
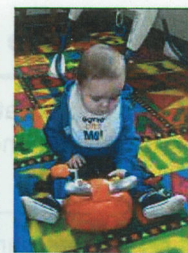


A Program of Family & Children's Center 



A place for teen parents and their children to learn, to grow and to belong

Purpose

Ensure the long-term self-sufficiency and parenting capacity of teen parents and the healthy growth and development of their children.

Goal

Provide a school in which pregnant and parenting teens can attend to complete a high school credential and raise a healthy child. We believe that teen parents have the potential to be great parents.

Vision

Our vision is for teen parents to walk in the world confident they will make healthy choices for their family and reject unhealthy choices knowing that no consequence is beyond repair, no decision beyond redemption. Communities are only as strong as their most vulnerable members. We are driven by the belief that teen parents need to dream of a life in which they become the best parent, employee, and community member possible; our work is to help those dreams become reality.

Graduates of Hope Achieve:

- High school diploma
- Successful completion of at least one entrance exam to a post-secondary institution
- Completed 'Senior Exit Project', including but not limited to:
 - A financial literacy course
 - A career and college prep course
 - Writing "their story"
 - Presentation of transition plan beyond high school
- Increased language interaction with their child
- Knowledge of child development

Early Childhood Educare

- Nurturing learning environment and care for children up to age three
- Program designed to provide a language-rich environment so children are prepared for preschool and ready for a lifetime of learning
- Parents and children together for homemade lunch

Parent & Life Training

- Students learn to make choices about what type of parents they will be, what kinds of relationships they will have, what sorts of people they will be and what types of jobs they will have.
- Students learn about themselves and how to care for themselves and their children.
- Students learn how to pick themselves up and move on when they don't make good choices.

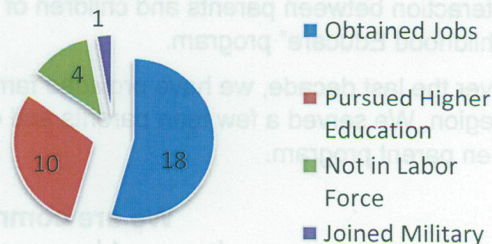
Academic Preparation

- Accredited high school curriculum aligned with Wisconsin Common Core State Standards
- Individualized high school instruction designed to meet the needs of a variety of learning levels
- Curriculum leading to a high school diploma (awarded from each student's high school) or GED/HSED
- Coursework preparing young parents for college and/or employment

Mommy Support Group/Mommy & Me Time

- Purposeful play between parent and child to prepare children's brains for learning
- Guided discussion about topics that matter, including common childhood ailments, nutrition, coping with unsolicited advice, child guidance, parent-child bonding, reading and playing with children to help them develop
- Unique bonding environment where teen parents connect to form a support network
- Learning from each other and supporting each other

Hope Academy 2009-2013 33 Graduates Plus 27 Children



Hope Academy Program Value and Credibility

How Does Hope Academy Compare?

According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, on average 60% of teen moms drop out of school.	100% of Hope participants graduate once a six week orientation period is completed.
Most school age parents enter Hope with an attendance rate of 50-60%.	Hope participants average a 90% attendance rate. Students rarely receive truancy tickets while enrolled.
Babies born to teenagers are at risk for neglect and abuse because young parents are uncertain about their roles and may be frustrated by the constant demands of caretaking.	We prevent child abuse through parent education, modeling and explicit child development instruction.
According to Terry-Human, et al. (2005) children of teen moms have a high incidence of developmental problems and tend to suffer poorer health.	At Hope, 76% of program 3-4 year olds were rated (by their preschool teachers) at or above peers in behavior, reading readiness and parent involvement in an 8-year longitudinal study of children whose parents graduated from our program.
According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, programs that equip pregnant and parenting teens with support structures and skills necessary to complete school, delay second pregnancies; second pregnancies increase dramatically if parents have not returned to school within 12 months.	Hope serves as a secondary pregnancy prevention program; 100% of our teen parents avoided a second pregnancy during high school.
According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, teen moms enter into an intergenerational cycle of poverty and public assistance; their children are much more likely to be teen parents.	In 2011-2013, 100% of our teen parents had a teen parent. Hope works to end this cycle.
Research recommends that teen parents need a family literacy model to maximize their success in school and life (National Women's Law Center, 2007; Shonkoff & Phillips, 2000; Teenwise, 2001).	Hope offers these comprehensive services through the combination of our Academic Preparation, Parent & Life Training, Mommy Support Group, Mommy & Me Time and our nationally recognized Early Childhood Educare program.

What are Hope Academy's Purpose and Credentials?

- By using a family literacy model, Hope serves two generations simultaneously, intervening to ensure that children of teen parents enter school ready to learn.
- Hope Academy has been nationally recognized within the field of family literacy for our cutting-edge work with birth to three-year-olds as well as for language interaction between parents and children of this age range in our "Early Childhood Educare" program.
- Over the last decade, we have provided family literacy services to the Coulee Region. We served a few teen parents and expanded in 2006 to an exclusive teen parent program.



We are committed to creating a school where...
 each **parent** knows she matters, each **child** knows he's treasured
 and each young **family** finds its way.