

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

Trameka Pope defied the odds stacked against teen moms-find out where Trameka is now!

Last year we had the great privilege of introducing you to Trameka Pope and her daughter Danielle. Trameka and her family came into contact with SGA the summer of her 8th grade year. A teacher introduced Trameka, who was six months pregnant to SGA's Parenting services. Through SGA Trameka was provided with services that helped her to understand the stages of her pregnancy as well as childbirth and prepared her for becoming a new mom. When Trameka gave birth to Danielle she was in the first week of her freshman year of high school.

SGA helped Trameka learn how to best care for her daughter and herself during this new phase of her life. Despite facing innumerable obstacles, Trameka returned to school and was enrolled in all honors classes. She was involved in a number of extracurricular activities, a scholars program, worked part-time and continued to receive services from SGA.



By her senior year, Trameka was the number one student in her graduating class at Wendell Phillips High School, was accepted to over twenty colleges and was awarded over \$80,000 in scholarships. Trameka beat the odds and one year later she is a full-time student at Western Illinois University, working toward her Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health and raising her daughter Danielle, all while maintaining a part-time job and a 3.5 grade point average! Trameka has a strong support system in her new friends at Western Illinois who gather together every Sunday night for a "family dinner" to discuss the week ahead, and to keep one another motivated and focused on school. Trameka also makes time to be a part of Western Illinois' Dance Team.

Most importantly, Trameka is a wonderful mother to Danielle who is enrolled in a Head Start Program and is on her own path to success preparing to enter kindergarten when she turns five! It goes without saying that Trameka is an incredibly ambitious young woman who has accomplished a great deal in her life while facing immeasurable challenges. We are so excited for Trameka and Danielle's future and we will keep you updated on their progress.