



**Young Parents  
College**  
FOR THE WHOLE OF LIFE

**ST PHILIP'S CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**

# Young Parents

**A Transformational Partnership Opportunity**



# Young Parents *College*

## EMPOWERING YOUNG PARENTS, CHANGING GENERATIONS

At St Philip's Christian College Young Parents (SPCC YP), we believe that every young parent deserves the chance to build a brighter future – for themselves and for their children.

Our program has helped break cycles of disadvantage through education, parenting support, and holistic care for the last 25 years.

Our onsite Early Learning Centres are uniquely designed to support both parents and children.



# Shared Values, *Shared Vision*

## ALIGNMENT WITH YOUR VALUES

SPCC Young Parents core values ensure:

- **Community well-being**
- **Equity and inclusion**
- **Long-term impact**

Our trauma-informed, non-judgmental approach empowers vulnerable young parents to re-engage with learning, develop parenting skills, and create secure futures for their families. These priorities align strongly with our partners values.

The SPCC Young Parents program breaks cycles of disadvantage through:

- An inclusive three-year HSC program tailored to individual learning needs
- A co-located Early Learning Centre (Narnia) supporting early childhood development and attachment
- Wraparound services including social workers and wellbeing support
- Evidence-based parenting programs and parenting skills development

***Our dual-generational approach creates a nurturing environment for both parent and children to thrive, delivering long-term social and economic benefits.***

# About the *Program*

## YOUNG PARENTS COLLEGE

Teen pregnancy remains a significant issue in Australia and underpins the need for targeted educational and social support:

- In 2022, there were approximately 5,021 births to parents under 20 years of age – roughly 1 in every 60 births.
- Teen birth rates remain disproportionately high in regional and remote areas and among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Teenage pregnancies often carry increased risks of maternal health complications, interrupted education, and long-term socio-economic disadvantage.

These statistics highlight the critical role of the SPCC Young Parents program in supporting young families to break cycles of disadvantage through education, parenting support, and early intervention.

***"This program has been my home. I'm not just studying – I'm breaking cycles of **addiction, violence, and welfare dependency.**"***

ROWANNE, GRADUATE

Typically, teen parents face complex challenges:

- Unstable housing
- Family violence
- Complex trauma
- Mental health concerns
- Low levels of literacy and numeracy
- Generational disadvantage
- Lack of support



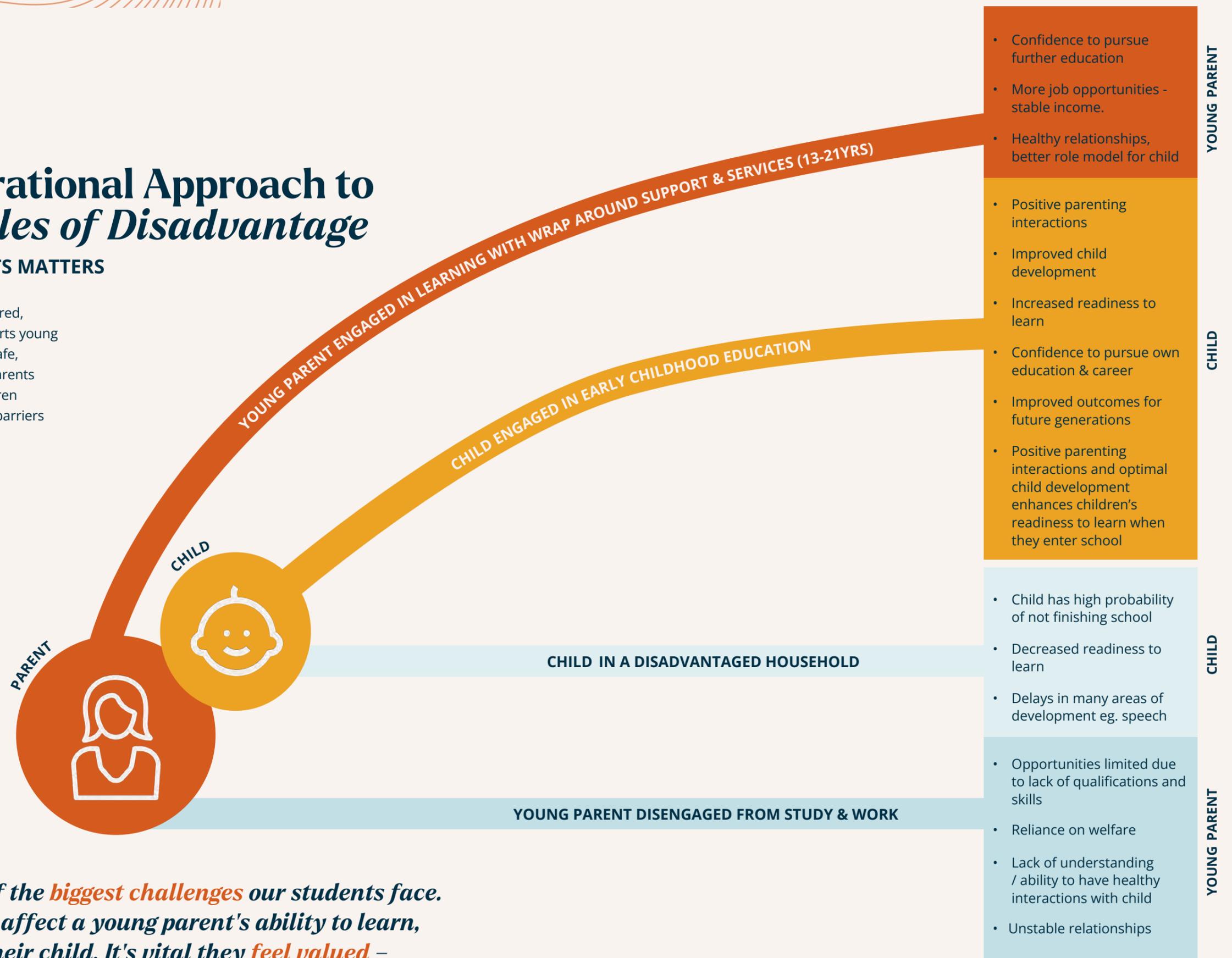
# A Dual-Generational Approach to Breaking Cycles of Disadvantage

## WHY SPCC YOUNG PARENTS MATTERS

The SPCC Young Parents model is a tailored, research-informed approach that supports young parents and their children. It creates a safe, trauma-informed environment where parents can complete their HSC while their children access on-site early learning – reducing barriers to education.

Teenage parents often face significant challenges:

- Parenting at a young age
- Poor school engagement
- Unstable mental health
- Domestic violence
- Financial hardship
- Homelessness

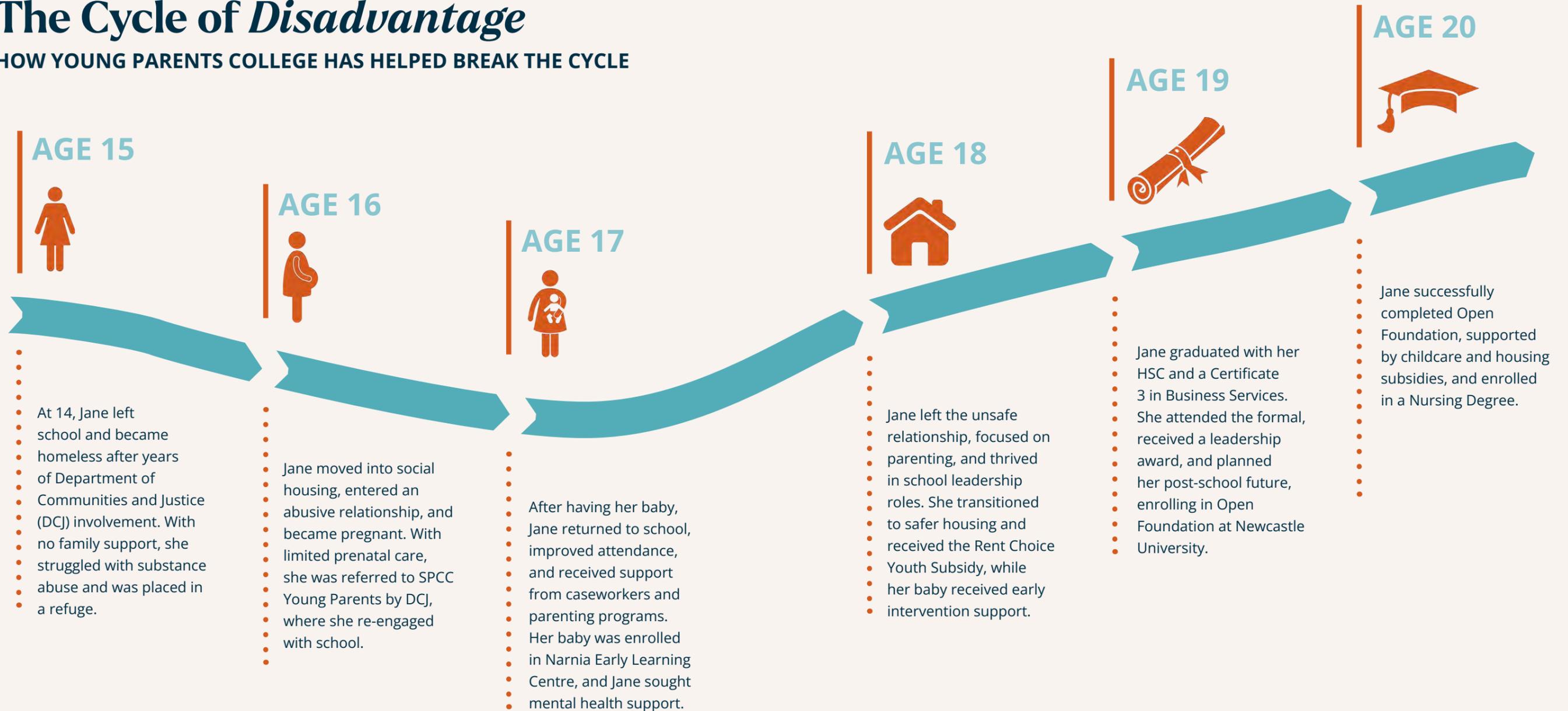


*"Mental health is one of the biggest challenges our students face. Without support, it can affect a young parent's ability to learn, connect, and care for their child. It's vital they feel valued – so they can believe in the possibility of a better future."*

AMANDA MCINNES, DIRECTOR - YOUNG PARENTS COLLEGE

# The Cycle of *Disadvantage*

HOW YOUNG PARENTS COLLEGE HAS HELPED BREAK THE CYCLE



# Impact On The *Next Generation*

## BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY

Most of our students come from generationally disadvantaged households. Through re-engagement with education, employment pathways, and family support, SPCC Young Parents contributes to reducing welfare dependency, improving school readiness for children, and fostering healthy, productive community members.

## CONTRIBUTING TO A SUSTAINABLE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY

**Our tailored approach to education leads to measurable improvement in:**

- Educational attainment
- Mental health
- Parenting capacity

**Students graduate with:**

- HSC
- Certificate III qualifications,
- Completed at least three evidence-informed parenting courses

The longer students engage with SPCC Young Parents, the more child protection reports decrease – demonstrating a direct community benefit. Through generational change, we foster a vibrant, more resilient family.

*"Young Parents College gave me more than an education – it gave me a place where I truly belong."*

CHARLEE - GRADUATE



# A Strong Foundation For *Sustainable Partnership*

## RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIP GROWTH

SPCC Young Parents actively builds strong partnerships with local service providers to deliver holistic care to families. Our commitment to transparency, collaboration, and shared goals underpins all partnerships. We seek long-term relationships that grow in depth and impact and welcome co-designed initiatives that reflect shared values.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We are proud to work alongside a number of community organisations who enhance and extend the support we can offer our students and their children. Some of these partners include:

- **HUNTER NEW ENGLAND HEALTH** – delivering on-site maternal, child, and adolescent health support
- **BIRRALI** – supporting Aboriginal students and families with cultural connection and case support
- **GRAINERY CARE** – providing practical support, supported work placement, accommodation for two YP Families, community connections
- **THE BRAVE FOUNDATION** – mentoring and supporting young parents to navigate education, parenting, and employment

- **SOUL HUB** – Supported work placement, offering meals, resources, and wellbeing services
- **OZHARVEST** – supplying nutritious food to support student wellbeing

We are committed to partnerships that help to address the vulnerabilities of young parents and improve the long-term outcomes of the family.

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR RECONCILIATION: CLOSING THE GAP

Approximately 50% of our Newcastle students and 70% of their children identify as Aboriginal. We are committed to Closing the Gap by:

- **TARGET 3:** Supporting child development through early education and parenting programs
- **TARGET 4:** Ensuring participation in quality early learning environments through Narnia
- **TARGET 5:** Enabling HSC completion and further education through tailored learning programs

Our culturally safe, inclusive environment is co-designed with Aboriginal perspectives and actively builds pride, engagement, and opportunity. We partner with Aboriginal organisations and embed practices that uphold cultural identity and support healing.



# Opportunities for *Engagement*

## EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We offer meaningful and flexible partner opportunities for employees to engage with our program:

Volunteering at events or through campus support initiatives

Participating in mentoring or career exposure programs

Supporting graduation ceremonies and milestone celebrations

Involvement in the **SPCC Young Parents Ambassador Program**, which provides opportunities for community members and supporters to champion the program, promote awareness, and participate in advocacy, fundraising, and student encouragement initiatives.

These activities provide an avenue for team building, shared purpose, and tangible community impact.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

**SCAN HERE** to learn more out our Ambassador Program and how you can get involved.



*"You feel **seen** and **understood** – the staff truly care and walk alongside you."*

TAMARA - YEAR 12 STUDENT



# Narnia

## A TAILORED APPROACH TO EARLY LEARNING

Narnia Young Parents exists to provide a supportive environment for families and their children, consisting of high-quality education and care, as well as parenting support for parents who are studying at our Young Parents College.

We understand that as many of our young parents are determined to improve their own circumstances, their motivation is also to provide a loving environment for their little ones and to improve the future prospects for their babies.

Our fully qualified Christian Educators understand that the first few years of a child's life are a time of extraordinary development. Our stimulating early learning program with an emphasis on supporting attachment and emotional regulation skills, provides the building blocks children need to thrive.

Narnia Young Parents recognise the important role that early intervention plays in supporting young children and provides assistance to families to access these supports.

Our Young Parents College student classrooms are located adjacent to Narnia Early Learning, enabling the parents to participate in the daily nurturing of their children. Parenting programs are conducted throughout the year to further support positive parenting skills. The curriculum for some of the courses studied by the parents also incorporates activities planned for the babies.

Each baby and toddler we care for is a special gift and uniquely created. We are eager to get to know each child and watch their journey of discovering all that God has created them to be.

*"Providing supportive **partnerships** with young parents"*



# Investing in Generational Change

SPCC Young Parents provides a critical solution to the well-documented risks associated with teenage pregnancy. Without targeted support, young parents are more likely to face interrupted education, reliance on welfare, unstable housing, and mental health challenges. Their children are also at increased risk of poor developmental outcomes and intergenerational disadvantage.

Our program is uniquely positioned to break this cycle by addressing the needs of both generations simultaneously. By re-engaging young parents in education, supporting early childhood development, and fostering parenting confidence, we enable sustainable, life-changing outcomes. The stories of our students and graduates, many of whom are now employed, studying, and raising thriving children, are testament to the long-term value and impact of our work.

The dual structure minimises barriers to educational success and restores hope and self-belief in young people who may have disengaged from mainstream education.

This model offers more than education – it promotes social mobility, self-determination, and family stability. Many participants are the first in their family to finish school and report increased engagement with community, mental health supports, and improved life outcomes for themselves and their children.

Ultimately, the SPCC Young Parents model not only educates – it interrupts intergenerational cycles of trauma and disadvantage, leading to better futures for two generations, and by extension, the communities they belong to.

## GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

St Philip's Christian College has operated the Young Parents program for 25 years, with campuses in Newcastle and the Central Coast. The program is part of the College's Tailored Education stream and is delivered through a structured governance model with experienced leadership and quality assurance mechanisms. Each campus provides integrated services, including a high school and Early Learning Centre, to support student wellbeing and educational outcomes. The program has successfully supported over 80 graduates and their children in the past ten years, with 75% entering employment and 50% continuing to tertiary education.



# Breaking Cycles: Rowanne's Story

## FROM CRISIS TO HOPE AT YOUNG PARENTS COLLEGE

For Rowanne Jeffries, Young Parents College wasn't just a school – it was a turning point.

Rowanne spent five years at YPC, and during that time, she began to rewrite a story that had been shaped by hardship and instability. Her early life was marked by dysfunction and danger. By 13, she was out of home, and at 14, living in a refuge. Years later, after navigating a string of unhealthy relationships, she found herself pregnant. That's when Birra-li referred her to Young Parents College.

*"I wanted to come to school to provide a safe and secure place for my daughter – and I wanted to study," Rowanne said. "I wanted a better life for my kids than what I had."*

She had also heard that by the time they start kindergarten, Aboriginal children were statistically more likely to be behind. *"I didn't want that for my children,"* she shared, *"so having them in a quality Early Learning Centre was really important to me."*

### A SAFE PLACE TO BEGIN AGAIN

For Rowanne, safety was essential – and so was support.

*"I knew I was on the edge of another breakdown," she said. "I had caseworkers telling me I needed to break some generational cycles and that education could help. I was scared of losing my children and I knew I needed parenting support, education, and help with my mental health."*

At Young Parents College, she found all of that – and more.

*"The support I've had here has been incredible. I've learnt so much about myself, about being a better parent, and about life."*

### DISCOVERING HOPE AND PURPOSE

Throughout her life, Rowanne had cried out to God in moments of crisis. But her time at YPC helped her understand that God wasn't just present in the hard times – He was with her always.

*"At school I learnt more about who God is, and that I am loved by Him. I feel like anything is possible for me now."*

Today, Rowanne holds her HSC and is close to completing her Certificate III in Education Support. Her dream is to work at Young Parents College – to be a part of the very place that helped change her life.

### BREAKING CYCLES

*"I've learnt to trust people. I've learnt how to get on with others. I've learnt the importance of routine and structure – things I never had growing up."*

And most powerfully, Rowanne knows she's breaking the cycles that once defined her family's story:

- The cycle of generational dysfunction
- The cycle of addiction
- The cycle of welfare dependence
- The cycle of domestic violence
- The cycle of poor educational outcomes

***"I love this place, it's my home"***

ROWANNE, GRADUATE



# Partner With Us

## A REQUEST FOR PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT

As an independent, non-fee-paying school, we rely on a blend of government support, philanthropic giving, and community grants.

To sustain and grow our impact and meet the increasing complexity of our students' needs – we are seeking:

### THREE-YEAR FUNDING PARTNERSHIPS OF: \$200,000 OR MORE PER YEAR

This investment will:

- Provide educational stability for vulnerable young parents
- Secure staffing and wellbeing services
- Ensure sustainability of our Aboriginal engagement initiatives
- Strengthen early learning and parenting programs
- Enable long-term planning and deeper community impact

### \$100,000 OR MORE PER YEAR

This investment will:

- Support the funding of Social Work positions and programs

### \$50,000 OR MORE PER YEAR

This investment will:

- Support transport and wellbeing costs for vulnerable young people.

## TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

This proposal represents more than a funding opportunity – it is an invitation to join a movement of hope, healing, and transformation.

With your support, we can continue:

- Educating young parents
- Empowering young children
- Elevating community resilience
- Enriching young people's future

## CONTACT US

For further discussion or to arrange a visit to our Campus', please contact us at the details below.



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*"You're never alone here – the support is incredible, and the friendships are real."*

YAZMYN, YEAR 12 STUDENT



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## LOCATIONS: CENTRAL COAST & NEWCASTLE

**Newcastle Campus** | 98 Georgetown Rd, Waratah

**Central Coast Campus** | 2A Amy Close, Wyong

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