

where can a pregnant or parenting teen find hope?



“Coming to the Florence Crittenton School has given me so many opportunities the other schools wouldn’t have.”

—Yesenia Meraz, Class of 2009

## The Florence Crittenton School

For pregnant and parenting teen mothers, the Florence Crittenton School provides a high school education, career guidance and parenting training. In a unique collaboration with Denver Public Schools, the School helps teen mothers:

- stay in school
- graduate with a high school diploma
- give birth to healthy babies
- learn how to be nurturing mothers
- pursue post-secondary education
- acquire marketable job skills.

The Florence Crittenton School, which celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2009-10, is the largest and most complete provider of services to teen mothers in Denver County.



Helping Teen Parents Raise Healthy Families

parent pathways

where can their babies get the best start?



“Without the Early Learning Center, I would have given up. They help you with school, with child care, with Medicaid, with everything!”

—Leianna Rojas, Class of 2010

## The Early Learning Center

Lack of child care is one of the biggest reasons teen mothers drop out of high school. Parent Pathways’ Early Learning Center, a licensed, Qualistar-rated on-site early childhood education facility for the babies of teen mothers who attend the Florence Crittenton School, makes it easier to stay in school.

These babies are at high risk for a myriad of developmental and societal problems. Strong parenting, health and developmental support in the Early Learning Center gives these little ones the best possible start in life.

Professionals teach young moms how to care for their children and promote their health and development.

Babies receive regular checkups and receive their immunizations.

where can a young dad find guidance and support?



“Parent Pathways’ Young Fathers Program has helped me a lot. It’s changed my life for the good, and made me a better father.”

—Dominic Avila, Young Father’s Program, 2003

## The Young Fathers Program

Studies show children learn more, perform better in school, and exhibit healthier behavior when fathers are involved in their development. Parent Pathways’ Young Fathers Program provides a comprehensive array of services to prepare young fathers for fatherhood. Services include:

- Parenting and child development education
- Career planning, life skills and job readiness training
- Educational support services, including GED
- Counseling and case management services
- Young fathers support groups
- Assistance with paternity establishment
- Vocational/job training referrals
- Referrals for other services
- Support services (baby supplies and equipment, transportation assistance, etc.)

parent pathways

Empowering struggling teen families to be productive members of the community

[www.parentpathways.org](http://www.parentpathways.org)

303.321.6363

## when teen parents fail we all fail

- About 1,100 Denver county teens become pregnant each year.
- 33% of female high school dropouts say becoming a parent played a major role in their decision.
- Female high school dropouts earn 41% less than a high school graduates.
- Over a lifetime, a high school dropout costs society \$260,000 in lost earnings, taxes and productivity.
- Children of high school dropouts are up to 33% less likely to graduate from high school.

*(Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Alliance for Excellent Education and the National Women's Law Center)*



## when empowered teen families succeed we all succeed

Parent Pathways empowers struggling teen families to be productive members of the community. Our holistic and progressive approaches in the areas of education, early childhood education and supportive services encompass the entire teen family.

Having a high school diploma lowers the probability of relying on public assistance by 40%, so we provide a high-school curriculum at the Florence Crittenton School for teen moms, with an on-site Early Learning Center for their babies. We help young fathers learn parenting skills, and address their education and employment needs so they can emotionally and financially support their children.

## achieving self-sufficiency

Parent Pathways' services have evolved to meet the needs of the Denver community for over a century. The Florence Crittenton School started as a home for unwed mothers called the Florence Crittenton Home in 1893. The home closed in 1981 and the school opened in 1984.

- Florence Crittenton's academic program, support services and skills training benefit more than 200 teen moms each year.
- 93% of students who attended Florence Crittenton during their senior year in 2009 graduated – a record 41 teen moms! 80% had post-secondary plans.
- 100% of the 70 babies and toddlers enrolled in Parent Pathways' Early Learning Center for at least six months met or exceeded their developmental milestones, and all received basic immunizations.
- 127 young men received parenting skills, education, relationship and job readiness services through the Young Fathers Program.

### Give to Parent Pathways today!

- \$25 provides the supplies needed for a student for an entire year of Art Therapy class at the Florence Crittenton School
- \$50 provides a day of enriched child care, including food and developmental activities, for an infant in the Early Learning Center
- \$100 puts a student through a "Future Choices" class to guide her career and college plans.

## parent pathways

55 south zuni street  
denver, co 80223-1208  
303.321.6363 • fax: 303.321.6989

[www.parentpathways.org](http://www.parentpathways.org)  
[info@parentpathways.org](mailto:info@parentpathways.org)

## Helping teen parents



## create cycles of success



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