Imagine moving from Lebanon, a town with roughly 10,000 people, to the "big city" of Eugene. Now imagine that you are just a teenager and pregnant.

This is the situation Tracy Howard found herself at 17 years old. Case managers at the Orchard Inn, a shelter for pregnant teens, pointed Tracy in the direction of Parenting Now, then called Birth To Three. With her friend, Shelly, Tracy attended her first group session in the Young Parents Program, taught by Program Manager Anita Quincy-Huffman. "It was nervous about first going in because I didn't know what to expect," says Tracy. But she quickly became at home with the other girls in the group. "We had a good group with a lot of different backgrounds. It just worked," she says.

"I don't remember the other teen parents was incredible." Tracy stayed in the Young Parents Program for over 3 years. "Even after I graduated the program, when my youngest daughter was 4, I called Anita because she was having behaviors that just concerned about and Anita talked me through it." says Tracy. "I would call her from time to time, just having questions like that."

Tracy returned to Birth To Three when her two daughters were elementary school aged. This time, Tracy signed up for the Make Parenting A Pleasure Program. Her girls were 6 and 3, and Tracy felt that she needed "a tuneup." Tracy was able once again to work with Anita. "Anita was caring, nonjudgmental, and just nice," says Tracy. "Just connected with her." Even after 27 years, Tracy, who works for Child Welfare, still keeps contact with some of her former group members. When her youngest daughter was 19 and pregnant, Tracy was able to refer her to the Young Parents Program. "She is doing great," says Tracy. "It worked her to get the same information and treatment that I got out of the program," says Tracy. "Anita got to see three generations of us!"

"We had a good group with a lot of different backgrounds. It just worked." -Tracy Howard, client

"Parenting Now! helped set the foundation for a happy and healthy relationship with my child. We joined our group when she was an infant, and I really did learn to make parenting a pleasure!"
Dear Friends,

Thank you for making 2017 another wonderful year at Parenting Now! Thank you for your support as we have been able to provide services to 7,023 families this year.

As the Adverse Childhood Experiences research shows, getting families off to the right start is critical in preventing the life-long results of negative childhood experiences. Our work, though, is more than just prevention — we help families thrive!

From the travel infants to the most robust toddlers and children, we’ve been there to provide services for our wonderfully diverse families, looking to do their best for their children. Here are a few highlights of our past fiscal year:

- We expanded our program offerings to include Language at Your Fingertip for families who are expecting or just recently postpartum. And at the other end of the spectrum, we continue to have strong interest in our Joy of Grandparents program.
- We now have an online resource website, based on our Resource Poster, to better reach families wherever they are.

- We received funding to finish an update of our hallmark evidence-based curriculum, Make Parenting A Pleasure. The update will include state of the art information about parenting education and child development, and is a critical part in ensuring our sustainability.

Our traditional programming of group-based programs for incredible infants, Wonderful ONEs, and Terrific TWOs is still going strong! New Incredible INFANTS’ programs start weekly.

There are so many reasons to celebrate our success and support Parenting Now! As this year, Parenting Now will mark its 40th year in supporting families. I look forward to celebrating these successes with you in the months and years to come.

Best,
Lynne

A letter from Lynne