



News Release

August 10, 2012

TEEN PREGNANCY & PARENTING SUPPORT PROGRAM EMBRACES MEMPHIS COMMUNITY

The Baby Crawl-- TPPS Baby Store Grant Opening

Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., the Shelby County Office of Early Childhood & Youth, and the Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Support (TPPS) collaborative will celebrate the grand opening of four Baby Stores on August 17th 2012, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SCHEDULE:

10:00 am-11:00 am-*Kickoff Location-Rangeline Community Development Corp. 2285 Frayser Blvd.*

11:30 am-12:30 pm-*Cathedral of Faith 2212 Jackson Avenue*

1:00 pm-2:00 pm-*South Memphis Alliance 1200 South Third Street*

2:30 -3:30-*Hickory Hill Redevelopment Corp. 3745 South Hickory Ridge Mall # 496*

FACT: Shelby County leads Tennessee in births to teen mothers, with 20% of all teen births in the state. Pregnant and parenting teens face a myriad of challenges. Compared to adults who are parents, teen parents are more likely to live in poverty, less likely to marry, more likely to drop out of high school and less likely to earn a GED certificate. For teen mothers with more than one child, the difficulties are more pronounced. Teen mothers are less likely to receive adequate prenatal care and more likely to have babies born at low birth-weights.

OVERALL GOAL: Improve birth and early childhood outcomes by expanding, enhancing, and coordinating programs that promote health, education and social services for pregnant and parenting teens and women.

METHOD: A robust network of community stakeholders already exists in Shelby County with a primary focus on coordinating a full range of services for children pre-conception through age eight. Pregnancy and Parenting success will build on this existing infrastructure in order to achieve the aforementioned goal.

ACTIVITIES TO ACCOMPLISH GOAL FOR POSITIVE OUTCOMES via Collaborative Effort:

- Identify pregnant/parenting teens to establish foundation for action plan
- Group prenatal care programs
- Conduct home visitations for follow-up to ensure compliance
- Connect with existing community services

PROJECTED OUTCOMES via Collaborative Effort:

- Improve school attendance and graduation rates among pregnant and parenting teens
- Improve birth outcomes for pregnant mothers and other women at high-risk of pre-term or low birth-weight babies
- Increase attainment of positive early childhood outcomes
- Improve economic circumstances of teen parents

The Hickory Hill Baby Store is supported in part by Healthy Start project H49MC00036 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (Title V, Social Security Act).