



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Denver Foundation Awards \$2,000 to Parent Pathways For Food Pantry to Help Teen Parents

DENVER, COLORADO – June 15, 2009 -

The Denver Foundation has awarded a \$2,000 “critical needs” grant to Parent Pathways, the Denver nonprofit that helps teen parents raise healthy families, to fund a temporary, emergency Food Pantry the agency recently launched to help pregnant and parenting young clients struggling to put food on their families’ tables. The new grant has arrived just after the last bag of food for needy teen families went out the door, provided by an earlier \$3,000 grant from the foundation.

“We’re extremely grateful to receive this additional \$2,000 from the Denver Foundation to sustain our summer school students,” said Parent Pathways President and Chief Executive Officer Noreen Keleshian. “It will help us continue to help our neediest clients as we prepare to begin the next school year.”

The Parent Pathways Food Pantry opened in early spring to assist pregnant and parenting teens attending the Florence Crittenton School who have found that the difficult economy is hampering their efforts to feed their families. Forty-two students referred by counselors at the school have received large canvas grocery bags filled with canned food and dry goods.

“It’s really helpful, for us” said Wendy Barron, 17, who recently completed her junior year. Her mother makes only a couple of hundred dollars a month working part time, while Wendy is too busy studying and raising her baby daughter Nallely to earn an income, so the bags of cereal, juice, peanut butter and other staples really bridge the gap. “Without the Food Bank, it would be hard for us to get food,” she said.

The new grant must be spent by Oct. 31.

About Parent Pathways

Parent Pathways is a Denver-based non-profit that empowers struggling teen families to be productive members of the community. Using a holistic and proven approach, Parent Pathways offers a spectrum of wraparound services for the entire teen family, including education, career guidance and parenting training for pregnant and parenting teen mothers at the Florence Crittenton School; early childhood education for their babies and toddlers at the Qualistar-rated Early Learning Center; and counseling, education and parenting support for teen fathers through the Young Fathers Program. Learn more at www.parentpathways.org.

About The Denver Foundation

The Denver Foundation invests funds received from donors and distributes those investment earnings to nonprofit organizations through grants to nonprofits. It also manages and administers funds for individuals, families, businesses, and other organizations that have specific charitable objectives. More info at www.denverfoundation.org.

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