



Sanctuary Starts Here

Humphrey House Maternity Shelter for Pregnant and/or Parenting Teens

1. History and Need for a Maternity Shelter

- a. Increase in the number of pregnant foster teens seeking treatment for mental health and/or substance use
- b. Only 11 foster homes in Lea County
- c. Many times parenting foster youth and infant are separated in foster homes with the consequence of:
 - Termination of teen parents rights
 - Repeated moves for infant to different foster homes.

2. Characteristics of teens Served in the 2013-2014 Fiscal Years

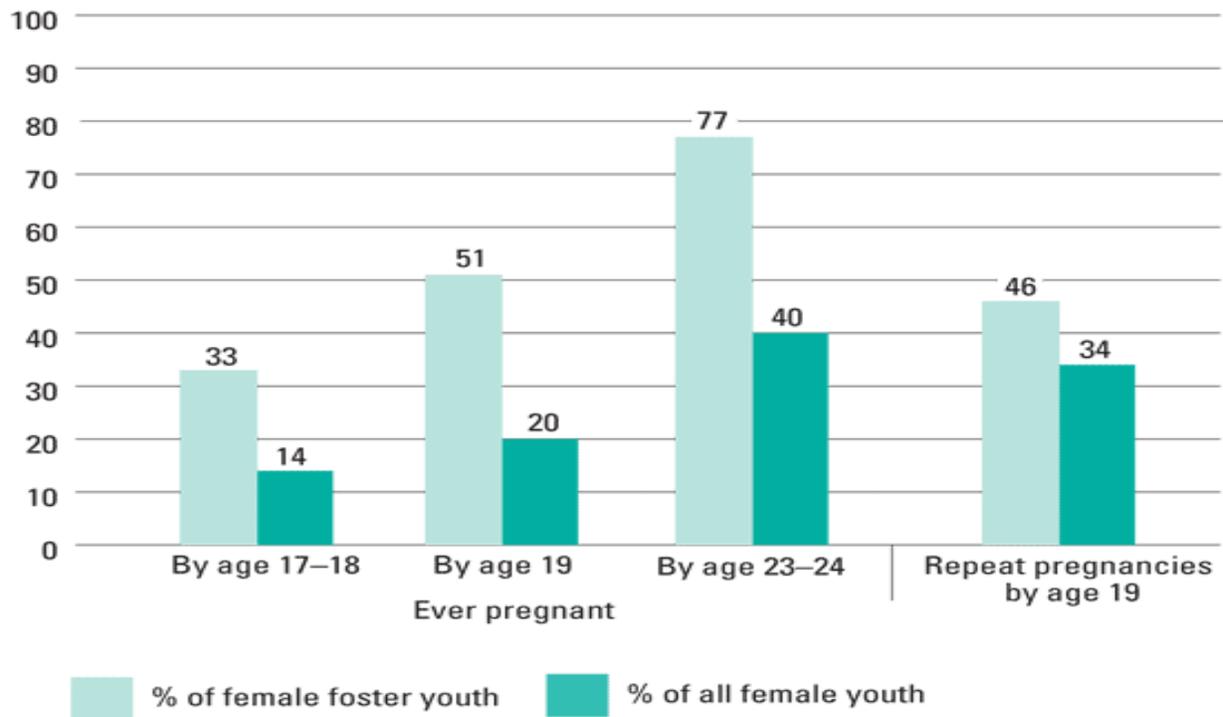
- 5 Teens and 4 Infants Served, average age 14 years 2 months

Teens History	Infant History
Age 14, own father is unknown, mother is in prison, in CYFD custody due to sex abuse and neglect, parents of teen addicted to substances, domestic violence in biological home, teen mother started using methamphetamine at age 11, behind 2 years academically, history of being raped twice.	5 month old female, delivered in Lubbock, Texas due to high risk pregnancy, born with 2 holes in her heart, developmentally advanced (crawling and standing up). Father is 20 years of age, convicted of contributing to a minor after impregnating teen mom, minimally involved in infant's life, on parole and does not pay child support.
Age: 15, both parents addicted to substances, teen started using marijuana at age 12, in CYFD's custody due to own abuse/neglect, domestic violence, parental rights terminated, 2 years behind academically	3 month old female, delivered in Hobbs, NM. Doing well physically. Infant's father is 16 years of age, not involved in infant's life, no child support.

Teen History	Infant History
Age 15, father is in prison, mother has a history of incarcerations due to drug use, youth started using cocaine at age 12, brother is in another NM group home, history of her own incarceration due to drug use, mother minimally involved in teens treatment.	Infant due in October 2014. Father, age 16, currently in Youth Diagnostic Development Center, incarcerated for one year. Contact with teen mom weekly via phone contact, no child support
Age 12, illegal alien, father in prison, mother involved in abusive relationship, teen started using drugs at age 10. History of incarceration due to marijuana use.	9 month old male, delivered in Hobbs, NM. Father unknown
Age 16, unknown father, mother has history of substance dependence, killed in 2013, domestic violence. Teen in CYFD's custody due to abuse/neglect. Is a senior and attending NMJC pursuing a degree in nursing	11 month of male, father involved in pregnancy and birth, provided financially and emotionally.

3. Social Consequences of Teen Parents

- a. Health Issues
- b. Schooling
- C. Economic Issues
- D. Relationships
- E. Depression
- F. Children's Success
- G. 2nd Pregnancies



4. Financial Cost of a Shelter for Pregnant and/or Parenting Teens

- a. Senator Gay Kiernan and Senator Carroll Leavell obtained special appropriation passed through legislature for \$100,000.00
- b. Cost to keep youth and infant in the shelter

5. Successes and Failures

6. Why This Program is Needed

- Breakdown of the parent/child bond and the cycle of abuse continues
- Lasting effects on healthy bonding and attachment.
- In cases where the safety of the child is in question, reasonable efforts should be made to provide and maintain placement of the infant and parent together in an effort to preserve the family unit.
- Pregnancy rate of foster youth
- Pay now pay later

7. Where Do We Go From Here

- Educational Assistance for appropriate educational placement
- Financial Assistance for housing and other uncovered services for these teenage parents and children
- Funding to Educate schools on the significance of trauma on the ability to learn and succeed academically and behaviorally in the schools
- Funding to educate foster parents and kinship placements on the significance of trauma on the development and behavior of abused/neglected children
- Specialized pregnancy prevention strategies for youth involved with CYFD

8. Agency Name: Guidance Center of Lea County, Inc. Humphrey House

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