

A3: Needs Assessment Plan

3.1 Sources of data (is data available to collect from existing sources – agency records, social indicators, etc.? Will you need to customize research – focus group, community forum, survey, etc.?)

There is existing data available in the form of school records, hospital records, clinical records, government databases, and government programs. The school records consist of high school graduation rates and the reported drop outs of pregnant teens. The hospital and clinical records consist of birth records and relevant data. The government databases include the National Vital Statistics Systems, which provides statistics of pregnancy, births, and fetal deaths. The government assistance programs consist of records for WIC, TennCare, and Welfare.

In addition to using existing data, the research will be customized in order to produce current and relevant data. Surveys will be created to use with pregnant teens who are willing to participate in this research study. Recorded interviews will be conducted with a pre-written script/questionnaire that will be used consistently with each participant.

3.2 Statement of purpose (SoP):

(It presents what the research study/needs assessment attempts to find: It should start with “The purpose of this study is…” or similar)

The purpose of this study is to understand the impact of prenatal care and education on pregnant teens. The literature review has discovered the connection between a lack of prenatal care and teen mothers not getting access to the resources they need to successfully navigate and thrive in motherhood. The review has also produced findings that suggest perinatal support and education can help teen mothers gain access to resources to help them thrive in their unique situation. This study will attempt to discover whether providing perinatal education and support for teen mothers will produce a higher quality of life, and a higher graduation rate from high school. Furthermore, it will attempt to discover the methods that are most helpful in encouraging and empowering pregnant teens to take better care of their bodies and minds.

<p>3.3 Research question/s (List the research question/s. The questions should align with the problem and the statement of purpose. Be very specific here. The statement should be in the form of a question, ending with a question mark)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the prenatal support and educational needs that pregnant teens would have so that they can graduate highschool in Chattanooga Tennessee? 2. What are the needs of teen mothers that would lead to an improved quality of life in Chattanooga Tennessee
<p>3.4 Identify the Null and Alternate hypotheses</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Recap: Prenatal Support and Education</p> <p>Null hypothesis (H_0): There is no relationship between prenatal support and the pregnant teen succeeding in and graduating from school.</p> <p>Alternate hypothesis (H_1): Having prenatal support and education will help keep pregnant teens in school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Research Recap: Prenatal Education and Support and Quality of Life for Pregnant Teens</p> <p>Null hypothesis (H_0): There is no relationship between a pregnant teen receiving prenatal education and support and having a better quality of life than pregnant teens that do not have support and education.</p> <p>Alternate hypothesis (H_1): Teen mothers who receive prenatal education and support will have an improved quality of life throughout their pregnancy</p>

<p>3.5 Identify the variables (quantitative) or the concepts (qualitative) to be studied (list them)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Recap: Prenatal Support and Education</p> <p>Independent variable/s (IV): Prenatal education and support</p> <p>Dependent Variable/s (DV): Teen mother staying in school</p> <p>Controlled variable/s (CV): The teen mother's value of education, social class, family support, level of education</p> <p>Extraneous Variable/s (EV): Availability of programs and services in the area, transportation, pregnancy complications, pregnancy symptoms, and date of birth (in relation to school schedule)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Research Recap: Prenatal Education and Support and Quality of Life</p> <p>Independent variable/s (IV): Prenatal education and support</p> <p>Dependent Variable/s (DV): Quality of life for pregnant teen</p> <p>Controlled variable/s (CV): Age, income, and education level</p> <p>Extraneous Variable/s (EV): Family support and acceptance, pregnancy complications, overall health of pregnant teen, past traumatic experiences, religious support, and romantic relationship quality and status.</p>
<p>3.6 Methodological approach (Choose the specific approach you believe is appropriate for this study – put a checkmark!.)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Qualitative (e.g.: what are the needs...; how do...; why do..., etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Quantitative (e.g. what is the relationship...; does IV predict DV...; what is the difference between groups...; etc.)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mixed Methods: Quantitative for first research question, Qualitative for second research question</p>

<p>3.7 Rationale for methodology</p> <p>(Write a 1-2 sentence rationale describing how your design is best suited to answering your research questions.) (For example, if you choose survey or interviews/focus groups, why would you say that these sources are most appropriate? – make your argument supported by literature)</p>	<p>The method of research will be administering surveys and conducting interviews. The rationale behind this design will be to gather current and relevant data from teen mothers drawing from the strengths of both a qualitative and quantitative research approach as mentioned in the Harvard Catalyst (2022).</p> <p>In a study done by Harding et al., (2020) researchers use a range of qualitative and quantitative methods to provide insight into serving expectant and parenting teens. According to the source, the studies were able to find programs to support teens that were economical by using qualitative and quantitative methods to interview (Harding et al., 2020). Using measures that were previously performed could help the achievement rate of this study.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>Harding, J. F., Zief, S., Farb, A., & Margolis, A. (2020). Supporting expectant and parenting teens: New evidence to inform future programming and research. <i>Maternal and Child Health Journal</i>, 24(S2), 67–75. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-020-02996-2</p> <p>Harvard Catalyst. (2022). <i>Mixed methods research</i>. https://catalyst.harvard.edu/community-engagement/mmr/</p>
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