



**Ontario Association of Young Parent Agencies**

*serving infants, children and young parents - together*

**L'Association Ontarienne des Agences pour Jeunes Parents**

*servir nourrissons, enfants et jeunes parents - ensemble*

# JANUARY 2024

## AT A GLANCE

- Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting - Book Launch
- Upcoming Ujima Training
- Resources
- Significant Dates
- Professional Development

## What's New



**Book Launch: Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting**

**When: January 29, 2024 12:00 - 12:45pm**

**Register: [HERE](#)**

OAYPA is proud to host a virtual book launch for [Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting: Reducing Stigma and Improving Outcomes](#).

The poster features the OAYPA logo at the top left. The main title 'BOOK LAUNCH' is in large, bold, orange letters. Below it, the text reads: 'Join the OAYPA (Ontario Association of Young Parent Agencies), as they host Dr. Jean Wittenberg, Daniel Becker, Lois Flaherty, and NoTeenShame.org Co-Founder Natasha Vianna for a virtual webinar and book release for...'. The book title 'Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting: Reducing Stigma and Improving Outcomes' is highlighted in orange. The date and time are listed as 'Monday, January 29, 2024 12:00 pm - 12:45 pm'. The event is 'Virtual' and attendees are encouraged to 'Join us during your lunch break!'. A call to action at the bottom says 'Secure your spot TODAY for the chance to win a FREE COPY!'. The Springer logo is at the bottom right. An image of the book cover is shown on the right side of the poster.

Joined by editors Jean Wittenberg, Daniel Becker and Lois Flaherty, and Co-Founder of NoTeenShame.org, Natasha Vianna, the co-editors will discuss current understanding of risk factors,

developmental issues, and key intervention tactics for the most positive outcome for adolescent parents and their families.

## Book Summary

This book focuses on the impact of social stigma on adolescents who are at high risk of teen pregnancy. It describes and discusses personal and social factors that predispose them to becoming pregnant and having babies; factors that may subsequently protect or more often, compromise outcomes for both parents and children.

***Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting*** is an excellent resource for psychiatrists, psychologists, physicians, social workers, educators, researchers, and policy makers working with youths at risk for teenage pregnancies.

You do not want to miss the opportunity to hear from experts in the field like Dr. Jean Wittenberg, Daniel Becker, Lois Flaherty, and Natasha Vianna.

Join us virtually on **Monday, January 29, 2024, from 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm.**

**[Register TODAY](#) for the chance to win a free copy of *Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting: Reducing Stigma and Improving Outcomes*.**

Don't miss out, secure your spot [HERE!](#) Please share with your teams!

## **ONN Annual State of the Sector Survey**

For your reference, we have included [a recording](#) of the webinar, presentation slides, and other relevant resources below.

- ONN's [presentation slides](#)
- 2023 State of the Sector [survey page](#)
- Data dashboard: [English](#) and [French](#)
- Data sets: [2021-2023](#)

## **Ontario Community Health Compensation Market Salary Review**

Ontario's community health sector is facing a critical staffing crisis, stemming from a widening wage gap between community health care workers and health workers in other sectors (the community sector is more than \$2 billion behind on wages). Action from the Ontario government is needed to close this gap and secure the stability of Ontario's health care system. While the government has committed to strengthening the community health sector, the growing wage gap threatens the system's ability to deliver the community services Ontarians need, including primary care, home care, mental health and addictions care, and long-term care. Read the full report [here](#), the Executive Summary [here](#)

# Upcoming Ujima Training

**Baby Love Training - Jan 12, 15 and 19, 2023** - There are still a few spots left! Contact Bev to register

# Get Involved!



## **Policy Paper - Request for Financial Support**

As you know, OAYPA secured the support of Dr. Melody Morton Ninomiya and her research team at Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU) to create a policy paper for OAYPA and its members. This policy paper will be a multipronged study that examines:

The objectives for this study are to highlight strengths, challenges, opportunities, and recommendations for day programs and LIT across OAYPA member agencies to best serve TAY and their children and identify alignments between current programs and provincial funding mandates for such programs. This study aims to provide up-to-date evidence to inform how future programs and services can best serve pregnant and parenting TAY, and with adequate resources to support the programs and services.

We were successful in receiving a matching grant from WLU but a remaining cost of \$25,000 is needed to support the completion of this work. We are requesting that member agencies help contribute toward the shared costs of this very important policy paper. OAYPA will use this paper to support advocacy efforts regarding resource allocation decisions with MCCSS and other provincial partners.

## **ACTION**

We are proposing a shared cost across members (\$1,000/agency). We have created an [online form](#) to help determine the funding commitment each agency is able to offer. We would appreciate if you can consider this request and provide us with your funding commitment before **Jan 31st, 2024**, to reconcile costs before the end of the fiscal year. If you have any questions about this work, please contact Jane Kenny/Tamar Meyer.

Thank you for your support in the creation of this essential advocacy document for our sector.

# Resources



## **Hanan Centre Resources for sharing:**

- [The Power of Parents: Why You're an Important Partner in Your Child's Language Learning](#)
- [Tips to Support Peer Play in Early Childhood Settings](#)
- [Does Screen Time Affect Children's Language Development?](#)
- [Include Your Child's Interests: Building Communication in Autistic Children](#)

# Significant Dates



- Jan 26 - [Bell Let's talk Day](#)
- Feb - [Black History Month](#)
- Feb 19 - [Family Day](#)
- Feb 28 - [Pink Shirt Day](#)

# Professional Development

[Centering Black Youth Wellbeing – A Certificate on Combatting Anti-Black Racism](#)- [Registration dates - December 18 – January 17, 2024.](#)

This certificate will support a structural transformation in Ontario's youth sector that centers the wellbeing of Black young people and their families in our individual practices and organizational policies. The certificate includes 17 lectures and 2 artistic performances organized around four modules (~12-16 hrs. commitment over 3 months). The learning is self-paced over four weeks running from [Jan 22 to March 15, 2024.](#) Complete all four modules and earn a [Certificate of Completion](#) and a LinkedIn Badge from YouthREX based at York University. This training aligns well with OAYPA's EDIB goals.

## [SickKids Provincial Education Sessions](#)

### Past Sessions

- **Helping Children, Youth and Families to Have a Healthier Relationship with their Digital Media Screens Dec 12:** Access recording [here](#) ( Passcode: &Z34Kj0=).

### Upcoming Sessions

- Jan 17 - Managing Psychosis in Teens - Register [here](#)
- Jan 24 - Suicide Risk Assessment - Register [here](#)
- Feb 13 - Nutrition and Mental Health - Register [here](#)
- Feb 27 - Grief/Bereavement - Register [here](#)
- Mar 12 - Pornography/Sexual Curiosity - Register [here](#)
- Mar 26 - Supporting Newcomers in Mental Health - Register [here](#)