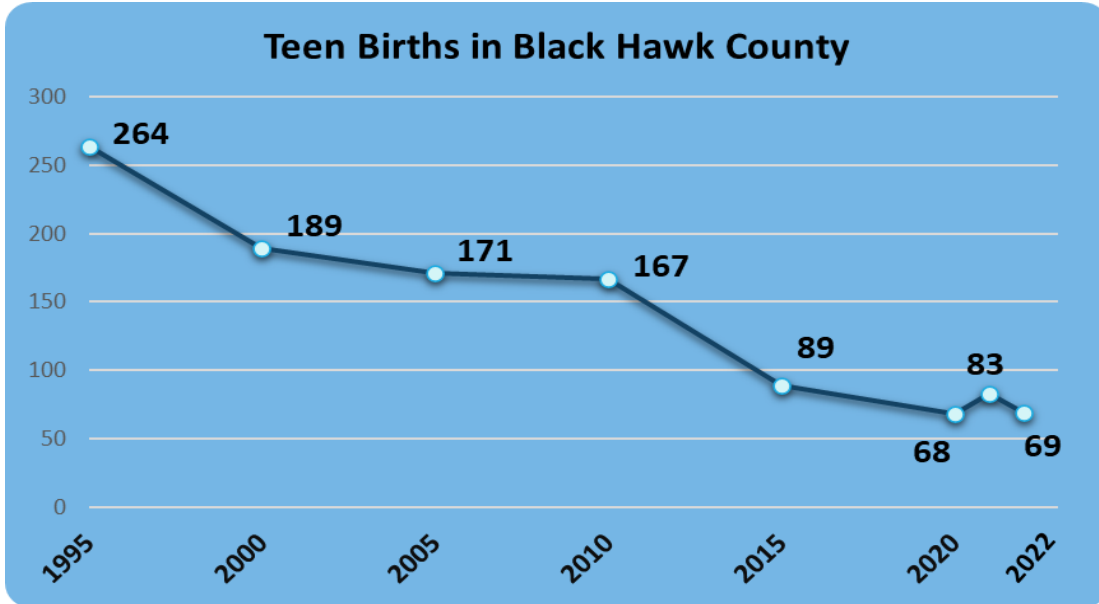
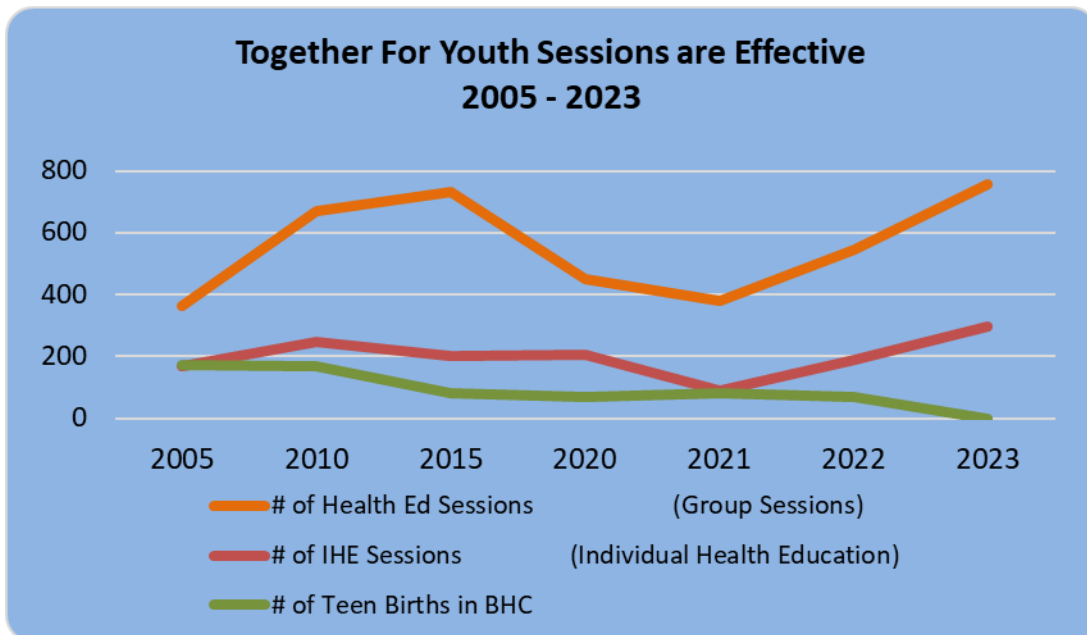


Adolescent Sexual Health Trends in Black Hawk County

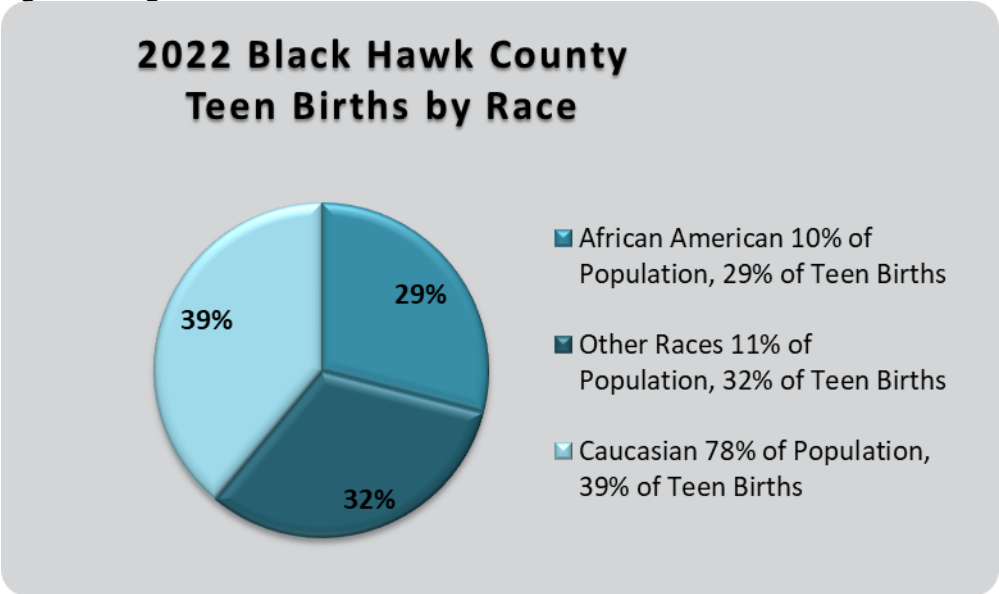
Together For Youth (TFY) has developed partnerships with many community agencies and has had a direct impact on Black Hawk County's current low teen birth rate. Historically our county had one of the highest rates of teen births in the state. Over the last 28 years, Black Hawk County teen births have declined very significantly.



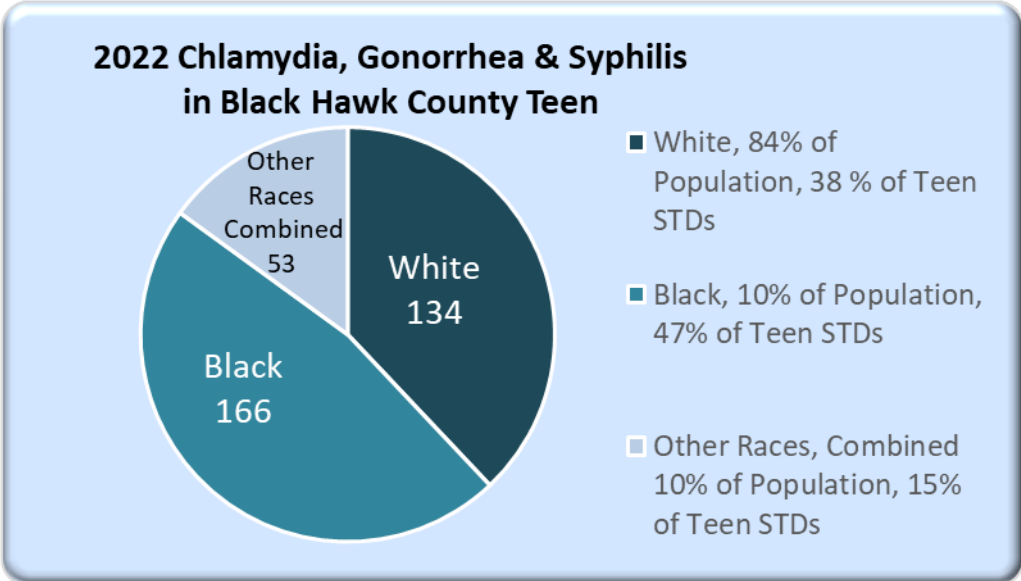
Together For Youth programming has increased significantly over the years. In Fiscal Year 1995, TFY provided 100 Health Education sessions as compared to 756 sessions in Fiscal Year 2023. Also, in Fiscal Year 2023, Individual Health Education (IHE) sessions have doubled, to 295 sessions with 102 students. We are proud of this correlation and the package of programming we have developed in partnership with our schools and youth serving agencies. TFY continues to work to provide comprehensive, age-appropriate sexual health education in the Cedar Valley. See the chart below:



According to the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), the rate of *overall* teen births has been declining. However, the rate of teen births to *youth of color* continues to be disproportionate. African Americans (AA) account for 10% of the population in Black Hawk County and yet experienced 29% of the teen births. Beginning in fiscal year 2009 TFY strategically implemented the SiHLE curriculum to address these disparate sexual health outcomes, reaching nearly 700 AA females between the ages of 14 – 18 in the fourteen years of SiHLE programming.



IDPH data shows that Black Hawk County has had the highest per capita rate of reported cases of STDs in the state nearly every year since 2007. There continues to be a disparate rate of these infections among youth of color, as demonstrated below with AA accounting for 47% of these STDs.



*Black Hawk County ranks #1 for Chlamydia in Iowa & has for over 8 years. However, the rate for Gonorrhea now ranks 4th and Syphilis 8th.

**Let's join efforts to continue improving these outcomes.
To get involved, call Together For Youth at 319.433.6331.**