

Our Population

The principle characteristics of the target population we provide services to are teen mom's ages 13-17 years of age with a history of abuse or neglect. Many of our young ladies are also mentally ill, cognitively delayed, developmentally delayed, victims of sexual abuse and abandonment. These young ladies have persevered and may cope by acting out behaviorally. Some of them have a delinquency history.

Our goal is to prepare our clients for supported independent living, independent living, and reunification with family or foster care. We address a myriad of issues in group counseling like: Interviewing skills, creating resumes, career choices, time management, abstinence, safe sex and pregnancy prevention, effective communication, health and hygiene. We invite speakers from different career backgrounds to come in and share their career choice with our young ladies. Just to name a few we have had a young female surgical resident come in, a college instructor, a nurse, an entrepreneur, and a computer engineer.

We collaborate with the Gilmore Institute of Arts. Every year we write a grant to qualify for scholarship money to enroll our girls in community arts programs i.e. dance, painting, musical instruments, music producing, voice lessons etc. We received funds in 2008 and we used those funds to enroll 4 girls in tap and hip-hop dance classes, one girl in violin lessons, and one girl in music producing lessons. We have also received grant money from the Gilmore Institute of Art in 2009 and we enrolled our girls into arts programs this fall. We encourage the girls to channel their negative energy into their gifted areas or areas of interest as a result we have observed a decrease in negative behaviors.