

HAVE A PLAN BEFORE STARTING A FAMILY

GRADUATE FROM SCHOOL
COMMIT TO A RELATIONSHIP (MARRIAGE IN PARTICULAR)
BEFORE HAVING CHILDREN



Children born to committed parents tend to be healthier and do better. They also are:

More likely to graduate from high school and college

More likely to have higher self-esteem

Less likely to use drugs

Less likely to commit a crime

Less likely – once married – to divorce

Less likely to become sexually active early

Parents who commit before having children have lower risk of contracting STDs, including HIV. They also have:

Stronger financial profiles, including greater career options

Stronger, healthier, happier marriages

Children with healthy birth weight

Lowered risk of unwanted pregnancy

Lowered risk of experiencing domestic violence and depression

GIVE YOUR FAMILY THE VERY BEST. PLAN FOR PREGNANCY.

An unplanned pregnancy can happen to anyone. In Virginia, about 34% of all births were to unmarried parents. Of that 34%:

62% were to mothers between ages 20 and 29

22% were to mothers in their teenage years

Only 43% were high school graduates

2006 Virginia Department of Health Vital Statistics

Partners in Prevention provides a variety of education, counseling, awareness-building and outreach programs for men and women 20 to 29 years of age. The goal of this Virginia Department of Health initiative is to reduce the number of non-marital births by preventing unplanned pregnancies through the promotion of healthy relationships, personal responsibility, career and goal setting, effective family planning and the benefits of committed, stable parenting.



"Promoting Healthy Lives Through Planning"



Partners in Prevention

For more information and support, visit our website at

www.vahealth.org/pip