

**ROCA HIGH RISK YOUNG MOTHERS PROGRAM
MODEL OVERVIEW AND OUTCOMES SUMMARY
April 2019**

Mission and Model

In struggling urban and suburban communities across America, there is a forgotten group of extremely high-risk, unserved young mothers and vulnerable children. These families persist in poverty, exposed to violence, trauma, toxic stress, and instability at levels far above other young parents and children in this county.

This population urgently needs to be served. The highest-risk young mothers have fallen through the cracks of the education system and are completely isolated from government-funded programs that seek to reach them. Tragically, their young children also do not access the many well-funded early childhood programs that are now available.

Roca's Young Mothers' Program is the only existing program that can reach the highest-risk young mothers – building on its track record with young men – and the need is more critical than ever. Compared to young parents in Massachusetts home visiting programs:

- 85% of Roca's young mothers have a history of trauma and abuse, versus 64%; and,
- 93% have not completed high school, versus 59%.

Compared to young families across the United States:

- 57% of Roca's young mothers are abusing substances, versus a national average of 38%; and,
- 100% of their children have between 4 and 10 documented Adverse Child Experiences (ACEs), versus an average of only 19.3% of children having more than 2 ACEs.

A relentless, data-driven approach

Awarded for innovation by the U.S. Center for the Study of Social Policy, Roca's Young Mothers' Program lifts the nation's forgotten 1% of young families out of poverty. Recruiting only the most isolated, single young mothers from marginalized communities of color, **Roca builds transformational relationships grounded in cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) with each woman, delivers unique programming to help mothers and children find stability and hope, employs 80% of graduates, and helps 95% of mothers avoid subsequent young pregnancies while ensuring school readiness for their children.**

Since 2012, Roca has grown to serve over 200 young families in 8 Massachusetts cities.

Like Roca's Intervention Model for young men entangled in the justice system, **Roca's Young Mothers' Program is designed to allow participants enough time to undergo meaningful behavior change.** This enables our young mothers to develop and practice the skills necessary to stay out of harm's way, become strong parents, and overcome poverty while also supporting the developmental, cognitive, and social-emotional needs of children. With no other local or national programs designed to engage the most disenfranchised young mothers, Roca's Young Mothers Program holds the unique distinction of being a long-term 2GEN program (two years of intensive services, with two more years of follow-up support) designed specifically for high-risk young mothers and their children.

Outcomes Overview and Highlights

Roca has established the following long-term outcomes for the YMP, each to be examined at five years from enrollment:

- Delayed subsequent pregnancies until the age of 24;
- Sustained engagement and/or advancements in education and employment;
- Sustained social support networks; and,
- On-time attainment of infant/child social and emotional developmental goals.

Participants	Chelsea	Springfield	2018	2017
Enrolled Young Mothers	189	22	211	200
Enrolled Children	221	27	238	237
Retention	78%	91%	80%	80%
Performance Standards	Chelsea	Springfield	2018	2017
Increase Engagement with Staff (2018 n=178, 2017 n=168)				
Weekly Average Contact Rates (2x/wk.)	77%	76%	77%	67%
Increase Programming Engagement (2018 n=178, 2017 n=168)				
Overall Programming Engagement	96%	100%	95%	88%
Life Skills and Engagement	67%	100%	90%	76%
Educational / Pre-Vocational Engagement	85%	91%	84%	71%
Employment Engagement	90%	100%	90%	76%
Accessing Bundled Services	74%	82%	75%	85%
Transitional Employment				
Basic Transitional Employment Enrolled	25	11	36	33
Increase Educational and Employment Gains				
Educational Gains at 18-24 months (2018 n=63, 2017 n=39)	35%	N/A	44%	44%
Employment Gains at 18-24 months (2018 n=62, 2017 n=34)	86%	N/A	86%	84%
Intermediate Outcomes	Chelsea	Springfield	2018	2017
Placed in Unsubsidized Employment at 24+ months (2018=87, 2017n =58)	77%	N/A	83%	83%
Delayed Subsequent Pregnancies Until 24 th Birthday (2018 n=58, 2017 n =58)	97%	N/A	97%	86%
Child Outcomes	Chelsea	Springfield	2018	2017
Received ASQ Developmental Assessment (2017 n=230, 2016 n =160)	63%	56%	62%	53%

DTA's Young Parents Program: The Next Generation

- 2Gen approach with the goal of empowering parents to be able to lead their family to a place of social and economic stability.
- Providers will be paid for outcomes not hours of services rendered
- Tracking outcomes across three domains; Education & Career, Life & Personal, and Parenting & Family.
- Open to both parents. This means intact families as well as non-custodial parents of TAFDC recipients.
- English language proficiency is now a payable outcome.
- Expanded the reach of the program beyond the attainment of a high school diploma or equivalency to include post-secondary education.
- We are hoping to reach exempt clients with children under the age of two who have already achieved a high school diploma or equivalency by supporting them as they pursue their post-secondary education.
- No longer pay for job placements. YPP is about education and career pathways. For those who are not looking to continue their educational journey, attaining a certificate in an industry, state, or nationally recognized certification program is a payable outcome.
- Recognizing that no one agency can meet all the needs of a young family, providers are required to find and nurture partnerships with other community assets.
- DTA is committed to partnering with providers in a continuous improvement process. Client feedback, data, and community partners will all come together to ensure that YPP is functioning as an effective and worthwhile program for all of our young families.
- DTA will be assigning each YPP participant to a SSS worker to support co-case management and program engagement.



History: The East Boston Social Centers, Inc., a 501 (C) (3) multi-service agency, offers programs designed to meet people's educational, social and recreational needs and to build community and strengthen families. The Social Centers seeks to create a welcoming and supportive environment, characterized by a spirit of goodwill and caring, in which members of our community are empowered to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

The history of the Social Centers dates to the 1880's when settlement houses were formed to meet the needs of a new immigrant population. These agencies were pioneers in the fields of childcare, public health, and social work. Combining several predecessor agencies, East Boston Social Centers was formally incorporated in 1918. Throughout the

Programs:

Our nationally accredited Early Learning Centers provide year-round, full-day learning to 145 children from age 2 months to Kindergarten entry, developing their social, emotional, cognitive and self-help skills. We currently offer Early Learning in all four locations.

The School Age Childcare program provides 150 children ages 5 to 14 affordable after-school and school vacation programming, following a high-quality, fun enrichment curriculum that includes STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). Our full-day Summer Program provides 200 children a safe, educational environment, including educational field trips, and literacy, environmental awareness, and wellness and social-emotional programming. We offer after-school/ vacation programming in two locations.

We provide nutritious meals and transportation for early learning, after-school, and summer programs. Each of those childhood programs serve a diverse, primarily low-income population; more than 90% of our children receive subsidy or voucher based on family income, Department of Children and Families involvement, or other need. We serve children from East Boston, Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop, and other surrounding communities. We are committed to high quality programming for all, regardless of income, and many staff are bilingual—helping us better serve families.

Boston Youth Network (BYN), a no-cost, after-school program for at-risk East Boston youth ages 13 to 18, includes academic assistance, workforce skill development, art and multi-cultural activities, and financial literacy. BYN is based at our headquarters location.

We oversee the East Boston Family Engagement Network: a group of agencies collaborating to engage families (particularly those with greatest need) in developing, and sharing information about: programs, services, educational opportunities, and leadership opportunities for parents and children. This network is based at our headquarters location.

Senior Place, based at our headquarters, serves more than 150 people over age 60 with meals and a wide array of social activities, informational speakers, recreational classes and trips—strengthening seniors' peer relationships and supporting their health and wellbeing.

EBNHC's Community Resource Center

120 Liverpool St. (Let's Get Movin' office)

Visit us for assistance with:

- *Housing applications
- *Disability applications
- *Financial Resources
- *Food Resources
- *Immigration Resources
- *Legal Resources
- *Parenting Resources
- *Child Care voucher apps
- *Education Resources

Walk-in hours:

Mondays 10:00am-4:00pm
Tuesdays 10:00am-4:00pm
Wednesdays 10:00am-4:00pm
Thursdays 10:00am-4:00pm
Fridays 10:00am-4:00pm

