

December Success Story

by Norene Roberts

At the end of November, Friends of Youth's Outreach Program enrolled a client by the name of "Tabitha." When we met Tabitha she was eight months pregnant. She was living between her mother's apartment and her boyfriend's house and was eager to get away from her boyfriend's house due to his violent behavior. Tabitha's mother did not approve of her daughter 'staying at her boyfriend's house, but could not offer her a permanent place to live. Her mother was renting a small room in a house and had to sneak Tabitha in some nights. To top it off, Tabitha did not have medical insurance, and had not been to a doctor since finding out she was pregnant. Unsure of where to go and worried about both her and her child's safety and future, Tabitha turned to the internet and found Outreach.

After meeting with Tabitha and hearing her story, Outreach told her about New Ground Bothell, Friends of Youth's transitional living program. Tabitha was worried at first and wasn't sure if she was ready to commit to a housing program or live with a "stranger." Her case manager understood why she was feeling nervous and set-up an appointment for both Tabitha and her mother to see New Ground Bothell and meet with the staff. Tabitha was relieved when she found a welcoming staff and an encouraging environment. With the help of her case manager, Tabitha was able to move in at the end of December. Now she has a safe place to call home for her and her baby. She is also receiving cash aid, food stamps, and medical coupons to help with her day-to-day life with a new baby.

For information on Outreach or New Ground Transitional Living Program contact Shawn Sivly at 425.869.6490 x 315 or email Shawn@friendsofyouth.org.