

## Program History

In 1972 Vera Casey, a Berkeley High School teacher started one of the first teen parent programs in California. Since then the Vera Casey Center has provided services to teen parents in Berkeley Unified School District so they may continue their education. The Center became a national model for supporting teen parents to remain in school and become more effective parents.

*"Vera Casey is great for young mothers, because all we really need is support. Someone telling us we can make it."*



## Vera Casey Teen Parenting Program

**Student Services**  
1980 Allston Way,  
Building H-105  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
510-644-6854, ext. 2

**Vera Casey Center**  
2246 MLK Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
510-549-3063

[teenparents@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:teenparents@cityofberkeley.info)  
[www.ci.berkeley.ca.us](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us)

The Vera Casey Collaborative  
is a partnership between



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## Stay in school & Graduate!

## Vera Casey Teen Parenting Program

City of Berkeley Public Health Division





# SERVICES

## Case Management

Students are connected with a variety of services supporting their health and well being during pregnancy and as parents including:

- Health and wellness education
- Counseling
- Health insurance
- Prenatal care
- Public health nursing support
- Mental health services
- Employment
- Childcare

## Childcare

Childcare and child development services are provided at the Vera Casey Center while student parents attend school, work, or extracurricular activities. The staff are highly qualified: Head Start teachers have degrees in Early Childhood Education and all staff have specific training in working with infants and toddlers. Parent involvement is strongly encouraged in all aspects of the program from volunteering in class, attending parent meetings, or joining the Policy Council. The childcare schedule at the Center is designed to meet various families' needs.

## Give Us a Call!

Contact the Teen Parenting Program Manager at 510-644-6854, Ext. 2, or [teenparents@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:teenparents@cityofberkeley.info)

1980 Allston Way, Building H-105  
Berkeley, CA 94704

## Parenting Classes

Students are offered an elective parenting class for academic credit. Classes are held Thursdays from 3:30–5:30 p.m. at the Vera Casey Center and provide education, peer support, expert speakers, and field trips. Topics include:

- Pregnancy
- Childbirth
- Newborn care
- Early childhood development
- Positive discipline
- Early childhood literacy
- Nutrition
- Chronic disease prevention
- Healthy relationships
- Graduation planning

## Our Mission

The Vera Casey Teen Parenting Program strives to facilitate self-sufficiency and academic success of teen parents and their children by providing and coordinating support services, education, youth development, and child development. The Vera Casey Teen Parenting Program works with a cross-sector of stakeholders in the community including:

- Pregnant and parenting students
- Childcare and child development providers
- Health and social service providers
- School administrators and teachers
- Community-based organizations
- Grandparents and other family members

## Eligibility

We serve pregnant and parenting teen mothers and fathers under 19 years of age who attend or who are eligible to enroll in any Berkeley public school. School attendance is an expectation of program participation.

*"I met teens like me and we talk about stuff I can't really discuss with my friends who are not parents."*