

In the first few minutes of our counseling session, Jada would not speak. She appeared stunned by the news she just received. After assuring her that I was there for her, she opened up. Some of the first things she shared were about her dreams of finishing high school and going to college.

Jada expressed, “I’m not having a baby. I need to finish school.” I could see that this news was something she was trying desperately to wrap her head around. As we continued our conversation, Jada explained that she was brought up in church and is involved there. She expressed fear of the reaction she would get from people. In addition, she had some other concerns. With tears streaming down her face she vented, “How am I supposed to go to school pregnant when I judged other girls for getting pregnant? I am not having a baby!”

Jada gave permission for me to ask her mother into the counseling room. When she entered the room, she would not look at her daughter. I encouraged her to have a seat by Jada so we could talk about the situation. At that point, Jada’s mother began to cry. “I feel like Jada just slapped me in the face! I knew what she was doing and I was trying to keep THIS from happening!”

After talking for a while there was a breakthrough! Jada’s mom looked at her and said, “I’m going to do whatever I can for you no matter what you decide to do about this pregnancy.” We then discussed the need to schedule an ultrasound exam soon at Caris.

One week later, I was informed by Jada that she had decided to continue her pregnancy and parent her child! She was connected to medical resources through Lawndale. She also asked for additional counseling at Caris.