

AAOEC NEWS

Against All Odds Empowerment Center

Empowering Young Mothers to Make the Impossible...POSSIBLE

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Word from Our Founder

Reflecting on this past year while focusing on the new year, I would like to thank the ladies and volunteers who have committed to this program. AAOEC was a dream that you are now helping to become a reality with the time and service that you provide on a consistent basis. I look forward to the growth, relationships, and opportunities that this organization brings, as we are here to serve and change lives.

One Team. One Mission. Together We Can. Together We Will.



Stephanie Lewter

– AAOEC Founder and CEO

Welcome Our New Volunteers!!



We would like to welcome our new AAOEC coordinators. We look forward to the many successes ahead due to their drive and commitment to uplift our members.

Welcome to the team:

- **Felecia Scarborough** – Project Coordinator
- **Renee Barden** – Volunteer Coordinator
- **Rebecca Puett** – Executive Assistant to Stephane Lewter

Thank you for helping to impact the young mothers that we serve by sharing your skills and talents.

AAOEC Events in Review

Parenting Insight Program

Great Work!!

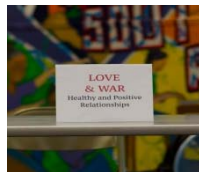


What a wonderful experience our members and volunteers have shared during our 2014 Parenting Insight Program. From September through October, our members attended classes overflowing with information and activities to help them develop a solid foundation for their lives and the lives of their children. We explored strategies to prepare them for successful parenting, financial planning, personal development, and job readiness.

We thank all of our volunteers that came to present each of the topics covered in this program.



Love and War



In July, AAOEC hosted a “Love and War” session to provide teen parents with tools to achieve and maintain healthy relationships. The goal for this event was to instill an understanding of healthy, positive, and strong relationships.

The “Love and War” session presented a panel of professionals within our community that encouraged insightful discussions. Our volunteer panel supported the open dialogue by sharing their own successes, lessons, and guidance to help the teenagers identify and execute healthy relationship behaviors.



If you missed this exciting, informative, and impactful event the first time, please join us our next “Love and War” session. More information to come soon!

Did you know...

“Studies show that teens who have adult mentors do better in school, stay out of trouble, make healthy choices, and have high self-esteem?”

- Youthhood.com

Mentors Make A Difference

Think of mentors as nurturing adults who volunteer who give their time and energy to young people by providing encouragement, non-judgmental support, guidance, and positive role modeling. A mentor's role is to enable mentees to stay focused and motivated in school and other activities by providing them with a sense of structure, helping them to overcome obstacles, and encouraging them to work toward achieving their educational and career goals.

Research has found that young people seem to benefit the most from mentors who engage them in specific, structured activities (rather than only engaging them in supportive conversations... though of course supportive conversations can be extremely helpful, too). Many mentees find that when they have caring adult mentors in their lives, their grades go up; their life and career goals become more solidified; and their sense of self-esteem increases substantially.

A mentor and mentee relationship works due to the strong rapport or bond that is built between the two. A hopeful, positive attitude along with strong expectations from both the mentor and mentee will bring positive energy and can make for good mentoring relationships.

Become an Against All Odds Mentor

Against All Odds mentors offers assistance to new mothers who might benefit from a friendly mentor/mentee relationship. Our mentors are carefully selected and help create possibilities by promoting a supportive environment for each teenage mother serving as role models in academic, personal and professional growth. Our mentees are offered an opportunity to work with committed, caring adults who will help promote a positive attitude toward their future.

Role of a Mentor

- Take the lead in supporting a young person, teen or mother through an ongoing, one-on-one relationship
- Serve as a positive role model and strengthen the new mother's support system
- Build a relationship by initiating planned activities
- Strive for mutual respect
- Participate in setting goals and work toward accomplishing your stated objectives
- Identify strengths and reinforce protective factors for the child

Time Commitment

- Make a 12 month commitment to being a mentor to a new mom
- Visit with the mother at least twice a month with weekly contact
- Attend mentor, mentee group activities, mentor support groups and/or program recognition events



“There are more than 20 different programs in the Triple P system. It's all about getting the right fit for each family.”

Triple P Parenting

Practiced throughout 25 different countries, the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program gives parents simple tips to help manage big and small family challenges without dictating *how* to parent. The program covers a multitude of parenting concerns including toddler tantrums, self-esteem issues, disobedience, aggression, and teenage rebellion to name a few.

Triple P offers different strategies to choose from to build a plan that suits each family's situation and beliefs.

The Positive Parenting Program will help you:

- Raise happy, confident kids
- Manage misbehavior so everyone in the family enjoys life more
- Set rules and routines that everyone respects and follows
- Encourage behavior you like
- Take care of yourself as a parent
- Feel confident you're doing the right thing

Because each family is different, Triple P has a range of ways to get your positive parenting help. Choose anything from single visit consultations to public seminars; group courses to private sessions. You can even do Triple P online at home.

Discover more about the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program by visiting their website www.triplep-parenting.net

AAOEC Recognizes

Join us as we celebrate the achievements of our members and volunteers who have obtained their Triple P accreditations!!!

- ✓ Stephanie Lewter, **AAOEC Founder and CEO**
- ✓ Felecia Scarborough, **AAOEC Project Coordinator**
- ✓ Rashonda Holmes, **PIP Coordinator**



Congratulations for this wonderful accomplishment! We know that your hard work and effort will be used to make a profound impact for our members.



AAOEC Volunteers

AAOEC would not and could not exist without the support of our volunteers. They are the heart of our organization. Volunteers give their time and talents in unique and creative ways. Most importantly, our volunteers offer a great deal of love and care.

We have different volunteer opportunities available:

- Speaker
- Mentor
- Tutor
- Event Organizer
- Fund Raiser
- Child Care
- Administration/Management
- Technical Support

And Many More...

If you have a special skill that might benefit our members and organization, we would like to encourage you to visit our website www.aaonc.org and sign up!!

AAOEC Partners

Become an AAOEC Partner

When you donate to AAOEC, you partner with us by investing in a teen mother's future and making a long-lasting impact on families. Thank you for your support and donation.

Against All Odds Empowerment Center (AAOEC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.



Ways to Donate:

PayPal donation to AAONC - You can donate securely online

Shop - AAOEC has a number of sponsors who throughout the year have merchandise and other items available for online purchase. A portion of the proceeds is donated to AAOEC in an effort to support our members.



Company Match - many companies will match your charitable giving, so contact your employer for their gift matching policies.



Meet Us in the Community

Join us as we venture out into our surrounding schools, organizations, and communities. We look forward to any opportunity to share information about how our services will benefit teenage mothers and their children's futures.

November Community Events

Community Fair

Location: Nia Point
Address: 2618 Pitts Drive
 Charlotte NC 28216
Date: Monday, Nov 24th
Time: 6:15PM – 7:30 PM

Location: Montgomery Gardens
Address: 5200 Beatties Ford Road
 Charlotte NC 28216
Date: Wednesday, Nov 26th
Time: 6:15PM – 7:30 PM

Interested in having us participate in your event?

Please contact us at 704.266.2260 or info@aaonc.org.

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