

Meeting Highlights and Action Plan

Topic/ Presenter	Key Points	Action Items <i>Including Responsible Party/Timeline if applicable</i>
Meeting Focus	Subcommittees	
Attendance	Jessica Jaimez (FYI Marcy Ivory (REACH), Karen Gilbert (Mercy Birthing Center, Lactation), Kris Tinklenberg (RHCHC), Kim Wise (CCCHD), Krizia Melendez (Humana), Nina Jackson (Humana), Jon Upshaw (Promise), Caroline Quelette (CCCHD), Vince Carter (CCCHD), Amy Harcar (Ethiotss), Emily Shaffer (WIC), Sandy Minner (Buckeye Community School), Candace Copeland and her daughter (GRADS), Mandy Marous and daughters (YoungLives), Lana Bonham (YoungLives), Donna Wooten (Links/ PIP), Elise Brown (SRMC Birthing Center), Joy Rogers (CHF), Angel Chapman (Cliff Park HS), Heather Scott (Cliff Park HS), Monica Freeman and daughter (guest speaker, YoungLives), Amy Harcar (Ethiotss), Janai Troutman (Ethiotss), Neybe Hernandez (Ethiotss), Conslene Fontilu (Ethiotss)	
Meeting start and stop time	3:00pm, 4:05p m	
Mission and Vision moment	3-3:05 AnnMarie Schmersal reviewed mission , vision and meeting structure.	
Introductions	Brief roundtable introductions were shared	
Teen Pregnancy Subcommittee Panel	- Mandy Marous provided an overview of the YoungLives program, which provides mentorship and spiritual support for teen moms. They receive most referrals from Candace at GRADS and Help Me Grow. The program is free and any expectant or parenting teen mom is eligible (up to age 21). Mandy introduced Monica, who participates in YoungLives to share her story. - Monica shared her experience as a teen mom in Clark County and some of the struggles she encountered and the local resources she utilized. Some of her experiences included: the decision on whether or not to have an abortion, family influence on the decision, partner influence on the decision, loss of partner's (baby father) involvement, relationship struggles, homelessness, juggling work and school without a car(transportation) and then adding on	

	responsibilities of motherhood. She felt supported by YoungLives, Candace/GRADS program, Family and Youth Initiatives, and other local programs. She shared about meeting Jesus through YoungLives and how this changed her life forever. She shares she is now on her own feet with a house, a car, a job, and taking classes at Clark State. • Candace Copeland shared an overview of the GRADS program which supports expectant students with education, life skills, and resource connection. Candace piloted a birthing plan/ hand off tool with Mercy Health. Both parties expressed positive outcomes. Candace shared that teen moms experienced breastfeeding success this year. • Sandy Minner provided an overview of Buckeye Community School and services available. Flexible learning options are available. Students are permitted to bring their babies to school with them. They have some on-site supplies available. When supplies, such as a bed was needed, Sandy and AnnMarie piloted use of CarePortal with great success. Sandy is working with Clark County PIP investigating opportunities to offer parenting and sexual education classes on site. • Heather Scott and Angel Chapman provided a brief overview of Cliff Park High, where classes started back up today. AnnMarie expressed gratitude for their hospitality in hosting a Start Strong Teen Pregnancy Support Subcommittee meeting at Cliff Park.	
Data Review	• Kim Wise provided a teen pregnancy report for Clark County • Clark County teen birth rate remains higher than state of Ohio, but with an overall decline • Higher percentage of “less than adequate” prenatal care for teen mothers. • Higher infant mortality rate for babies born to teen mothers • The percentage of teenage mothers who smoke during pregnancy has steadily declined.	
Introduction of new CHW	• Dr. Melendez introduced Janai Troutman and team from ETSS. This is the collaboration with Ohio MCOs in response to request for more CHWs. ETSS is contracted to manage the program. Janai introduced Conslene. Conslene is providing virtual assistance to Clark County as a CHW via Zoom. She speaks Haitian Creole, French, and English. AnnMarie shared an ongoing challenge is having the time to connect clients to community resources, including Medicaid. Conslene is available to help fill this gap.	

2026 Meeting Schedule, all meetings 3-4pm except NOV/ DEC combined meeting will be 2:30-4pm: 2026 Full Coalition Meeting topics
September: BF/ Safe Sleep: Birthing Center updates

OCT 19 subcommittees working meeting
Nov/Dec: extended roundtable updates, subcommittee reports