



## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Parent Pathways' "Holiday Helping Hands" Projects Provide Bright Holidays for Teen Families

### *Family, Work & Social Groups Sought to Participate*

**DENVER, COLORADO - Oct. 15, 2009** – The holidays are the toughest time of year for the teen families served by Parent Pathways, the Denver nonprofit that helps teen parents raise healthy families. They struggle to make ends meet every day of the year, but Thanksgiving and the winter holidays provide even greater challenges. When you live in poverty, where does the extra money come from to prepare a Thanksgiving feast? Where do you find cash for a toy train from Santa?

Parent Pathways invites the community to participate in its 2009 Holiday Helping Hands Projects, to help provide abundant holidays to the 175 teen mothers who attend the Florence Crittenton School, the 105 teen dads served by Parent Pathways' Young Fathers Program, and their children and families.

Families or groups (work, place of worship, club, school, troop or other) can choose from the following opportunities to pass on some joy this holiday season:

- **Thanksgiving Baskets** – Parent Pathways hopes to provide each young family the agency serves with all the ingredients they need for a bountiful Thanksgiving Feast. A family or group commits to creating a certain number of Thanksgiving baskets for Parent Pathways' clients.
- **Sponsor-a-Family** – An interested group or family provides a holiday meal and gifts for a struggling teen mom's entire family. Parent Pathways provides details about the selected family (including genders, ages and gift wishes). Sponsors purchase two gifts for each family member, plus food for a holiday meal, and package it all in a plastic laundry basket.
- **Giving Tree** – Groups or families can buy presents for the children of the teen parents Parent Pathways serves. A group sets up a Giving Tree in its workplace, place of worship, school, store or other community location. Parent Pathways provides paper ornament tags labeled with the gift wishes of our clients' children, and participants purchase the gifts.

There's no better way to spread the holiday spirit! For more details, as well as information about sign-up and delivery, visit the Parent Pathways website. The deadline to make a commitment is Nov. 6 for Thanksgiving Baskets, and Nov. 20 for the other projects. Sign up online today!

### **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](http://www.parentpathways.org).

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