



COLORADO

Department of Public Health & Environment

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

Unintended Pregnancy and Poverty

Unintended pregnancy is one of the most most important issues facing young women and families living in poverty today. In 2012, 224,000 Colorado children - 18 percent of all Colorado kids - lived in poverty, exposing them to greater risk for health issues and lower educational attainment.

Preventing unplanned pregnancies can help women stay in school and achieve higher earnings throughout their lifetime. Women in their 20s with college degrees earn as much as \$20,000 more per year than women with high school degrees.

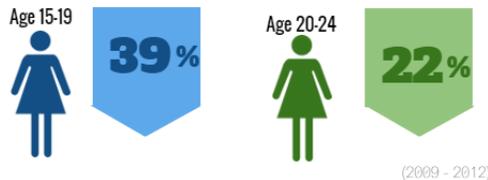
The Colorado Family Planning Initiative successfully increased access to family planning services, particularly to long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) methods such as IUDs. After the implementation of the initiative, births among Medicaid-eligible women ages 15 to 24 dropped sharply each year between 2010 and 2012, and an estimated 4,300 to 9,700 births that were expected did not occur over the three-year period.

Nine of 10 Title X clients have incomes at or below 150% of the federal poverty level, which means an annual income less than \$17,505.

Between March 2010 and January 2014, infant enrollment in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) fell by **26%**

CDPHE Colorado Family Planning Initiative

The birth rate among low-income women living in the counties with Title X providers dropped



About the Colorado Family Planning Initiative

The Colorado Family Planning Initiative (CFPI) at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has successfully expanded contraceptive options, enabling more than 30,000 women in the state to choose the most effective contraceptives - intrauterine devices (IUDs) and implants. For more than 40 years, Title X family planning clinics have played a critical role in ensuring access to these devices as well as other family planning services for millions of low-income or uninsured women and their families. Since 2009 a boost in funding from the CFPI to Title X clinics increased health care provider education and training and reduced cost-barriers, enabling thousands of Colorado women to choose the most effective forms of contraception. For more information, please contact Eliza Shultz, CDPHE Legislative Liaison, at (303) 913-1955 or eliza.schultz@state.co.us.

