

where can a pregnant or parenting teen find hope?



## The Florence Crittenton School

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

—Yesenia Meraz, Class of 2009

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 celebrated 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

where can their babies get the best start?



## The Early Learning Center

“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

Lack of child care is one of the biggest reasons teen mothers drop out of high school. Florence Crittenton Services’ 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 all their immunizations.

where can dads and family members find support?



## The Family Engagement Center

“Florence Crittenton Services’ programs have changed my life for the good, and made me a better father.”

—Dominic Avila, Young Father’s Program, 2003

The Family Engagement Center at the Florence Crittenton School offers a comprehensive array of integrated services to educate young fathers in the responsibilities and joys of fatherhood, and to help family members learn how to best support the young mother.

The Center’s range of services includes education on infant care and early childhood development, nutrition education, counseling, family events, parent and family support groups, GED/academic referrals, legal workshops and counseling, job readiness coaching and more.

The Center also features a drop-in resource center to meet the needs of the student’s family and community.

Florence Crittenton Services

Empowering struggling teen families to be productive members of the community  
[www.florencecrittentonco.org](http://www.florencecrittentonco.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

Florence Crittenton Services 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 educate young fathers in the responsibilities and joys of fatherhood, and to help family members learn how to best support the young mother.

## achieving self-sufficiency

Florence Crittenton Services' has evolved to meet the needs of the Denver community for over a century. The Florence Crittenton School started as a home for unwed mothers in 1893, and opened as a school in 1984.

- Florence Crittenton's academic program, support services and skills training benefit an average of 280 teen moms each year.
- An average of 86% of eligible seniors graduated over the past three academic years.
- Of the 20 young women who graduated in 2010, 90% had post-secondary or career plans.
- 100% of the 70 babies and toddlers enrolled in Florence Crittenton Services' Early Learning Center for at least six months met or exceeded developmental milestones and received all of their basic immunizations.
- 118 young men received parenting skills, education, relationship and job readiness services.

### Give to Florence Crittenton Services!

- \$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

## Florence Crittenton Services

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## Helping teen parents



## create cycles of success



florence crittenton  
services

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