



## News Release

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **3 Teen Mother Graduates from Florence Crittenton School Receive College Scholarships**

**DENVER, COLORADO - May 28, 2009 -**

Three of the 40 teen mothers who graduated in May from the Florence Crittenton School, an alternative DPS high school for pregnant and parenting teen girls operated by the nonprofit Parent Pathways, have been awarded college scholarships, Parent Pathways announced today.

The Florence Crittenton School provides a high school education and a comprehensive range of services to its clients, helping teen mothers stay in school and graduate, 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. The school is the largest provider of services to teen mothers in Denver, serving over 200 teen mothers in the 2008-2009 school year.

The scholarship recipients are:

- **Karla Kamerzell**, who received \$1,000 from the Rotary Club of Denver. Karla, who attended CEC Middle College during her last year at the Florence Crittenton School, plans to go on to Emily Griffith Opportunity School and become a legal assistant. Her home school is South High.
- **Amanda Morris**, who received \$1,000 from the Zonta Club of Denver II, a volunteer organization that awards an annual scholarship to a Florence Crittenton Student. Amanda, who started at Kennedy High School, plans to pursue a Computer Science degree at Metropolitan State College of Denver.
- **Angie Nava**, who received \$500 from the Horace Mann Middle School, which she attended. She plans to pursue a medical career. North High is her home school.

“The Florence Crittenton School celebration at graduation is definitely a highlight each school year,” said Donna Campanella, Principal and Program Director of the Florence Crittenton School. “Completing the high school graduation requirements with all the pressures of being a teenager, a high school student, and a mom on top of it all, is an incredible accomplishment! Each year I am so impressed with the obstacles that our students overcome to reach this point. We’re all really proud and look forward to watching the next steps that our graduates take.”

A record 40 Florence Crittenton seniors received their Denver Public School diplomas on May 16, 2009, in a joyous, chaotic celebration at Central Presbyterian Church.

In addition to the school, Parent Pathways’ Qualistar-rated Early Learning Center provides licensed, on-site early childhood education for the babies of the school’s teen moms, acting as a “parenting laboratory” where professionals interact with students and their babies to teach young moms to promote their children’s health and development. The Young Fathers Program provides a comprehensive array of services to prepare young fathers for the responsibilities and joys of fatherhood.

(Photos and quotes from graduates are available upon request.)

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