



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Florence Crittenton School Celebrates 25th Anniversary Commencement

School Operated by Parent Pathways and DPS Helps Teen Families Succeed

DENVER – May 14, 2010 – The nonprofit Parent Pathways will cap its year celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Florence Crittenton School for pregnant and parenting teens with the **Class of 2010 Commencement Exercises** on Saturday, May 22, at Central Presbyterian Church.

More than 20 teen mothers, cheered on by their families and children, will receive their diplomas during a 5 pm ceremony at the church at 1600 Sherman Street in Denver.

High school graduation is especially sweet for these determined young women who have overcome the odds of teen pregnancy, and in most cases poverty, to achieve their goal, with the support of the wraparound services provided by Parent Pathways. About half of these girls will be the first in their families to graduate from high school, and several have received college scholarships and have plans to further their education.

The Florence Crittenton School opened in 1984, three years after the Florence Crittenton Home closed its doors after 88 years giving unwed mothers 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. (Watch the 25th anniversary video at http://www.parentpathways.org/videos/Parent_Pathways_2009_video.wmv.)

The 25th anniversary year was launched with a ribbon-cutting on the first day of school last August, and celebrated during special events throughout the school year, including the Florence Crittenton School's annual reunion/homecoming in October and the "Miles for Moms" Run/Walk on May 8, 2010.

The largest provider of services to teen mothers in Denver, the Florence Crittenton School serves about 200 pregnant and parenting teens each year, helping them 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.

About Parent Pathways

Parent Pathways is a Denver-based nonprofit that empowers 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.

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