



## NM GRADS Presentation for LESC September 22, 2014 , Hobbs, NM



### Program History

The New Mexico Graduation Reality And Dual-role Skills (NM GRADS) System provides statewide structural support for expectant and parenting teens (both male and female), including in-school, for credit course work. In 1989, New Mexico was the first state to replicate the Ohio GRADS instructional program starting with four high schools and is currently in 27 high schools across the state. The primary focus of NM GRADS is to provide an in-school program to actively and directly address barriers of expectant and parenting teens. The GRADS curriculum consists of 10 competencies matched to resources provided to GRADS teachers. NM GRADS is aligning GRADS competencies to the Common Core State Standards. The NM GRADS statewide system provides professional development, valuable school and community resources, on-site annual reviews, and technical assistance to ensure students' needs are being addressed and assure local program compliance.

### NM GRADS System

- Facilitates graduation and the pursuit of higher education and/or employment.
- Ensures sufficient case management for healthy babies and families.
- Promotes healthy multi-generational parenting skills.
- Facilitates leadership, self-sufficiency and good citizenship as contributing members of society.
- Educates students on ways to reduce risk-taking behaviors for their entire family.

### NM GRADS System Goals

- Reduce repeat pregnancies.
- Retain students through graduation.
- Prepare students for work and careers.
- Develop positive parenting skills.
- Develop skills for healthy relationships.
- Foster a balance of work and family roles.
- Reduce the number of low birth-weight babies.
- Demonstrate positive health care practices.
- Provide access to safe competent child care.
- Provide information to make sure teen parents have access to equal education as mandated by Title IX.

### GRADS System Activities Supported by NM Legislative Funding:

- Recruit pregnancy and parenting related dropouts.
- Identify and remove barriers for educational success.
- Start-up costs for new sites (as funding allows). With the help of PED, sites are partially determined by needs data state wide.
- Child Development Center start-up costs at new sites (as funding allows) and annual allotments to help sustain existing on-site (or in close proximity) Child Development Centers.
- Extended funding for GRADS sites (enables GRADS teachers to have a second planning period and 5-10 day extended contract during the summer) to allow adequate time for case management and individual student attention to facilitate program success.

- Funding to support the statewide program administration and professional development for 27 sites in 25 public school districts.
- Up-to-date resources and materials to match the GRADS ten competencies.
- State-wide support for Youth Development Component.

### Funding and Participant History

Year	Funding Source	Entity	Amount	Purpose	Students Served	Drop-outs Recruited	Graduates
1989-90	Carl Perkins	SDE	\$ 102,500	Instructional Funding	141	31	31
1990-91	Carl Perkins	SDE	\$ 122,230	Instructional Funding	167	32	49
1991-92	Carl Perkins	SDE	\$ 185,000	Instructional Funding	276	55	53
1992-93	Carl Perkins	SDE	\$ 254,863	Instructional Funding	397	88	60
1993-94	Carl Perkins	SDE	\$ 260,000	Instructional Funding	426	120	100
1994-95	Carl Perkins	SDE	\$ 280,000	Instructional Funding	559	129	161
1995-96	Carl Perkins State Appropriation State Appropriation Teen Pregnancy Prevention Office of Child Development**	SDE SDE SDE DOH CYFD	\$ 262,141 \$ 231,655 \$ 119,449 \$ 70,997 \$ 43,490	Instructional Funding Instructional Funding Child Care Child Care Child Care	687	171	178
1996-97	Carl Perkins Teen Parent Services State Appropriation Teen Pregnancy Prevention Office of Child Development**	SDE CYFD SDE DOH CYFD	\$ 320,890 \$ 154,679 \$ 23,000 \$ 30,999 \$ 28,505	Instructional Funding Child Care Child Care Child Care Child Care	615	197	192
1997-98	Carl Perkins Carl Perkins Teen Parent Services Teen Pregnancy Prevention	SDE SDE CYFD DOH	\$ 510,414 \$ 49,000 \$ 143,380 \$ 40,000	Instructional Funding Child Care Child Care Child Care	643	367	195
1998-99	Carl Perkins State Appropriation Carl Perkins Teen Parent Services State Appropriation Office of Child Development**	SDE SDE SDE CYFD SDE CYFD	\$ 430,000 \$ 200,000 \$ 6,000 \$ 214,000 \$ 118,000 \$ 26,500	Instructional Funding Instructional Funding Child Care Child Care Child Care Child Care	842	247	210
1999-00	State Appropriation Carl Perkins Teen Parent Services Carl Perkins Office of Child Development**	SDE SDE CYFD SDE CYFD	\$ 500,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 230,000 \$ 98,000 \$ 53,000	Instructional Funding Instructional Funding Child Care Career Development Child Care	898	255	245
2000-01	TANF Teen Parent Services Carl Perkins Office of Child Development**	HSD CYFD SDE CYFD	\$ 625,000 \$ 240,000 \$ 75,000 ***	Instructional Funding Child Care Career Development Child Care	868	221	211
2001-02	TANF Teen Parent Services Carl Perkins <i>Office of Child Development</i>	HSD CYFD SDE CYFD	\$ 625,000 \$ 245,400 \$ 100,000 \$ 299,450	Instructional Funding Child Care Career Development Child Care	785	233	199
2002-03	TANF Teen Parent Services Carl Perkins	HSD CYFD SDE	\$ 1,300,000 \$ 100,000 \$ 100,000	Instructional Funding Child Care Career Development	776	194	208
2003-04	TANF Children, Youth, & Families Carl Perkins	HSD CYFD SDE	\$ 1,300,000 \$ 185,000 \$ 100,000	Instructional Funding Child Care Career Development	716	149	178

Year	Funding Source	Entity	Amount	Purpose	Students Served	Drop-outs Recruited	Graduates
2004-05	TANF Children, Youth, & Families Carl Perkins	HSD CYFD PED	\$ 1,300,000 \$ 200,000 \$ 100,000	Instructional Funding Child Care Career Development	708	110	197
2005-06	State Appropriation Children, Youth, and Families	PED CYFD	\$ 1,000,000 \$ 185,000	Instructional Funding/ Child Care Fatherhood	699	169	168
2006-07	State Appropriation Children, Youth, and Families	PED CYFD	\$ 998,900 \$ 185,000	Instructional Funding/ Child Care Fatherhood	737	147	254
2007-08	State Appropriation Children, Youth, and Families	PED CYFD	\$ 1,000,000 \$ 185,000	Instructional Child Care	866	141	248
2008-09	State Appropriation Children, Youth, and Families	PED CYFD	\$ 950,000 \$ 185,000	Instructional Child Care	838	128	222
2009-10	State Appropriation	PED	\$ 514,200	Instructional	805	118	255
2010-11	State Appropriation Stimulus Money (TANF) Federal GRANT OAH	PED PED	\$ 288,668 \$ 210,000 \$ 846,719	Instructional/ Child Care GRADS PLUS Components	753	140	228
2011-12	State Appropriation TANF Federal GRANT OAH	PED PED OAH/ PED	\$ 200,000 \$ 200,000 \$ 750,617	Instructional/ Child Care GRADS PLUS Components	613	140	178
2012-13	State Appropriation Federal GRANT OAH	PED OAH/ PED	\$ 200,000 \$ 742,827	Instructional/ Child Care GRADS PLUS Components	518	100	133
2013-14	State Appropriation Federal GRANT OAH	PED OAH/ PED	\$ 200,000 \$ 792,526	Instructional/ Child Care GRADS PLUS Components	Data not finalized	Data not finalized	Data not finalized
2014-15	State Appropriation Federal GRANT OAH	PED OAH/ PED	\$ 199,500 \$ 806,478	Instructional/ Child Care GRADS PLUS Components			
<b>Totals</b>					<b>15,333</b>	<b>3,682</b>	<b>4,153</b>

\*\*District level grants secured at self-sustaining sites. SDE= State Department of Education, DOH= Department of Health, CYFD = Children, Youth and Families Department, HSD = Human Services Department, PED = Public Education Department, OAH = Office of Adolescent Health

### **NM GRADS Partnerships:**

- NM Public Education Department (Coordinated School Health and Wellness Bureau)
- NM Early Head Start and Even Start Programs
- Federal and State Department of Health Services
- NM Children, Youth and Families Department
- NM Department of Labor
- 27 public, charter, and alternative high schools
- NM School Based Health Centers/ school and community health programs
- The NM Attorney General's Office/Teen Dating Violence

- Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions (CASAA) University of New Mexico Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program/Peer Education
- Legal Services for Children and teen families
- Teen Pregnancy Coalition
- NM Forum for Youth
- Apex Evaluation
- Young Women United

### **Success Highlights**

NM GRADS has served over 15,300 expectant and parenting teens since 1989. There were 518 expectant and parenting teens enrolled during the 2012-13 school year. 2013-14 data will be available at the end of September.

During the 2012-13 school year,

- 100 pregnancy related drop-outs were recruited back to school resulting in \$367,354 increased revenue to 19 school districts.
- The rate for repeat pregnancies for GRADS students was 2.5%, vs. 17% statewide and 18% nationwide (*Kids Count 2013*).
- Out of the 170 GRADS teen mothers who were seniors, 133 graduated or earned their GED (82%), versus almost 50% nationwide. (*Diploma Attainment Among Teen Mothers; Child Trends- 2010*).
- The rate of babies born of low birth weight to GRADS students was 2.4%, vs. 8.8% statewide and 8.1% nationwide. (*Kids count 2013*).

### **Next Steps for Program Growth**

NM GRADS is currently in 27 high schools across the state. It is the long-term goal of GRADS to provide support and services to expectant and parenting teens in all New Mexico communities. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF) grant that GRADS first received in 2011 (scheduled to receive for the next 2 years contingent on reapplying and availability of funds) assists in the enhancement of the current GRADS components including Case Management, Supporting Young Fathers, College and Career Readiness Support, and Early Childhood and Infant Mental Health Partnerships. Additionally, partnering with school-based health centers and community health providers to deliver services to the entire teen parent family is supported through the PAF grant and vital to a strong GRADS program. The core of the GRADS system is crucial to the meeting of the goals of this federal grant.

Without continued and increased funding to NM GRADS, sustaining NM GRADS becomes difficult. The maintenance, addition and enhancement of current and new GRADS sites depend greatly on legislative funding. Currently, three schools are on the waiting list to implement GRADS (to serve 20-30 expectant or parenting students) and several schools have inquired about initiating GRADS in their schools. While growth into new school sites is exciting and important in meeting the needs of this specific student population, it does require increased funds. NM GRADS appreciates the continued support and funding of the New Mexico legislature and do hope you will explore avenues to increase our funding amount.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.