



# Teen Parent Apartment Program

The Teen Parent Apartment Program is designed to provide homeless teenage mothers or those at risk of becoming homeless with a safe, supportive home to live in while they learn to care for themselves and their children.

The Teen Parent Apartment programs provide a structured living option for those teens unable to live at home. On-site house parents are available to provide supervision, training, and assistance day and night. The Teen Living Program provide services to two client groups – young moms, their infants and children.

The program not only provides shelter for homeless teens and their children, but also offers programming that will enhance parenting skills, academic and vocational skill areas, social skills, and independent living skills, these young women are given the self-determination to become contributing members of the community and lead happy, successful lives with their children. Many past residents are working in the community as nurses, pre-school teachers, administrative assistants, bank tellers, and human service workers!

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## Educational Services

Residents of the Teen Parent Programs are required to be in a day program 30 hours a week in order to ensure they have the education and training skills necessary to provide for themselves and their children as they move towards independent living.

The staff have strong connections with local high schools in our district.

We also connect young moms to several local vocational and career training programs including the Salter School, the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) job training programs, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester Vocational High School Post-Baccalaureate program. Staff inform residents about these programs and assist them in applying to the program they want to attend.

There are several GED programs specifically designed for young parents in the Worcester community including the YWCA Young Parent Program (YPP), the Massachusetts Job Training GED program, and Access Futures bi-lingual GED program for young parents.

For more information, please contact:

Program Director  
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(508) 853-2487  
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[www.youinc.org](http://www.youinc.org)

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## Childcare Support Services

Childcare is an important facet as the resident starts an academic, vocational, or job-training program. Staff work closely with each resident to determine what type of day care will meet their needs, and are available to bring residents to visit day care programs as part of their decision making process.

Through this process residents develop the skills to choose and locate child-care services for their children in the future.

Y.O.U., Inc. over the past 15 years has developed strong, solid working with many of the child care providers in the Worcester community, ensuring that residents access the most appropriate child care setting for their child.

It is the mission of the Teen Parent Apartment Program as well as the Teen Living Program to provide a safe, supportive, and structured living alternative for teenage mothers and their children where comprehensive training is provided to endow young mothers with the skills necessary to transition to self sufficiency and become competent parents.

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## Community Involvement

The residents of the The Teen Parent Apartment Program are encouraged to create and maintain strong community connections.

The residents are introduced to the many community-based providers throughout the city and are encouraged to participate in the activities and services.

Examples of the many community-based programs we utilize are Head Start, Healthy Families, Early Intervention, Clark University Support Group for Young Parents, etc.

The residents are also encouraged to be involved in faith-based activities when appropriate. Several church and mentoring programs in the local community are well connected the program and many of our residents. The connections the residents make while living in the program can turn into life long connections in the community.

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