



**Educating, Preparing, and Empowering
Teen Mothers and Their Children**

Electronic Press Kit

Florence Crittenton Services (FloCrit) is a Denver non-profit that educates, prepares, and empowers teen moms and their children through education, health & wellness, post-secondary preparedness, and basic/emergency needs support.

Our campus includes a Denver Public School system high school used exclusively by FloCrit teen moms, a 4-star Colorado Shines rated Early Childhood Education (ECE) Center for their children ages 6-weeks through PreK, a basic/emergency needs “store”, the Alethia E. Morgan School-Based Health Center, and resources for the entire teen family including post-secondary transition support, social-emotional and mental healthcare services, parenting education, and enrichment activities.

Florence Crittenton Services



**Early Childhood
Education Center**



**Florence Crittenton
High School**



**Alethia E. Morgan
Health Center**



****FloCrit teen moms and staff are
available for interview upon request****

WHY TEEN MOMS?

FloCrit has been serving vulnerable young women in our community since 1893, continuously adapting to their evolving needs. In 2020, there were over 2,200 babies born to teen mothers in Colorado, with a national graduation rate of only 38% for teenage mothers. Remarkably, FloCrit consistently doubles that rate, achieving a 96% graduation rate for our seniors in 2023.

The impact of education is evident, as women without a high school diploma or GED earn an average of \$16,700 per year, while those with a diploma earn \$24,900. This disparity can significantly affect children's long-term outcomes.

To comprehensively support teen families, it is essential to address various risk factors for intergenerational poverty, such as reduced access to education, health services, child care, basic needs, and social support, as well as traumatic experiences faced by young mothers. The FloCrit Campus tackles these barriers by providing integrated, intergenerational services that foster positive long-term outcomes for both mother and child.

One Organization, Four Key Components

Serving Two Generations

Florence Crittenton Services



The overarching non-profit organization, Florence Crittenton Services (FloCrit), provides customized wraparound services for teen moms and their children. This includes the Student and Family Support Program (SFSP) which is a team of trauma-informed professionals who provide strengths-based case management. Every young mother we serve is paired with an SFSP Family Advocate who provides her with one-on-one support. SFSP provides students with assistance to access counseling, housing, food, life skills, art therapy, family engagement, career readiness, legal services, and much more!

Early Childhood Education Center



The Early Childhood Education Center (ECE) is continuously rated four stars by Colorado Shines, a testament to the quality programming that it offers. The ECE Center can serve up to 108 children at a time, from six weeks old through Pre-K. Using a play-based approach that combines activities from the Creative Curriculum® and Conscious Discipline®, the center promotes every aspect of the child's development, including social-emotional growth. Teen moms participate in parent-teacher conferences with their child's ECE teachers to discuss results. The goal of the ECE is to ensure that each child is on a path to becoming kindergarten-ready.

Florence Crittenton High School



Florence Crittenton High School provides 9th-12th grade academics using the Denver Public Schools curriculum, as well as after-school tutoring, financial education, and career readiness training to pregnant and parenting young women, ages 14 to 21. The high school now offers multiple certification courses as well as concurrent enrollment courses such as MedConnect and phlebotomy.

Alethia E. Morgan, MD Health Center



The Alethia E. Morgan, MD Health Center is operated by Denver Health in partnership with Denver Public Schools and Florence Crittenton Services, allowing teen mothers to access free health care for themselves and their child on-site. Services provided at the clinic include immunizations, mental health counseling and psychiatric care, dental cleaning and restoration, and lactation support. The clinic partners with the Supplemental Nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) to help young moms access formula and other staples needed for infant care, on-site.

In FY 2023, Florence Crittenton Services Positively Impacted:

124

Florence Crittenton High
School Students

147

Infants and
toddlers

24

Graduating
Seniors

Students from

44

Zip Codes

Florence Crittenton High School

100%

of graduating seniors
completed a
post-secondary plan with our
transitions advocate

64

students were served for
the full academic year,
showing the dedication
of FloCrit moms to
furthering their
academic careers.

Early Childhood Education Center

95%

of children were present for at least 2
GOLD checkpoints, showing growth
in at least 5 of 6
development dimensions.



The Early Childhood
Education Center
maintains a four-star
Colorado Shines
rating

Student & Family Support Program

48

teen moms received support
through the Bilingual Clinical
Mental Health Manager
through group or individual
therapy sessions.

86

young parents received
housing assistance from
the FloCrit Housing
Department.

In FY23
FloCrit served

38

alumni



**“Something I will
miss about FloCrit is
everyone’s open arms
of love and support and
help and faith that all
teachers/staff have for us
teen moms”
-Sunshine Maez
Class of 2023**

Graduation Rate in 2023:

96%

This is 2.5 times more than the
national graduation rate of 38% for
teen moms before the age of 18!

“

I was honestly just trying to get to the next day. Like, I wasn't even thinking of the future.

Nothing. I was just trying to keep going. And that's when I got pregnant.”



Angie's Story

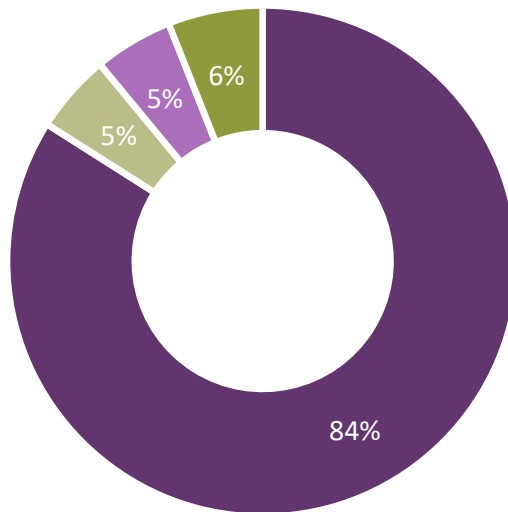
Angie wasn't yet fifteen years old when she became pregnant. After receiving information about Florence Crittenton Services from her doctor, she decided to attend Florence Crittenton High School. On her first day of school, Angie walked into the lunch room feeling alone and unsure. After looking around and seeing how many other teen moms surrounded her, she explains that she felt much more confident and less alone. For Angie, she couldn't even imagine what her future might look like. Before becoming pregnant, she experienced the loss of her grandmother (her primary caregiver) and fell into a state of depression. "I was honestly just trying to get to the next day. Like, I wasn't even thinking of the future. Nothing. I was just trying to keep going. And that's when I got pregnant."

Mia Malani, Angie's daughter, was named because of its meaning: *heavenly flower*. "I really believe my grandma dropped her down from heaven and gave her to me. And it really gave me a different perspective. And it changed my life." For Angie, this was just the beginning of a difficult journey. Having caring adults in her life was a new experience, so it took a while for her to trust those around her. She remembers pushing FloCrit staff away because she didn't trust that they were trying to help her. Eventually, Angie warmed up and began to view Florence Crittenton as a second home.

After graduating, Angie participated in Denver's Summer Youth Employment Program and worked with Director of Student and Family Support Program, Donica Snyder. Being mentored by Donica helped her grow and heal in numerous ways, and she began thinking about what her future might hold not that she had a high school degree.

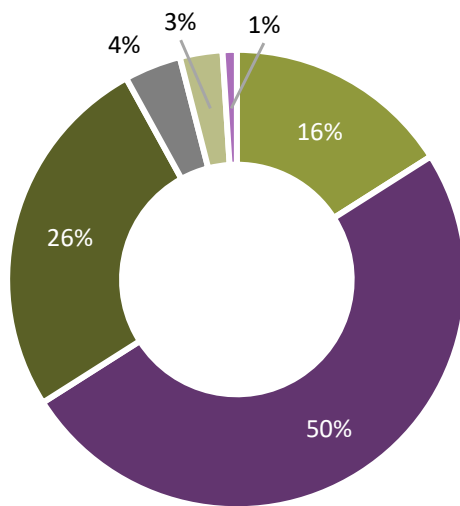
This year, Angie returned to FloCrit as a pre-school teacher and plans on using this position as a springboard into a career in pediatric psychology as she explores applying to college. Her son, Zeus, is one year old and happily plays with his friends in the ECE. Mia Malani is having a blast (while giving lots of sass) in the third grade.

Expenses



- Personnel
- Organizational Costs
- Occupancy Costs
- Client Support Costs

Revenues and Contributions



- Individual Contributions
- Program Service Fees
- Foundations and Institutions
- Government Grants
- Special Events, net
- Other



Noteworthy Events



Adults don't make babies, babies make adults

By Haley Kelly, Class of 2023



Haley and
her daughter,
Adalina, 3

No one is ready for a
baby

The sacrifice

The selflessness

The exhaustion

The loneliness

No matter your age
education or wealth

You don't know what you're doing
or if what you are doing is even
right
But a baby will force you to do it
anyways

I was 16 a child

I had never held a new born baby
never changed a diaper

I was terrified

I was alone

I was homeless

I was an addict

Trapped in an abusive relationship

I wasn't ready for a baby I was the
baby

Regardless she forced me to see the
reality of how I was living

I wanted better

I had to do better

I went cold turkey haven't touched
a pill since

I left my abuser

I'm proud to be a single mother
something I never thought I could
do

I left the streets

Replaced a cold truck bed with a
warm bed at moms house

I went back and finished school

I'm chasing my dreams

My daughter never fails to have a
smile on her face

4 years ago I was a sad broken little
girl

Then I heard her heart beating for
the first time suddenly
life wasn't about me or my sorrows
anymore

it was about her

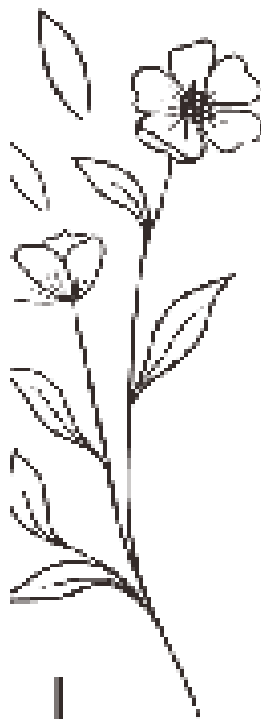
Children change the way you look
at the world it's something we've
always heard parents say but until
you become one
you never truly understand the
power of a child's love

Our kids will teach us more than we
could ever teach them because

Adults don't
make babies,
babies make
adults.



Haley
reading her poem at
graduation, 2023



1883

Charles Crittenton established the Florence Crittenton Mission in New York City alongside Dr. Kate Waller Barrett. These homes provided prostitutes and unwed pregnant women with housing and a skill to support themselves, usually sewing.



1893

Florence Crittenton Services in Denver was one of the first homes created outside of New York. Florence Crittenton Services was one of the four original Denver agencies to be funded by Mile High United Way in 1893.



1984

Florence Crittenton Services and Denver Public Schools partnered to provide highschool academics to parenting and pregnant teen girls starting with a single classroom.



2001

FloCrit moved to 96 S Zuni Street, providing a dedicated space for an expanded Early Childhood Education Center and Student Family Support Program.



2015

The new and expanded Florence Crittenton Campus opens, effectively doubling the ECE and opening up the Alethia E. Morgan MD Health Center.



2023

Celebrating 130 years of educating, preparing, and empowering teen moms and their children!

Contact Details



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Youtube: @FlorenceCrittentonServices2020
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<https://flocritco.org/>



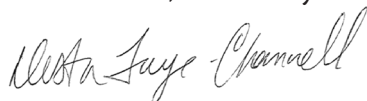
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A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT & CEO, DESTA TAYE-CHANNELL

Over the past 11 years, I've had the privilege of witnessing the unwavering determination of teen moms as they triumph over obstacles, graduate high school, and pave the way for a brighter future. At FloCrit, our two-generation approach empowers both mother and child to reach their full potential, as we dismantle barriers to success that stand in their way. Our organization is truly unique, and the teen families we serve are even more remarkable.

We firmly believe that the support of our community plays a pivotal role in creating lasting change within the broken systems that surround us. Your platform and storytelling have the power to shine a spotlight on the transformative work we do, and in turn, inspire others to join us on this meaningful journey.

Together, let's amplify the voices of these resilient young moms and create a world where every teen family can flourish, one story at a time.




DESTA TAYE-CHANNELL, MA, LPC,
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF
FLORENCE CRITTENTON SERVICES

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