The San Francisco STD Prevention and Control Section YUTHE team addresses health disparities.

In San Francisco in 2010, African-American adolescents had rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea 11 and 13 times white adolescents, respectively. Much of the adolescent burden of STDs is concentrated in the south eastern sector of San Francisco. The YUTHE (Youth United Through Health Education) peer education program was established in 1997 and has since been part of a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to improving sexual health and reducing STDs among adolescents. Comprised of young adults from the affected communities, the YUTHE staff conduct weekly street and venue-based outreach in the Bayview/Hunters Point neighborhoods, organize special STD screening events, as well as community education and training. Annually, the YUTHE team reaches approximately 5,600 teens through outreach and conducts over 70 trainings and workshops. For more information about the YUTHE program, contact Jacqueline McCright (Jacque.McCright@sfdph.org or 415 355-2015). KB/JM