



INDIANA

Indiana received \$2,014,985 in federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2005.¹

Indiana Sexuality Education Law and Policy

Indiana requires that schools teach sexuality education. This instruction must:

- Teach abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage as the expected standard for all school age children;
- Include that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and other associated health problems; and
- Include that the best way to avoid sexually transmitted diseases and other associated health problems is to establish a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in the context of marriage.

Each school must include instruction about HIV/AIDS and “integrate this effort to the extent possible with instruction on other dangerous communicable diseases.” This instruction must stress abstinence-until-marriage. School boards must also establish an AIDS advisory council, consisting of 13 people. This council must consist of “parents, students, teachers, administrators, and representatives of the state department of health” and must review all curricula and materials for HIV/AIDS instruction to ensure that they “reflect the standards of the community.” This council must also work in consultation with the Indiana Department of Health.

Furthermore, Indiana Code states that:

The state board of education shall provide information stressing the moral aspects of abstinence from sexual activity in any literature that it distributes to schoolchildren and young adults concerning available methods for the prevention of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Such literature must state that the best way to avoid AIDS is for young people to refrain from sexual activity until they are ready as adults to establish, in the context of marriage, a mutually faithful monogamous relationship.

See Indiana Code 20-10.1-4-10, 20-10.1-4-11, and 20-8.1-11-3.

Recent Legislation

SIECUS is not aware of any proposed legislation regarding sexuality education in Indiana.

Events of Note

Notre Dame Students Stage Protests Over GSA

April 2004; Notre Dame, IN

Two student protests took place on the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College campuses as a result of the university's decision to deny club status to Notre Dame's newly formed gay-straight alliance. The club, called Unity in Diversity, was formed by a group of students with the goal of creating a welcoming atmosphere for gay, lesbian, or bisexual students and employees on campus. However, in March 2004, Notre Dame's Office of Student Activities rejected the group's request for official recognition as a student organization, which means that the group is not allowed to advertise on campus or receive any funding from the student activities fees.

The Office of Student Activities said it turned down the request because the administration and Campus Ministry are already undertaking efforts to provide educational programs and support regarding sexual orientation, including a university-sponsored Standing Committee for Gay and Lesbian Student Needs. The director of student activities said, "it's a complex issue, and having students out on their own dealing with it is not the best way.... We prefer that students walk with faculty, administrators, and ministers in dealing with these issues."²

In late April 2004, over 2,000 Notre Dame students and staff wore orange t-shirts with the phrase "Gay? Fine by me" to show their support for the school's gay-straight alliance. A protest the previous month had over 1,600 student participants.³ The t-shirts were provided free to students with a request for donations to cover the costs. One student who wore the shirt said, "I want to help create an atmosphere where people can be themselves and don't have to be ashamed of who they are."⁴

An organizer of the GSA explained, "a lot of it's on a very personal level, you know, making people think. Making people see the word gay and think about what that means to them, and just think about whether they know gay people, and how they should treat them."⁵ The group says it will continue to work as an unofficial club and may apply for official university recognition in the future.

Indiana's Youth: Statistical Information of Note⁶

- In 2005, 43% of female high school students and 46% of male high school students in Indiana reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 34% of female high school students and 35% of male high school students in Indiana reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 63% of females and 63% of males in Indiana reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.

- In 2005, 92% of high school students in Indiana reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.
- In 2000, Indiana’s abortion rate was 12 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen abortion rate of 24 per 1,000 nationwide.⁷
- In 2002, Indiana’s birth rate was 45 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen birth rate of 43 per 1,000 nationwide.⁸

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding

Indiana received \$754,073 in federal Title V funding in Fiscal Year 2005. The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local grants. In Indiana, sub-grantees provide the matching funds. The funding is controlled by the Indiana Department of Health.

A portion of the federal money supports a media campaign and an evaluation of the program. A state-wide evaluation was completed in September 2002 but the results have yet to be made public. Participation in the state-wide evaluation was voluntary, and it is unclear how many grantees participated.

The media campaign, *Sex Can Wait—I’m Worth It*, also receives Indiana Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention funds. The campaign has two main focuses:

- Youth abstaining from sexual intercourse and delaying pregnancy and parenting during adolescence with an emphasis on physical, emotional, social, and economic benefits, and
- Parent-child communication about family sexual values and beliefs.

The campaign includes billboards, radio ads, and television ads. In one television ad aimed at parents, a young woman stares at the camera and says, “if you don’t talk with your son about sex, I will.” The ad copy describes her as “street-wise.”

The remaining funding is distributed to 26 sub-grantees, which must use it for in-classroom instruction. No individual organization can receive more than \$25,000. Curricula are determined by school boards and include *Worth the Wait*, *Community of Caring*, and *Baby Think It Over*.

SIECUS reviewed *Worth the Wait* and found that it covers some important topics related to sexuality such as puberty, anatomy, and sexual abuse, and that the curriculum is based on reliable sources of data. Despite these strengths, *Worth the Wait* relies on messages of fear, discourages contraceptive use, and promotes biased views of gender, marriage, and pregnancy options. For example, the curriculum explains, “teenage sexual activity can create a multitude of medical, legal, and economic problems not only for the individuals having sex but for society as a whole.”⁹

Sub-grantees include a number of crisis pregnancy centers¹⁰ and Catholic medical centers. St. Margaret Mercy Health Centers, St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, and St. Anthony Medical Center all receive federal funds for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs. St. Anthony Medical Center describes its mission as “continuing Christ’s ministry in our Franciscan tradition.”¹¹

The Women’s Care Center, Inc. and Crisis Pregnancy Center of Wabash Valley are also Title V sub-grantees. The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Wabash Valley’s website asks, “What is God’s desire for you and your unborn child?”¹² It goes on to explain the “link between abortion and breast cancer” as:

Research has demonstrated that induced abortion does increase breast cancer risk. Among the general population of women, the risk of breast cancer is 12 percent. Comparing this to women who have had no children but have had one or more abortions, the risk of breast cancer is close to 50 percent.¹³

This information has been directly contradicted by the leading U.S.-based cancer research body, the National Cancer Institute (NCI). NCI’s fact sheet summarizes the research on this topic by saying “large, well-designed studies...have consistently shown no link between abortion and miscarriage and the development of breast cancer.”¹⁴

Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE)¹⁵ and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees

There are two CBAE grantees in Indiana: A Positive Approach to Teen Health Inc. and Saint Vincent Randolph Hospital. There are no AFLA grantees in Indiana.

A Positive Approach to Teen Health, Inc. (PATH) has an interactive website with games, commercials, and movies for young people. In one game/movie, young people are encouraged to make choices to see how their “personal” story develops. If the player chooses to have sex he/she is given an “F” grade and the website says, “you most definitely need to get a pregnancy test and get tested for STD’s. You may have made a big mistake tonight and will have to deal with the consequences of pregnancy, an STD, emotional hurts, regrets, and perhaps even a loss of reputation.”¹⁶ In addition to shaming youth who are sexually active and portraying them as having a lack of control, the website assumes that all young people are heterosexual.

Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2005

Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee	Amount of Grant	Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, and AFLA)
Length of Grant		
Indiana Department of Health www.in.gov/isdh	\$754,073 federal	Title V
Bluffton Harrison M.S.D. www.bhmsd.k12.in.us	\$2,219	Title V sub-grantee
Brown County Schools	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee

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Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee Length of Grant	Amount of Grant	Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, and AFLA)
www.brownco.k12.in.us		
Clay County	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Clarion Health Partners www.clarian.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Creating Positive Relationships www.cpr1.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Crisis Pregnancy Center of Wabash Valley www.wabashepc.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
DeKalb County Campaign for Our Children	\$20,025	Title V sub-grantee
Family Services Association of Wabash Valley http://famsvc.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Family Service Society	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Madison County Health Department	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Memorial Hospital of South Bend www.qualityoflife.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Metropolitan School District of Perry Township www.msdp.k12.in.us	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee

INDIANA

Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee Length of Grant	Amount of Grant	Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, and AFLA)
New Hope Service, Inc.	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Northern Indiana Community Foundation (PEERS Educating Peers) www.nicf.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Our Place Drug & Alcohol Education Services	\$12,500	Title V sub-grantee
P.A.T.H.	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Peers Educating Peers in Southern Indiana	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Perry County Memorial Hospital www.pchospital.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Saint Anthony Medical Center www.stanthonymedicalcenter.com	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Saint Anthony Memorial Health Center www.samhc.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Saint Margaret Mercy HealthCare Center www.smmhc.com	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee

INDIANA

Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee Length of Grant	Amount of Grant	Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, and AFLA)
Saint Vincent Randolph Hospital	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
DUAL GRANTEE 2004–2007 www.stvincent.org	\$768,646	CBAE
Social Health Association	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
Taylor Community Schools www.taylor.k12.in.us	\$15,574	Title V sub-grantee
Vincennes Community School Corporation www.vcsc.k12.in.us	\$24,992	Title V sub-grantee
Women’s Care Center www.womenscarecenter.org	\$25,000	Title V sub-grantee
A Positive Approach to Teen Health Inc 2004–2007 www.pathblazer.org	\$492,266	CBAE

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Coordinator

Robert Bruce Cook
 Indiana State Department of Health
 Maternal and Children’s Special Health Care Division
 Community and Family Health Services Commission
 2 N. Meridian St., Section 7-C
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 Phone: (317) 233-1241

Indiana Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Planned Parenthood of Greater Indiana
200 South Meridian St.
PO Box 397
Indianapolis, IN 46206
Phone: (317) 637-4343
www.ppin.org

Indiana Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education

American Family Association of Indiana
PO Box 26208
Indianapolis, IN 46226
Phone: (317) 541-9287
www.afain.net

Indiana Family Institute
55 Monument Circle, Suite 322
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 423-9178
www.hoosierfamily.org

Newspapers in Indiana

The Criterion
Education Editor
1400 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 236-1570

The Evansville Courier & Press
Ella Johnson
Health & Medicine Reporter
300 E. Walnut St.
Evansville, IN 47713
Phone: (812) 464-7420

The Evansville Courier & Press
Linda Negro
Health & Medicine Editor
300 E. Walnut St.
Evansville, IN 47713
Phone: (812) 464-7504

The Indiana & Michigan Source Magazine
Education Editor
11915 River Dr.
Mishawaka, IN 46545
Phone: (574) 255-6677

Indianapolis Monthly
Education Editor
1 Emmis Plaza
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 237-9288

The Indianapolis Star
Diana Penner
Health & Medicine Editor
307 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 444-6249

The Indianapolis Star
Shari Rudavsky
Health & Medicine Reporter
307 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 444-6354

The Indianapolis Star
Rob Schneider
Social Issues Reporter
307 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 444-6278

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Indy's Child

Education Editor
1901 Broad Ripple Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46220
Phone: (317) 722-8500

Journal & Courier

Health & Medicine Editor
217 N. 6th St.
Lafayette, IN 47901
Phone: (765) 420-5231

Journal & Courier

Emily Richwine
Education Reporter
217 N. 6th St.
Lafayette, IN 47901
Phone: (765) 420-5205

The Journal Gazette

Krista Stockman
Education Reporter
600 W. Main St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: (260) 461-8457

The News-Sentinel

Charlie Roduta
Education Reporter
600 W. Main St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: (260) 461-8431

Post-Tribune

Tara Wilson
Health & Medicine Editor
1433 E. 83rd Ave.
Merrillville, IN 46410
Phone: (219) 648-3080

South Bend Tribune

David Rumbach
Health & Medicine Writer
225 W. Colfax Ave.
South Bend, IN 46626
Phone: (574) 235-6358

The Star Press

Oseye Boyd
Education Writer
345 S. High St.
Muncie, IN 47305
Phone: (765) 213-5830

The Times

Robert Blaszkiwicz
Health and Medicine Editor
601 45th Ave.
Munster, IN 46321
Phone: (219) 933-3247

The Times

Olivia Clarke
Education Reporter
601 45th Ave.
Munster, IN 46321
Phone: (219) 933-4078

The Times

Gina Czak
Health & Medicine Reporter
601 45th Ave.
Munster, IN 46321
Phone: (219) 933-3234

Tribune Star

Sue Loughlin
Education Writer
222 S. 7th St.
Terre Haute, IN 47807
Phone: (812) 231-4235

¹ This refers to the fiscal year for the Federal Government, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2005 begins on October 1, 2004 and ends on September 30, 2005.

² M. Fosmoe, "ND Students Don T-shirts to Support Gay, Lesbians," *South Bend Tribune (IN)*, 19 March 2004.

³ "Some ND Students Supporting Gay Club," *WNDUTV*, 21 April 2004, accessed 21 March 2006

<http://wndu.com/news/042004/news_34732.php>.

⁴ Fosmoe.

⁵ "Some ND Students Supporting Gay Club."

⁶ Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005," *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 55, no. SS-5 (9 June 2006): 1-108, accessed 8 June 2006, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>. Indiana did not participate in the complete 2005 YRBS.

⁷ *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information* (New York: Guttmacher Institute, February 2004), accessed 28 January 2005, <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/state_pregnancy_trends.pdf>.

⁸ *National Vital Statistics Reports 52.10* (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2003), 48, accessed 4 February 2005, <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/births.htm#stat%20tables>>.

⁹ Patricia Sulak, *Worth the Wait* (Temple, TX: Scott & White Memorial Hospital, 2003). For more information, see SIECUS' review of *Worth the Wait* at <http://www.communityactionkit.org/curricula_reviews.html>.

¹⁰ **Crisis pregnancy centers typically advertise as providing medical services and then use anti-choice propaganda, misinformation, and fear and shame tactics to dissuade women facing unintended pregnancy from exercising their right to choose.**

¹¹ *Home Page*, St. Anthony Medical Center (2004), accessed 4 January 2005, <<http://www.stanthonymedicalcenter.com>>.

¹² *Considering Abortion?*, Crisis Pregnancy Center of Wabash Valley (2004), accessed 4 January 2005, <<http://www.wabashcpc.org/content/abort.asp>>.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *What You Need to Know About Breast Cancer*, National Cancer Institute (30 September 2003), accessed 4 January 2005, <<http://www.cancer.gov/cancerinfo/wyntk/breast>>.

¹⁵ In Fiscal Year 2004 SPRANS–CBAE was administered within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. In Fiscal Year 2005 this funding stream was moved to HHS' Administration for Children and Families and is now referred to simply as Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE).

¹⁶ *Choose Your Path*, Pathblazer.org (2006), accessed 12 January 2006, http://www.pathblazer.org/_choose_your_path.shtml>.