



City of Columbia  
A Proclamation

*WHEREAS, Teens pregnancies have far-reaching consequences that adversely affect the health, education, and economic future of South Carolina's young people; and*

*WHEREAS, in 2014, more than 4,297 young girls, ages 15-19 gave birth in our state; and*

*WHEREAS, teen birth rates in South Carolina decreased by 61% between 1991-2014; and*

*WHEREAS, teen birth rates in South Carolina decreased by 10% between 2013-2014, the lowest teen birth rate for girls ages 15-19 ever recorded in South Carolina; and*

*WHEREAS, however, the progress in teen birth rate reductions that saved South Carolina taxpayers an estimated \$166 million in 2010 alone should not suggest decreases in investment and commitment to this issue; and*

*WHEREAS, teen pregnancy prevention month is an opportunity for parents, teens, educators, program providers, faith based organizations, local elected leaders and statewide policymakers to work together to reduce and prevent teen pregnancy in South Carolina.*

*NOW, THEREFORE I, Stephen K. Benjamin, Mayor of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, along with my fellow members of Columbia City Council, do hereby proclaim May 2016 as*

## ***Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month***

*in the City of Columbia and urge my fellow citizens to recognize and participate in its observance.*

---

*Stephen K. Benjamin  
Mayor*

---

*Sam Davis  
District I, Council Member*

---

*Tameika Isaac Devine  
At-Large, Council Member*

---

*Leona Plough  
District IV, Council Member*

---

*Moe Baddourah  
District III, Council Member*

---

*Howard E. Duvall, Jr.  
At-Large, Council Member*

---

*Edward H. McDowell, Jr.  
District II, Council Member*