

GENESIS

Opening doors and supporting new families.

Edith's Story

Edith is a natural-born leader who wants to represent Latinas. She doesn't want to be seen as a statistic. She was a cheerleader in high school, was outgoing, and was considered to be the "good girl" in her group of friends. Becoming pregnant was something she did not expect.

Edith was just 14 when she found out she was expecting. At that moment, all she could think about was her future. She already had her life planned out, and having a baby at age 15 was not part of that plan. "I told the baby's father, 'I don't want to be a teen parent; I don't want to do this.' I didn't have time to think about it much. I found out when I was six months pregnant." The baby's father "was super supportive; more than me. He took it way better," she said. As the oldest of four children, Edith felt she had failed her parents' hard work. Looking back, she wishes she was more mature and prepared to be a parent. Fortunately, the support of the baby's father gave her motivation to move forward.

Because she was so far along, things moved at a whirlwind pace. The same day she found out she was pregnant, she had a checkup, and the very next day she had her first ultrasound. After the ultrasound, Edith's parents decided to move her into a school that had a teen parent program. They were concerned about bullying and wanted to make sure Edith got the support she needed while in school. Two weeks later, the school staff told her about the GENESIS Program.

Edith says she knew nothing about pregnancy, so she gave GENESIS a try. "When I first met Evelyn (her parent educator), I could tell she was very dedicated to what she did. She was someone who cared about me," said Edith. Evelyn took the time to meet Edith's needs, including talking to her about and giving her resources for birth control. "Evelyn made sure I got the birth control I wanted. She was very supportive," Edith said. Like all parent educators, Evelyn made sure Edith's home visits were dedicated to her well-being. "Her home visits were personal; she really got to meet my family," Edith shared. "I never wanted to be part of a statistic, and GENESIS thought the same thing; they pushed me to continue school."

Edith is now a dental assistant, part-time student at Community College of Denver, and a full-time mom. Edith plans to be a dentist one day, and she sees her work as a dental assistant as a good way to make sure it's the field she wants to go into. Edith is also involved in her community, school, and work. "I think I have so much more in me," she said. In ten years, Edith hopes to own her own home, have a master's degree, and continue to motivate others around her.



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