

## **Program Element #11: Students Today Aren't Ready for Sex (STARS)**

### **1. Description.**

Funds provided under this Agreement for this Program Element may only be used, in accordance with and subject to the requirements and limitations set forth below, to operate a STARS Program in LPHA's service area. A STARS Program is an abstinence education program delivered to middle and elementary age youth based on the PSI Curriculum (Section 2.c. below) and implemented through the use of STARS Teen Leaders (Section 2.e. below).

### **2. Definitions Specific to the STARS Program.**

- a. Classroom Facilitator:** Adults who are trained by Department STARS Trainers to support the STARS Teen Leaders in the classroom when they are delivering the STARS curriculum. The role of the Classroom Facilitator is to make sure the class runs smoothly, to handle questions that come up that may be inappropriate for a STARS Teen Leader to answer, and to act as general support to the STARS Teen Leaders during the session. Classroom Facilitators are most frequently the classroom teacher for the class receiving the program. When the Classroom Facilitator is not the classroom teacher, it may be another school employee, a county health department staff member, or community volunteer. There must always be a trained Classroom Facilitator in the class during the session.
- b. Department STARS Trainers:** Employees of Department who provide technical assistance to LPHA on implementation of the STARS Program and who provide training to STARS Teen Leaders, Classroom Facilitators, and county wide coordinators.
- c. Postponing Sexual Involvement (PSI) Curriculum:** The abstinence education curriculum for middle and elementary age youth developed by Marion Howard, Ph.D and Marie E. Mitchell, R.N. The curriculum emphasizes resisting pressure to be sexually involved and is intended to teach youth to make healthier choices and to reduce the rate of teen pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Disease/Sexually Transmitted Infections transmission. The curriculum is presented over the course of five classroom sessions.
- d. STARS Coordinator:** The individual who provides coordination within LPHA's service area and who is responsible for overseeing implementation of the STARS Program throughout LPHA's service area.
- e. STARS Teen Leaders:** High school age students, usually 10th, 11th, and 12th graders, who are chosen and then trained to deliver the five (5) STARS Program education sessions to 6th and 7th grade students.

### **3. Procedural and Operational Requirements.**

Any STARS Program supported in whole or in part with funds provided under this Agreement must be operated in accordance with the following procedural and operational requirements:

**a. Certain Limitations on use of Financial Assistance.**

- i.** Financial assistance provided under this Agreement for this Program Element may only be used for essential STARS program needs. Essential STARS program needs include the following costs necessarily incurred in LPHA's implementation of the STARS Program:
  - (a.)** Salaries.
  - (b.)** Benefits.
  - (c.)** Travel/transportation costs.
  - (d.)** Substitute teacher costs.
  - (e.)** Teen Leader training costs (e.g., food, and materials).
  - (f.)** Classroom incentives.
  - (g.)** Classroom materials/handouts.
- ii.** Financial Assistance provided under this Agreement for this Program Element may not be used to pay for the costs of STARS Teen Leader celebration/recognitions such as t-shirts for middle school students.

**b. Staffing Requirements and Staff Qualifications.**

LPHA must employ a STARS Coordinator to coordinate the implementation of the STARS Program across LPHA's service area.

**c. Minimum STARS Program Requirements.**

- i.** LPHA shall encourage all school districts participating in LPHA's STARS Program to comply with ORS 336.455 for Oregon Human Sexuality Education.
- ii.** The STARS Program must be implemented using the most current STARS Teen Leader Implementation Guide, Props, Classroom Facilitator Guide, and Marion Howard and Marie Mitchell's Postponing Sexual Involvement Video distributed by Department.
- iii.** Each STARS Program classroom session must be delivered in a manner consistent with the goals and objectives for that session as set forth in the PSI Curriculum. Any variation from the goals and objectives in the PSI Curriculum must be approved by Department in writing and in advance.
- iv.** LPHA shall ensure that new STARS Coordinators and Classroom Facilitators attend one-day Classroom Facilitator training acceptable to Department prior to implementing the STARS program.

- v. All new STARS Teen Leaders must attend a two-day training session delivered by a Department STARS Trainer prior to instructing students.
- vi. All returning STARS Teen Leaders (individuals who were STARS Teen Leaders during the prior school year) must attend a one-day update training session delivered by a Department STARS Trainer prior to instructing students.
- vii. A trained Classroom Facilitator must supervise STARS Teen Leaders as the STARS Teen leaders teach in the classroom.
- viii. LPHA must participate in the site visits and evaluation/research of the STARS program as requested by Department. LPHA must encourage the cooperation and participation of the schools involved in the STARS Program.
- ix. LPHA must encourage school districts within LPHA's service area to participate in the Oregon Healthy Teens Statewide Survey.
- x. The STARS Program may not be used to promote the tenets of any particular religious belief.
- xi. STARS Program sessions shall not be delivered to a particular audience more frequently than once per week without prior written approval of Department.
- xii. LPHA's Classroom Facilitators shall attend their local two-day STARS Teen Leader training delivered by Department STARS Trainers.

#### **4. Reporting Obligations and Periodic Reporting Requirements**

In addition to the reporting requirements set forth in section 8 of Exhibit E of this Agreement, LPHA shall submit the following reports to Department.

- a. No later than June 15 of each year, a report on the number of STARS Program participants who received STARS instruction through LPHA's STARS Program during the previous calendar year. Such STARS participation reporting must be submitted electronically to Department's STARS database website, located at: <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/children/teens/index.htm>. Access to the Department's STARS database website is restricted and requires the LPHA to have an assigned Username and Password. Department will provide LPHA with STARS database website access information at the Classroom Facilitator training referred to above.
- b. Prior to LPHA applying to other foundations for additional money to support its STARS Program, LPHA must contact the STARS Foundation in order to coordinate grant-writing efforts and confirm that the STARS Foundation has not already applied to the other foundations from which LPHA proposes to seek funds. Also, the STARS Foundation may offer technical assistance, when requested, for grant-writing efforts.