

# Huck House and CHASE helping to keep Teen Parents "On Track"



The Huckleberry House Transitional Living has always been a program that challenges and inspires us. The teens in this program have already faced many hardships. They seek our help in learning to live on their own.

During the past three years, we have seen a significant shift in the population of the TLP program. Currently, 50% of the participants are pregnant or parenting one child. While these teens love their children, they are unprepared for the added stress of parenting young children.

In December of 2005, the JP Morgan Chase Foundation awarded Huckleberry House a

\$10,000.00 grant to support our newly developed TLP Teen Parent Track. The goal is to develop and implement a parent track within this program that specifically addresses the needs of parenting teens. TLP teens are living in Huck House apartments which allows us not only to have 24 hour access to the teens but also take the notion of parenting classes into the homes and lives of these teens.

**It is hard enough to strike out on your own—  
even harder with a child of your own.**

When asked what the biggest obstacles for our teen parents, all of the workers seemed to agree on childcare. “Not having reliable child care prevents them from going to school and getting and/ or keeping a job.” We teach youth in this program how to access child care and parenting classes. We also teach them how to manage their time so they can not only parent but also accomplish things for themselves.

The funds from CHASE will purchase welcome kits, child safety items and a lending library for new parents.

**Thank you CHASE!**