child.

Ohio Academic Content Standards

The No Kidding Ohio curriculum meets the following academic content standards within Family and Consumer Sciences;

- **Standard 1-Career Development**

- Outcome 1.1- Personal and Professional Skills
- Outcome 1.2- Career Exploration
- Outcome 1.3-Leadership and Communication
- Outcome 1.5-Global Environment

- **Standard 2-Family Development**

- Outcome 2.1-Family Units
- Outcome 2.2-Parenting Roles and Responsibilities
- Outcome 2.3-Parenting Styles
- Outcome 2.4-Prenatal Care
- Outcome 2.6-Infant Care

- **Standard 4-Personal Finance and Consumerism**

- Outcome 4.1-Financial Goals

- **Standard 5-Health and Wellness**

- Outcome 5.1-Lifespan Wellness
- Outcome 5.5-Human Sexuality

Recruitment of Peer Educators and School Presentation Sites

- Recruitment of Peer Educators
 - In recruiting youth, we seek out peer educator recommendations from community partner agencies.
- Recruiting School Presentation Sites
 - In recruiting presentation sites, letters are sent out to superintendents, principals, and curriculum directors at the beginning of each school year.

NKO School Presentations

- NKO curriculum consists of 3 sessions that are presented over a 3 day timeframe.
- Each session addresses different topics and has activities to promote classroom involvement.

Session 1

- In session 1, the peer educators (PE's) tell their personal stories and share how their lives have changed since becoming teen parents.
 - Objectives:
 - Students identify with the presenters as peers
 - Students understand several issues that teenage parents face
 - Students state how their own lives would be affected by having a child
- In this session, note cards are passed out to the students before the PE's tell their stories. The students write down any questions that they have and the PE's answer these questions. This allows for anonymous questions, so the students are able to ask tough questions without feeling singled out.

Session 2

- In session 2, PE's talk about the roles fathers play, establishing paternity, and the benefits to establishing paternity.
 - Objectives:
 - Students identify legal complications for unwed parents.
 - Students understand the different roles a man can play in a child's life.
 - Students understand what paternity is and the different ways to establish paternity.
 - Students gain knowledge of the benefits to the mother, father, and child when paternity is established.

Session 2 Continued

- The fatherhood portion of the NKO curriculum shows the students the importance of having a father in a child's life.
 - Session 2
 - At the end of session 2, the PE's show a video about the statistics of fatherlessness. They discuss the video with the class and also discuss their own childhood.
 - At the beginning of session 3, the PE's do a fatherhood activity that gives the students knowledge about fathers.

Session 3

- In session 3, the PE's talk about fatherhood, the cost of babies, and child support.
 - Objectives:
 - Students gain knowledge about the prices of major baby items (diapers, car seat, daycare, etc.)
 - Students understand that financial burdens are greater for teen parents than for non-parenting teens
 - Students learn facts about child support and the importance of both parents supporting a child
 - Students gain knowledge about the importance of fatherhood

Impact of Program

- NKO recruits young mothers and fathers to be peer educators this allows them to be employed and to gain valuable knowledge through skills 4 success hours.
- NKO allows young males (middle and high school students) to hear about young parenthood from actual teen fathers. This has a huge impact, many of the young men see single mothers and hear about their experiences, yet it is rare for them to get the information from a young father.

Pre/Post Assessments

- Before we arrive at the presentation sites, the teachers are asked to pass out a pre-assessment to the students. This assessment has questions about everything we cover over the 3 day presentation. They are then given a post-assessment at the end of session 3 with the same questions. We calculate the scores of the assessments to see how much information is being retained by the students.

Pre/Post Assessment Results Fairfield County 2019-2020 School Year

Name Of Schools Visited	Number Of Students	Pre-Assessment	Post- Assessment
Thomas Ewing Junior High	98	56%	77%
General Sherman Junior High	65	52%	68%
Total	163	54%	72.5%

Schools scheduled but were cancelled due to COVID-19 in Spring 2020

Name Of Schools Visited	Number Of Students	Pre-Assessment	Post- Assessment
Heath Middle School			
Ridgeview Junior High School			
Miller Junior High School			

SERVED 1 COUNTY (Fairfield)

SERVED 3 COUNTIES (Fairfield, Hamilton & Licking)

Pre/Post Assessment Results Fairfield County 2020-2021 School Year

Name Of Schools Visited	Number Of Students	Pre-Assessment	Post-Assessment
Heath Middle School	87	64%	76%
Thomas Ewing Jr. High School	59	51%	72%
Thomas Ewing Jr. High School	80	60%	79%
Total	226	58.3%	75.6%

2021 Current, Recently Completed, & Upcoming Presentations

Heath Middle School- May 11-13

Clark Montessori High School – May 4/May 6

Pleasant Run Middle School – Dates TBD

Pre/Post Assessment Results Cuyahoga County 2020-2021 School Year

Name Of Schools Visited	Number Of Students	Pre-Assessment	Post-Assessment
Warrensville Hts Middle School			
Seventh Grade	80	61%	82.5%
Eighth Grade	83	45%	74%
Total	163	53%	78.3%

Upcoming Presentations for 2021-2022 School Year

Garfield Hts Middle School			
Maple Hts Middle School			

SERVING COUNTY CUYAHOGA

Peer Educator- Zeakia



Peer Educator- Martaevion



Peer Educator - Stephen Claiborne



Peer Educator

Brief introduction: 19 year old female - 1 year old son (Princeton) - lives with Mother - Senior in High school.

Barriers/challenges: Completing High School, Working with family business, STNA training schedule Academy for Urban Scholars (AUS), co-parenting/shared custody/parenting time order - Time management - Fear of public speaking.

Skills for Success: On track to complete High School Diploma, STNA Certified, Successful presentations, Confident with public speaking.

Where is She now: Works part-time with Family Business, Actively pursuing STNA License.

Peer Educator

Brief introduction: 17 years old- 1 year old child- did not live with parents- involved with juvenile court

Barriers/challenges: transportation- government assistance- no high school diploma-issues with child's father

Skills for Success: drivers education class- obtained drivers license- obtained high school diploma- completed First Five Years parenting class

Where are they now: employed full time in healthcare- own transportation and valid drivers' license

Peer Educator

Brief introduction: 23 year old male - 8 month old son (Avion Junior) - Shared residential space - High School Graduate .

Barriers/challenges: Time Management, Parenting time order, Full-Time employment/Entrepreneurship

Skills for Success: Training to complete successful presentations, Increasing confidence with public speaking, Time-management, Network building.

Where is He now: Utilizing tools to manage time, listing daily activities and priorities. Increasing clear, coherent, concrete communication skills. Building networking skills.

What Teachers/Students Think About Our Program

"Absolutely I would recommend this program to other teachers. I would tell them that every student in Ohio should go through this program".- **Heath Middle School Health Teacher**

"It makes real life connections with the students and informs them of what could happen if they were to become a teen parent.' **Thomas Ewing Middle School Health Teacher**

"Regardless of your beliefs teens are going to have sex. It is important that they understand the possible outcomes. It's important that kids see why it is important to wait until you are an adult to make adult decisions. Otherwise, you are forced to make adult decisions that you may not be ready to handle."- **Heath High School Health Teacher**

"Thank you for speaking out about something so personal & answering my questions. We need more people like you."- **Thomas Ewing 8th grader**

"Thank you for teaching me." **Thomas Ewing 8th grader**

What Teachers/Students Think About Our Program

"Thank you for the opportunity to bring the No Kidding Ohio curriculum to our scholars at Warrensville City School District. We look forward to the next No Kidding Ohio-Cleveland "Straight Talk" presentation." **Mrs. T. Clark - Warrensville Middle School Counselor**

"Mr. Stephen, your story has really made an impact on me, I am hoping you can return next week to present to us again."

"I'd like to thank you Mimi, for being so open and honest with us, speaking out to us about some of your personal trials."
- 2 Warrensville Middle School Students

"Thank you for the presentation, this is a great program. we look forward to you presenting again to our 8th graders", - **Mr. Jacob Burko - Warrensville Middle School Teacher.**

In Conclusion

We have found that the program has had an impact on the participants in the program, the students at the schools we visited and the communities around us.

This program has helped teenagers realize the challenges of parenting, especially at a young age and give teenagers a chance to hear about parenting from a peer that is already in that situation.

Thank you for your time