



## News Release

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Lisa Hamm-Greenawalt  
Communications & Outreach Manager  
Phone 303.321.6363 x218  
Cell: 720-971-9460  
Email: lhamm@parentpathways.org

## **Florence Crittenton School Marks 25 Years:**

### *Ribbon Cutting on 1st Day of School Kicks Off 10 Months of Events*

**DENVER, COLORADO - Aug. 7, 2009** – Parent Pathways' Florence Crittenton School for pregnant and parenting teens launches its 25-year anniversary year on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 7:30 a.m. just before the 25th class enters the building on the first day of school.

**School Supply Drive:** In addition to the ribbon cutting, students will receive backpacks filled with school supplies -- including notebooks, calculators, scissors, pens, protractors, art journals and many other items -- donated and assembled by volunteers from Lockheed Martin, PricewaterhouseCoopers, COPIC Insurance and Zachry Engineering. The backpacks will be distributed to students around 9 a.m.

**Baby Bucks Store:** The "Baby Bucks Store" at Parent Pathways opens at noon, providing students with the opportunity to use special "Z-bucks" provided by the Zonta Club of Denver II to all students to purchase diapers, clothes, toys and other baby supplies for their children. Students who demonstrate good attendance and behavior and earn good grades can earn award certificates throughout the school year to use as "cash" at the store. Zonta Club II earlier this year completely overhauled the Baby Bucks Store, turning a drab warehouse space with items oozing out of boxes into a cheerful environment many students compare to Target. Zonta International is a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women.

The Florence Crittenton School opened in 1984, three years after the Florence Crittenton Home closed its doors after almost 80 years spent providing unwed mothers with a place to live and deliver their babies before giving them up for adoption. The school, created in response to high dropout rates among teen mothers and a high incidence of low birth-weight babies, was originally named the Teen Parent Education Network.

In addition to the ribbon cutting, festivities surrounding the 25th anniversary of the Florence Crittenton School include a Sept. 16 luncheon themed "Seeding Tomorrow's Success: The Evolution of the Florence Crittenton School." Presenting sponsor Accenture will debut a mini-documentary highlighting the evolution of Parent Pathways over more than 100 years and the school over the past quarter century. Other sponsors of the luncheon include PCL Construction, FirstBank, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck.

The anniversary will also be celebrated during the school's annual reunion/homecoming in October and the "Miles for Moms" Run/Walk on Mothers Day weekend, culminating in the graduation of the 25th class in May.

The Florence Crittenton School, the largest provider of services to teen mothers in Denver, serves about 200 young women each year, helping teen mothers finish high school, give birth to healthy babies, learn how to be nurturing mothers, prevent repeat pregnancies, obtain post-secondary education and acquire marketable job skills and work experience. A record 41 students graduated in May.

###