

[www.teenworks.biz](http://www.teenworks.biz)

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Service area: East Central Ohio



**Mission Statement:** 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.

**Goals:**

To promote responsible parenting while encouraging young people to delay parenting until they are financially and emotionally stable and in a committed relationship.

To educate youth and the general public about the rights, responsibilities, and realities of teen parenthood, thereby promoting informed decision-making on issues related to pregnancy and relationship commitment.

To empower teen parents to provide informed guidance to their peers and the public through meaningful work experience, thereby promoting lifelong habits of individual and social responsibility.

*No Kidding Ohio: Straight Talk from Teen Parents* is a powerful, proven approach to educating youth about the rights, responsibilities, and realities of teen parenting. NKO is a peer to peer educating program for both non-parenting and parenting groups of middle and high school aged youth.

The NKO curriculum, which was adapted from its predecessor in Texas, is designed to be presented in 3 sessions over the course of the three 45-60-minute class periods.

Each NKO session covers topics related to young parenting for both mothers and fathers.

**Session I:** Telling My Story- the peer educators share their personal stories of becoming a teen parent.

**Session 2:** Establishing Paternity and Fatherhood- covers the pathways to establishing paternity, the benefits to establishing paternity and fatherhood in America.

**Session 3:** Child Support and Money Matters- provides a brief overview of the child support system and how much money babies really cost.

**Student Quotes:**

“Dear Liz, your story has really made an impact on me, I am so glad you’re able to help others by sharing your story.”- Canal Winchester High School Student

“I’d like to thank you for speaking out to us about something so personal.”- Thomas Ewing Middle School Student

**Teacher Quotes:**

“Real life- Not, I told you so.”- Heath Middle School Teacher

“Real stuff kids need to be aware of when making life choices.”- Fairfield Christian Academy Teacher