



January 2023

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Happy New Year, DC NEXT!

It is hard to believe that we are embarking on our third year of doing such meaningful work together. We are so appreciative of all that you do as part of the Network and even more so for young parents in the District. Our hope is that in this new year you are feeling well rested, recharged, and excited for the work ahead.

Again, thank you for your continued engagement and commitment to the health and wellbeing of expectant and parenting teens in DC – we could not succeed in this work without you!

SAVE THE DATE: Upcoming Health Equity Training

On **February 2nd from 12:00pm-1:00pm**, DC NEXT! will be offering a training on Health Equity in partnership with Child Trends, led by Dr. Asari Offiong and Catherine Schafer. As an introduction to

Catherine and Asari's health equity work, and in preparation for the training, check out [this short podcast](#) that highlights their personal definitions of health equity, why health equity is important when conducting reproductive health programming, and how to integrate an understanding of historical inequities into your health equity practice.

After attending the training, participants will be able to:

- Define health equity broadly and understand how it can be explained as a process, outcome, and framework.
- Describe the relationship between facets of identity, power and privilege as it relates to serving expecting and parenting youth.
- Identify ways to actualize health equity in various settings that support expecting and parenting youth

Please register for the training [here](#). We look forward to seeing many of you virtually!

Context Team Holiday Party



To celebrate a year of hard work, DC NEXT! threw a holiday party for our Context Team and their families at Busboys and Poets on December 13th, 2022! A photographer was hired to take pictures of Context Team members and their families, each child received a small holiday gift, and dinner was

served!

It was so wonderful to be able to gather in person, thank you to all who attended and provided the support needed to make this happen!

December Network Partner Meeting

During our December Network Meeting, we concluded the year with a review of our evaluation efforts presented by Nisha Sachdev of Premnas Partners, opened the floor for Network Partners to share information on their open programs, and welcomed Dr. Asari Offiong and Catherine Schaefer from Child Trends to lead an introductory discussion on Health Equity ahead of our February training. Meeting minutes can be found [here](#).

Updates and Announcements

Mobile Medical Program at Children's National Hospital



The Children's National Mobile Unit Program would like to invite you to their first Mobile Unit Town Hall on **January 11th at 10am** or **January 26th at 3pm!** This will be an opportunity to get to know the Mobile team, ask questions, and provide feedback. We encourage your participation if possible.

Please signup [here](#).

Our Partners are Recruiting!



The Children's National Hospital Continuum of Care Design Team is seeking to recruit **5 expectant mothers under the age of 19 with due dates between January and February of 2023** to participate in their Teen Parent Pilot Doula Program. Interested participants can sign up using [this form](#).

For other questions, please contact Dr. Yael Smiley at ytsmiley@childrensnational.org or Jaytoya Manget at jmanget@childrensnational.org.



Mary's Center is recruiting fathers to participate in their Fatherhood Program! Fathers who participate in the program will be provided with critical support to strengthen father-child interactions and well-being within the family.

A flyer in Spanish can be found [here](#).

For more information, please reach out to Felix Hernandez at fhernandez@maryscenter.org.

Generation Hope Scholar Program Application is OPEN!

The Generation Hope Scholar Program surrounds teen parents with mentoring, tuition assistance, a peer community, and other vital, wrap-around services to help them earn their degrees. Students admitted into the Scholar program who have children younger than 6 years old are also eligible for the combined college support and early childhood program, Next Generation Academy.

Scholars receive trainings on topics such as life balance and academic planning, as well as free tutoring, mental health supports, and career preparation. Scholars will also have access to family-friendly events and our annual Hope Conference, which provides life and career advice from experts within the community.



**Generation Hope helps
teen parents go to college**

Apply for our Scholar Program!

Generation Hope Scholars receive:

- Scholarship of up to \$2,400/year
- Mentor dedicated to your success
- Access to free mental health support, tutoring, and career coaching
- Access to an emergency fund
- Community of other teen parents

Eligibility Requirements:

- 25 years old or under, and must be a teen parent (pregnant or parenting at 19 years old or under)
- Planning to attend or attending a nonprofit college within 50 miles of DC, seeking an Associate's or Bachelor's degree
- Must provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination by July 2023
- Open to U.S. Citizens, Permanent Legal Residents, and DACA recipients.

For any immigration status questions, please contact us.

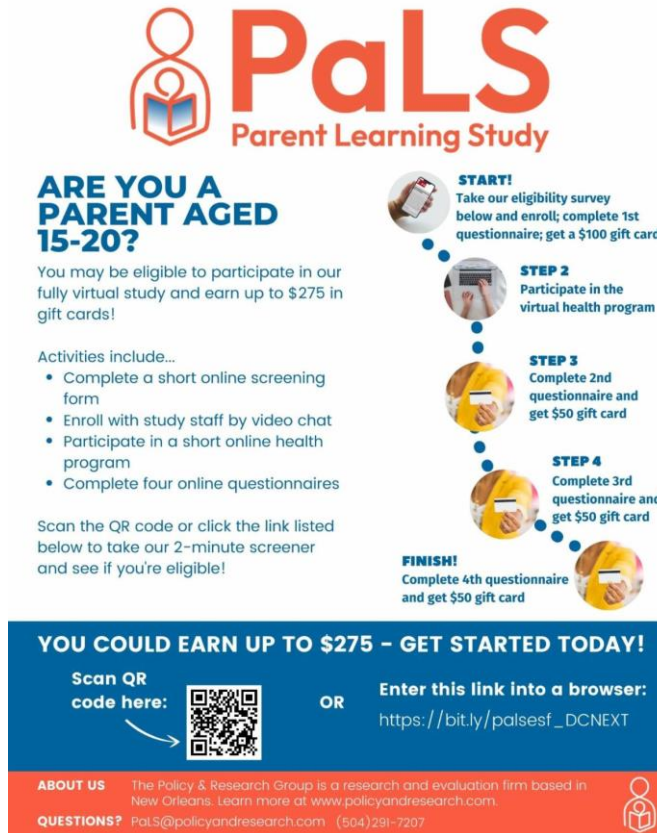
**Priority Deadline: February 1, 2023
Deadline: April 1, 2023**

Questions in English or Spanish? Contact our Scholar Recruitment Coordinator, Madeline Hren (she/her)
madeline@generationhope.org | (202) 642-4325

 **LEARN MORE AND APPLY AT**
generationhope.org/scholar-program

Applicants who apply by February 1 will receive priority consideration and earlier notification, and the application will be open through April 1, 2023. The application can be found [here](#). For more information, please contact Madeline Hren at madeline@generationhope.org.

Opportunity for Study Participation



PaLS
Parent Learning Study

ARE YOU A PARENT AGED 15-20?

You may be eligible to participate in our fully virtual study and earn up to \$275 in gift cards!

Activities include...

- Complete a short online screening form
- Enroll with study staff by video chat
- Participate in a short online health program
- Complete four online questionnaires

Scan the QR code or click the link listed below to take our 2-minute screener and see if you're eligible!

START!
Take our eligibility survey below and enroll; complete 1st questionnaire; get a \$100 gift card

STEP 2
Participate in the virtual health program

STEP 3
Complete 2nd questionnaire and get \$50 gift card

STEP 4
Complete 3rd questionnaire and get \$50 gift card

FINISH!
Complete 4th questionnaire and get \$50 gift card

YOU COULD EARN UP TO \$275 – GET STARTED TODAY!

Scan QR code here:  OR Enter this link into a browser: https://bit.ly/palsesf_DCNEXT

ABOUT US The Policy & Research Group is a research and evaluation firm based in New Orleans. Learn more at www.policyandresearch.com.

QUESTIONS? PaLS@policyandresearch.com (504)291-7207

The flyer above connects directly to the PaLS screener and can be sent to any youth you know who might be interested in participating! Interested participants can find more information [here](#).

Upcoming Events

DC NEXT! and the DC Positive Accountable Community Transformation (DC PACT) are once again co-hosting our annual Professional "Speed-Dating" event, this year in person! This is an excellent opportunity to network with other DC-based providers, policy makers, and program leaders. Please join us on **Wednesday, February 14th from 10:00am-12:00pm** at the **Charles E. Sumner School located at 1201 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20036**. Breakfast will be provided.

Please indicate your interest in attending on [this form](#). We look forward to seeing you there!

The Policy & Research Group is currently enrolling for the Parent Learning Study (PaLS). PaLS is an RCT to study the impacts of Young United Parents! (YUP!), a website that connects young parents to each other, to peer mentors, and to health resources. Youth who participate are eligible to earn up to \$275 in incentives over a 14-month period.

Elyse Mason (Lead Research Analyst, PRG) is interested in talking to any organizations that work with teen parents, and in learning more about how to reach this population. Please contact Elyse at elyse@policyandresearch.com if you'd like to learn more about this opportunity for youth.



Community of Hope is hosting a screening and panel discussion about Birthing Justice, a Women In The Room Production documentary that tells the story of the crisis faced by Black mothers and their children and the solutions

needed to transform the maternal care system. The film features four areas in the country, including Washington, DC and Community of Hope.

This free community event will begin with the documentary screening of Birthing Justice, followed by an informative panel discussion and reception with light refreshments. Special gifts for expecting and new parents will be available on a first come, first served basis.

The screening will be hosted on **Sunday, January 22, 2023 from 1PM to 4PM** at **Trinity Washington University's O'Connor Auditorium**, located at **125 Michigan Ave NE, Washington, DC 20017**.

Please register in advance for the screening [here](#).



Join DC NEXT! for our upcoming Network Partner Meeting on January 17th at 4:00pm!

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