



**We Educate, Connect, and Empower
with Respect, Integrity, and Transparency**

RECITY, 112 BROADWAY STREET, STE. B, DURHAM NC 27701

Dear H.E.A.R.T. BEAT,

Mercedes Jeter was a junior at Southern High School in Durham when she found out she was pregnant. Even though she was strong, she recognized that she needed support. Thanks to H.E.A.R.T.S., Jeter was able to graduate from high school, attend a postsecondary education program, and is currently certified and working as a Phlebotomist with Duke Health. We are glad that we are still a part of her journey.

H.E.A.R.T.S. exists to cultivate the development and success of adolescent parents, helping them transition from poverty to sustainability. We are unwavering in our commitment to educate and equip all adolescent parents with the tools needed to become independent and self-sufficient. To do this, **we address the risk factors associated with teen parenting** through social, psychological, and academic development programs.

I am excited to share with you the enclosed information about our organization. Helping Each Adolescent Reach Their Spark (H.E.A.R.T.S.) works with parents as young as 13 to help them gain equitable access to available resources and services. Since our inception in 2012, **we have served over 250 pregnant and parenting teenagers and their children.**

This year, we invite you **to join us once again in our mission to make Durham a place where all teens can thrive.** Please consider making a gift to H.E.A.R.T.S. today and then join us in February for our annual #givingLOVEtoHEARTS campaign. **Together, we can continue to be the heartbeat of positive change.**

Thank you for your generosity, support, and belief in the power of compassion.

Warm regards,

Tameka Brown
Founder and Executive Director
2022 NC Peace Prize Recipient
2021 United Way of the Greater Triangle "10 to Watch" Recipient



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153 Babies

**reported born to teen
mothers in Durham
County in 2021**



Programs & Services

One-on-One Case Management: Advocacy Coaches provide intense direct support to equip participants with resources and services necessary to successfully reach their goals.

Group Sessions: Essential life skills training in a supportive and nurturing environment giving participants the opportunity to learn in a peer-supported setting.

Emergency Support Services: When the challenges become insurmountable, resources are provided to keep families safe and healthy.

LoveBug Children's Closet: Based on participation and accountability, H.E.A.R.T.S. families can shop at this consignment-like store for baby clothes, diapers, toys, personal hygiene products, and more.

Creative Learning Experiences: From sporting events to financial planning seminars to trips to the museum, we seek to expand the experiences available to our participants.

\$3840

**Total cost to
change the life
trajectory for
one young
family per year!**

Support Our Work!

- \$320** Per month cost to serve one participant and their child
- \$250** Implement one Group Session
- \$150** Groceries for a participant and child for a week
- \$50** LoveBug Children's Closet supplies
- \$25** Round trip Uber to medical appt



94%
HIGH
SCHOOL
GRADUATION
RATE FOR
H.E.A.R.T.S.
PARENTS



The Need!

8,000+ adolescent parents reside in the state of North Carolina



28.5 % of pregnancies in women ages 15-19 were repeat pregnancies



Only about **50%** of teen mothers earn a high school diploma by 22, vs. 90% of non-mothers
(According to the CDC website)



Monthly Giving Transforms Lives!

Small contributions, consistent impact, sustaining hope - one month at a time.

**Make a
Donation
TODAY!**

Mail Check or Money Order:
112 Broadway Street, Suite B, Durham NC 27701

Make a gift online by visiting:
<https://www.heartsnc.org/donate>

