



# A national call to action to promote adolescent health: **Adolescent Health: Think, Act Grow<sup>®</sup> (TAG)**

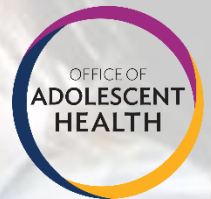
Successes from the Field:

Collaborating to Enhance Care and Services for Adolescents

May 2, 2019



*Leading the nation to ensure  
that America's adolescents  
thrive & become healthy,  
productive adults*



# Adolescent Health: Think, Act, Grow (TAG)



#TAG42mil



This video briefly shows how youth-serving professionals, families, and adolescents can use the TAG framework to support adolescent health.

<https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/tag/resources/multimedia/index.html#help>



# What is TAG?

- OAH's national call to action for adolescent health
- Comprehensive, strengths-based, **positive youth development** approach
- For organizations and individuals
- Promotes health and healthy development



## *Positive Youth Development =*

- intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive
- recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people's strengths
- promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths



*Protective factors* = individual or environmental characteristics, conditions, or behaviors that reduce the effects of stressful life events



# Goals of TAG

- Raise awareness about the importance of adolescent health
- Engage and convene stakeholders
- Put adolescent health on the national agenda
- Spur action that promotes adolescent health



- Public Health
- Healthcare
- Education
- Social Services
- Community and Out-of-School Time
- Faith-based
- Workforce Development



# Five Essentials for Healthy Adolescents

1. Positive connections with supportive people
2. Safe and secure places to live, learn, and play
3. Access to high-quality, teen-friendly health care
4. Opportunities to engage as learners, leaders, team members, and workers
5. Coordinated adolescent- and family-centered services





## Action Steps for Healthcare Professionals

- Make healthcare offices friendly and welcoming
- Ask hard questions and use risk screening tools
- Make preventive services a priority
- Maintain referral sources for youth with chronic conditions, special needs, and behavioral health issues
- Improve and update training on adolescent health
- Facilitate smooth transitions from adolescent to adult healthcare settings
- Be a leader in building partnerships in the community with others who serve youth

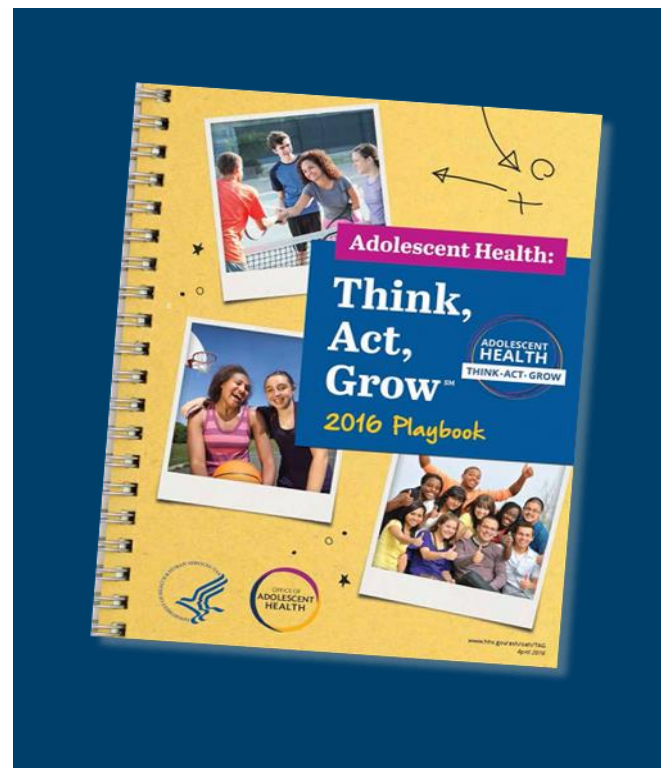
- Example: Resources to Improve and Update Training on Adolescent Health:
  - Adolescent and Young Adult Clinical Care Resources by Topic (Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine)
  - Online Learning Modules (online training classes and webinars on the OAH website)
  - Leadership Education in Adolescent Health Training (Leadership Education in Adolescent Health)

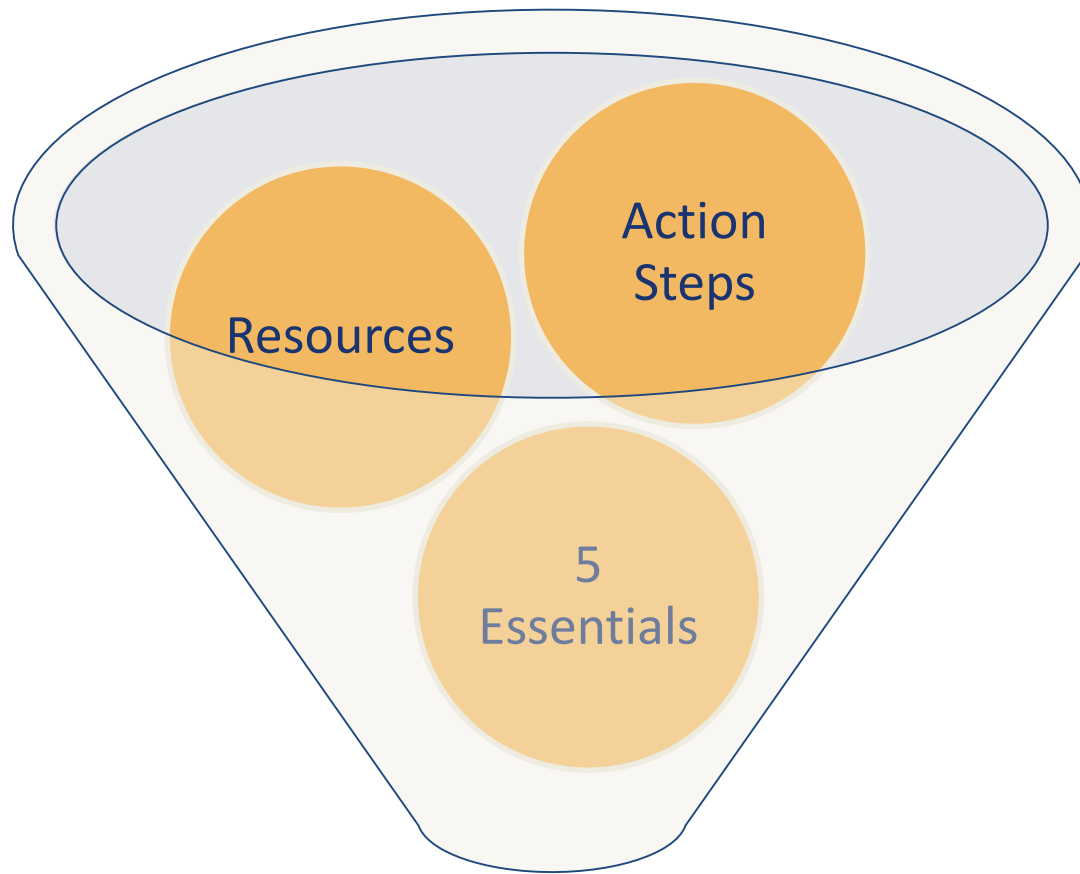
- Access to high-quality, teen-friendly health care
  - Access to high-quality medical and dental care, mental and behavioral health services
  - Access to healthcare providers who understand and value adolescents
  - Services that are youth-friendly, culturally-competent, affordable, convenient, and confidential are preferred by young patients.
  - Healthcare that is adolescent-centered and involves parents but allows for increased autonomy as adolescents reach their late teens

- Research Review on OAH website
- TAG in Action Successful Strategies and Webinars
  - Stanford mobile health van, Bay Area, CA
  - Health Centers in Schools, Baton Rouge, LA
  - Identity Wellness Centers, Montgomery County, Maryland
  - Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center, NYC



## Playing Together

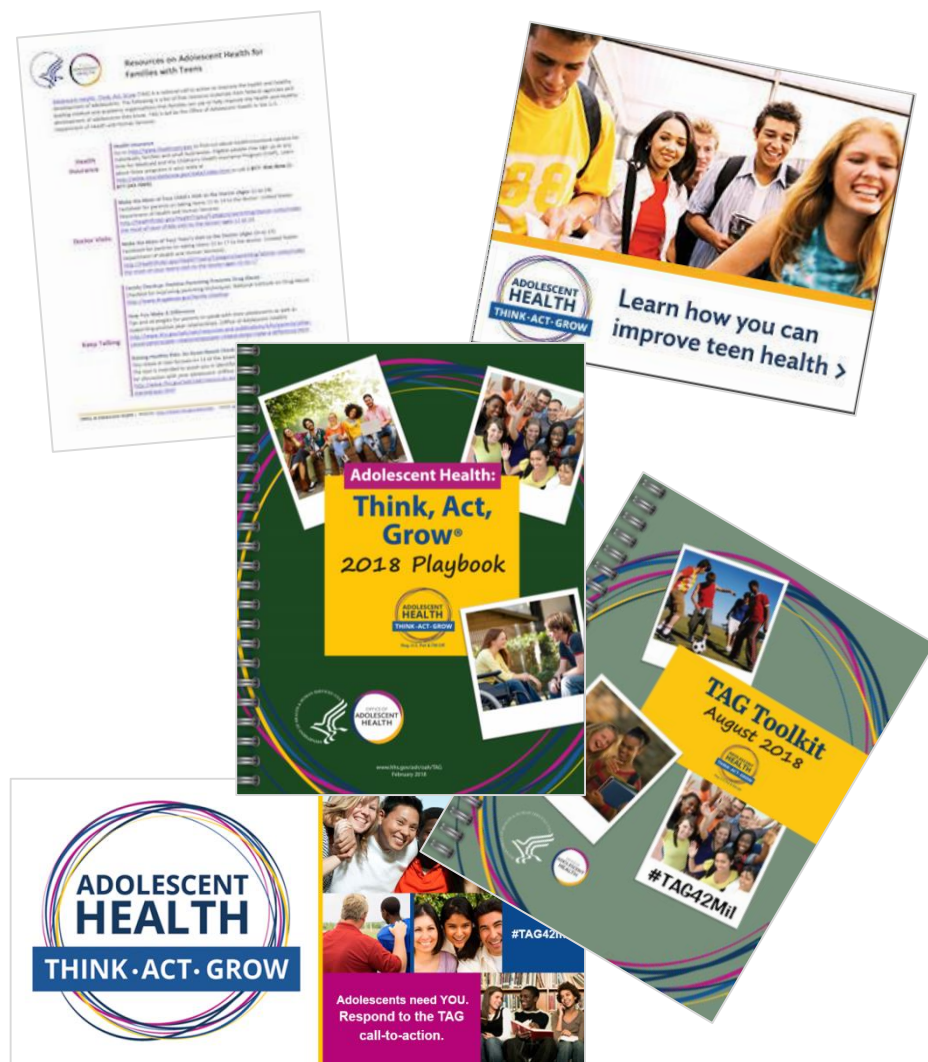




**Adolescent Health**

# TAG Resources

- TAG Playbook
- TAG Talks Videos
- TAG Toolkit
- Research Reviews
- TAG in Action: Successful Strategies
- TAG in Action Webinars
- Game Plan for Engaging Youth





**Dr. Angela Diaz**

**Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center**

## Adolescent-Centered Health Care: The Mount Sinai Model



youth.gov



<https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/tag/resources/multimedia/index.html#diaz>

Coming Soon

- TAG Playbook in Spanish
- TAG Talk Highlights Video
- TAG Implementation Toolkit



## Action Steps for You

- Visit the TAG section on the OAH website
- Read *Journal of Youth Development* article
- Watch and share “TAG Talks” videos
- Share TAG Successful Strategies and Webinars
- Use TAG for planning, collaboration, & training
- Ask questions, send ideas, stay in touch!
- Email us at: [TAGTeam@hhs.gov](mailto:TAGTeam@hhs.gov)

# TAG You're It!



Use OAH Website: [www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/](http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/)



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[#TAG42Mil](https://twitter.com/TeenHealthGov)



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