

**Spartanburg County Adolescent Family Life
Cumulative Results 2014 - 2017
School District Five**

The Spartanburg County Adolescent Family Life (AFL) program serves pregnant and parenting mothers up to age 24 who are enrolled in educational programs. AFL case managers are stationed in each of the seven school districts in the county, where they teach weekly Healthy Lifestyle Classes and meet one-on-one with each participant on a monthly basis. Case managers play a vital role in helping each participant build plans to reach educational goals, make choices that prevent subsequent pregnancies, access needed resources in the community, and navigate ways to raise healthy and happy children.

The AFL program has four primary goals: 1) The mother will reach educational goals; 2) The mother will not have a repeat pregnancy while in the program; 3) Mothers who enroll during pregnancy will have a healthy birth outcomes; 4) Children of mothers enrolled in AFL will receive recommended immunizations on schedule. In addition, adolescent parents participating in AFL services will increase their knowledge and practice of healthy and effective parenting strategies.

Here is what we know about adolescent parenthood:

- Only 38% of adolescent mothers who have their babies before age 18 will graduate high school by the time they are 22 years old.¹
- 24% of births to teens in SC are repeat births.²
- 10% of babies born to adolescents will be born early (before 37 weeks of pregnancy) or with low birth weight (below 5 pounds 8 ounces).³
- Children born to adolescents have a 64% chance of growing up in poverty if the mother does not complete high school.⁴
- Only 2% of teen mothers will earn a college degree by the time they are 30 years old.¹

Cumulative AFL results in Spartanburg School District Five

N=40	Education
	93% of participants achieved an educational goal (stayed in school or graduated).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10 out of 10 eligible high school seniors earned a diploma (100%). ▪ 5 participants earned a GED. ▪ 6 participants completed a post-secondary program. ▪ 16 participants remained in school ▪ 3 participants did not remain in school.
	Repeat Pregnancies
	1 out of 36 parenting participants reported a repeat pregnancy (2.8%).
	Birth Outcomes
	91% of births were healthy. A healthy birth is defined as the infant being born at 37+ weeks of pregnancy and having a birth weight of at least 5 pounds 8 ounces.
	Immunizations
100% eligible children received immunizations on schedule.	
Parenting Skills	
AFL participants reported an increase in all areas of parenting as measured by the Parents as Teachers “Parent Reflection Survey.”	

1. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. (2012) *Why it Matters: Teen Childbearing, Education, and Economic Wellbeing*
2. The South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. (2014) Spartanburg County Data
3. Birth Data Source: Department of Health and Environment Control, S.C. Community Assessment Network (SCAN), Births Module, 2014 data
4. The South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.
5. All monetary statistics were calculated using figures from the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm

With support, young families can thrive.

According to the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, a high school graduate has a median income earning potential of \$9,776 more per year than someone who dropped out of school. Over a 40 year career, this means a graduate can make \$391,040 more than someone who did not earn their diploma. With that number in mind, our nine AFL high school graduates and five GED recipients collectively have the ability to earn \$5.5 million dollars more over the course of their working lives than if they had dropped out after learning they were pregnant.⁵

AFL case managers confront the reality that babies are being born to young, unequipped mothers who need every ounce of support they can get.

Faith enrolled in the Adolescent Family Life program at the very young age of 15. Already a mother to her 5 month old son, Faith was committed to being a good parent and a successful student. While navigating the challenges of being a new parent in high school, Faith continued to attend school, weekly AFL classes, and monthly case management meetings. She excelled in the Byrnes High School JROTC program, and more recently became the recipient of the Coca-Cola scholarship. Faith graduated high school in spring 2017, and plans to continue her education in college this fall. Faith is a shining example of how an adolescent mother, armed with determination and a support network, can absolutely achieve success.

Most teen parents want to be good parents, and with the right support, instruction, and guidance, they can create a bright and promising futures for themselves and their children.

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