



# Project REACH

## Yearbook



July 2022 - June 2023





# Project REACH

*(Reproductive Education to Achieve Community Health)*

Project REACH was a three-year school and community partnership focused on quality sexual health education, teen health services, and youth leadership opportunities for middle and high school students in Oklahoma County. It was funded by the HHS/Office of Population Affairs (OPA) as part of an adolescent health initiative and included zip codes 73107, 73108, 73109, 73110, 73115, 73119, and 73129.

Teen emPower! (TEI) and Variety Care Teen Clinic (VCTC) provided evidence-based programs (EBPs) and other health promotion activities in seven middle schools and four high schools in the Oklahoma City, Mid-Del, and Crooked Oak districts. The project was coordinated by the Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD), with the program evaluation conducted by the Hudson College of Public Health (HCOPH), University of Oklahoma.

This Yearbook offers a snapshot of program highlights for the 2022-23 school year. Our thanks to OPA, our school and community partners, teachers, parents, and youth participants for making this project a big success.



## Yearbook Team

**OCCHD** Linsey Garlington

**TEI** Kathy Harms, Amy Roff, Lilly Bocquin, Hana Ahmad Coleman, Sharon Rodine

**VCTC** Kali Sexton, Camden Maxwell

**HCOPH** Dr. Karla Finnell, Christine Joachims, Abigail Peters

**DESIGNER** Emily Garman

# SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

Programs were in full swing this year with EBPs presented in 6th, 8th, 9th, and 12th grades and TEI's youth-led program, SHAPE (Sexual Health And Peer

Education), provided in 7th grade. New support services included an Expectant and Parenting Youth Coalition created by OKCPS, VCTC, and HCOPH.

# 4,592

youth participated in EBP (evidence-based program) classes

# 2,419

individual EBP class sessions provided

# 47

SHAPE classes totaling

# 220

EBP sections provided in grades 6-12

# 2,969

services were provided by Teen Clinic

# 402

classroom sessions

# 891

students participated in the 7th grade SHAPE program



## Evaluation Team

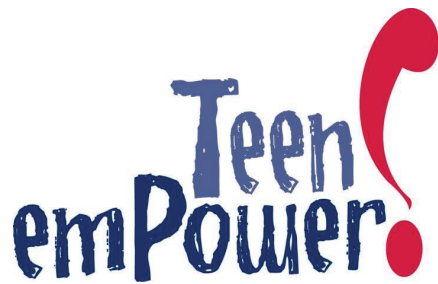
The HCOPH evaluation team was led by Karla Finnell, Assistant Professor, JD, PhD. Members included Christine Joachims, MS, Staff Research Assistant Supervisor; Marco Rayos, Abigail Peters, Ida Sukar, and April Lopez, Graduate Research Assistants; and Sierra Salas, BAPH Research Assistant.

# 204

expectant and parenting students participated in the OKCPS program



# Program Provider **PARTNERS**



Teen emPower! has served more than 22,000 students since 2004, helping to empower, educate, and motivate them to make informed decisions for their sexual health. Each year, its SHAPE peer education program trains 30+ high school teens to present lessons to middle school students on managing peer pressure, understanding media messages, and learning assertiveness skills.

[teenempower.org](http://teenempower.org)



Variety Care Teen Clinic offers reproductive and sexual health education, clinical services, and support for expectant and parenting teens.



Access to sexual health services is provided through a 24/7 hotline for teens to schedule appointments or ask questions. Teen Parent Coordinators provide health and academic support for expectant and parenting students in OKCPS.

[varietycare.org/services/teen-clinic](http://varietycare.org/services/teen-clinic)





"Teen Clinic's healthy relationship lessons have a positive impact on our seniors, giving them examples of positive and negative characteristics of relationships."

- 12th Grade Teacher

"I learned to always think about your actions before doing anything."

- 9th grader



A big thank you

to the students, teachers, staff, administrators, and parents who participated in Project REACH at these partner schools - you are the best!



"I like that our program provided lessons in personal space, consent and boundaries."

- VCTC Adolescent Health Specialist



"I like how we learned to keep ourselves safe."

- 9th grader

### Middle Schools

OKCPS - Capitol Hill, Mary Golda Ross, Taft, and Wheeler

Mid-Del District - Del City and Midwest City

Crooked Oak District - Crooked Oak M.S.

### High Schools

OKCPS - Capitol Hill, Northwest Classen, and U.S. Grant

Mid-Del District - Del City

"I really liked this program. I think it will help a lot in the real world."

- 7th grader





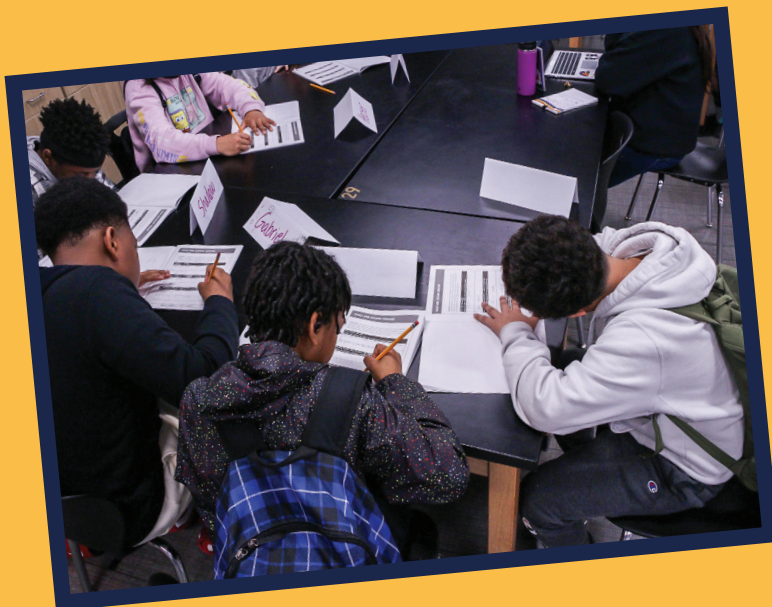
# Project REACH:

## 3-Year Snapshot

Project REACH began July 1, 2020, as the pandemic accelerated, schools closed, and instruction switched to virtual learning. It was a very challenging way to launch a project, but TEI and VCTC quickly adjusted to a virtual program.

TEI and VCTC resumed in-person programs and activities when schools reopened for the 2021-22 year. Youth listening sessions helped identify current health and wellness issues. For the Year 2 Project REACH Yearbook, [click here](#).

Led by a resourceful, resilient, and talented team of program partners, the project went to scale during the 2022-23 school year. Even with the unprecedented challenges at the start, the project achieved its goals, resulting in thousands of young people being better prepared to achieve their dreams.





"My educator explained stuff in ways that we could actually remember."

– 8th grader



"This project has reached thousands of youth with information that will help protect their sexual health, both now and throughout their lives."

– Kathy Harms, Executive Director  
Teen emPower!



"Medically accurate sexual health education is essential in helping young people make healthy choices as they transition to adulthood."

- Kali Sexton, Director of Adolescent Health Education & Teen Clinic Services



"I got to know about things that will help me in the future."

– 6th grader



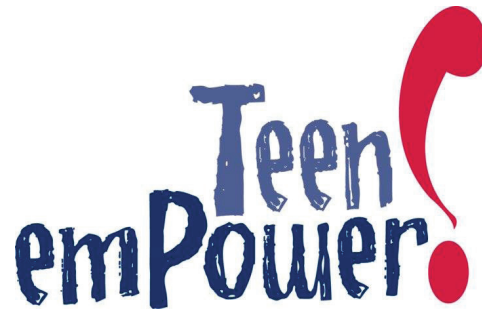


# Thank You

to Project REACH partners for another successful year!



VARIETY CARE



HUDSON  
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER*



KIRKPATRICK  
FAMILY FUND



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