



Young Parents Connection

Best Start Conference

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History of Young Parents Connection (YPC)

- In 2005 Algoma teens were surveyed to identify gaps in prenatal and parenting programs
- Findings
 - ✓ one site, central location
 - ✓ once a week drop-in setting
 - ✓ accessible by city transit
 - ✓ food
 - ✓ day care
 - ✓ recreation
- Initial planning meeting with interested community partners
- Young Parents Connection committee formed in January 2006

Program Goal

To support young parents in improving the health and well-being of their families by providing them information, skill-building activities and social support through a weekly event in which partner agencies collaborate.

Objectives

Committee members will plan activities and promote the following objectives:



















- Increase knowledge in prenatal/parenting information
- Encourage young parents and their children to have fun and promote physical activity
- Increase young parents cooking skills and prepare healthy meals

Objectives

- Link young parents to other programs and resources as needed
- Encourage positive and healthy parent-child interactions
- Encourage positive and healthy connections between young parents

YOUNG PARENTS CONNECTION WINTER 2008 CALENDAR

Meal: 5:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. Classes: 6:15 p.m. + 7:15 p.m. Recreation 7:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Legend		Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday
<p>APH - Algoma Public Health</p> <p>CAS - Children's Aid Society</p> <p>CRC - Canadian Red Cross</p> <p>CCA - Child Care Algoma</p>	<p>Jan.</p>	<p>17</p> <p> Prenatal - The Pregnancy Centre</p> <p> After the Baby - CCA</p> <p> Toddler - APH</p> <p> Physical Activity - Info Night & Basketball</p> <p> LEAP Kitchen A - CRC</p>	<p>24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Health Fair</p> 	<p>31</p> <p> Prenatal - APH</p> <p> After the Baby - APH</p> <p> Toddler - Mind Over Mood - CAS</p> <p> Physical Activity - Weight Room</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen B</p>	
	<p>Feb.</p>	<p>7</p> <p> Prenatal - APH</p> <p> After the Baby - CCA</p> <p> Toddler - Bullying Red Cross</p> <p> Physical Activity - Volleyball</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen C</p>	<p>14</p> <p> Prenatal - APH</p> <p> After the Baby - CCA</p> <p> Toddler - Bullying - Red Cross</p> <p> Physical Activity - Basketball</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen D</p>	<p>21</p> <p> Prenatal - APH</p> <p> After the Baby - APH</p> <p> Toddler - Anxiety & Phobias - CAS</p> <p> Physical Activity - Racquetball</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen A</p>	<p>28</p> <p> Prenatal - The Pregnancy Centre</p> <p> After the Baby - APH</p> <p> Toddler - APH</p> <p> Physical Activity - Teen Choice Night</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen B</p>
	<p>Mar.</p>	<p>6</p> <p> Prenatal - APH</p> <p> After the Baby - CCA</p> <p> Toddler - Women in Crisis</p> <p> Physical Activity - Weight Room</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen C</p>	<p>13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARCH BREAK</p> 	<p>20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Easter Weekend NO YPC TODAY</p> 	<p>27</p> <p> Prenatal - The Pregnancy Centre</p> <p> After the Baby - APH</p> <p> Toddler - Raising Boys Without Men CAS</p> <p> Physical Activity - Volleyball</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen D</p>
	<p>Apr.</p>	<p>3</p> <p> Mystery Night Hair and Makeup Sault College</p> <p> Physical Activity - Teen Choice Night</p>	<p>10</p> <p> Presentation from a Family Support Worker Ontario Works</p> <p> Physical Activity - Basketball</p>	<p>17</p> <p> Prenatal - The Pregnancy Centre</p> <p> After the Baby - APH</p> <p> Toddler - APH</p> <p> Physical Activity - Racquetball</p> <p> CRC - LEAP Kitchen A</p>	<p>24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Job Fair Ontario Works</p>  <p> Physical Activity - Volleyball</p>

Learning Earning and Parenting Program LEAP-Ontario Works

LEAP criteria

- Young Parents on Ontario Works
- 21 years of age and under
- Have not completed high school
- Mandatory enrolment for parents aged 16 and 17, who have not completed high school and who are OW applicants

LEAP Program

- Learning – participants must attend school on a full-time basis until they achieve their grade 12 diploma
- Earning – participants must take part in employment opportunities that will help them develop employment skills to become job ready
- Parenting – participants must complete 35 hours of parenting training

YPC Community Partners

- Algoma Public Health
- Canadian Red Cross
- Child Care Algoma
- Family Preservation (CAS)
- Nog-Da-Win-Da-Min Family and Community Centre

YPC Community Partners

- Ontario Works
- The Pregnancy Centre
- Sault College
- Women in Crisis
- YMCA



young parents
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Challenges of YPC Partnership

- Budget limitations
- Program promotion
- Keeping partners motivated
- Size of committee
 - Decision making
 - Scheduling
 - Variety of mandates

Strengths of YPC Partnership

- Client centred approach
- Dedicated and committed community partners
- Excellent attendance at quarterly meetings
- Co-chairs share responsibilities
- Membership growing
- Variety of programs offered

Strengths of YPC Partnership

- Increase in program attendance
- Daycare provided
- Practical venue
- Open to new programming ideas
- Unique model of program delivery

For More Information

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