



Susan's story...

“ When I found out I was pregnant I was shocked, horrified, scared, I couldn't really believe it and so initially I didn't know how to feel. When I found out I was still at school, in Year 11.

A big factor of my decision to continue with the pregnancy was to make sure the school would support me to finish my education. I did not want to have to change schools as I was already going through an incredibly emotional time. Changing schools on top of that would, in my opinion, have set me up for failure.

I found out about Brave Foundation after Mabel was born - and it helped me realise my dreams. Knowing that others had been through this too showed me that finishing school whilst caring for Mabel was achievable. It gave me the confidence to succeed. ”

To find out more about Susan's story go to:
bravefoundation.org.au/real-stories

EXPECTING AND PARENTING TEENS

Support and acceptance around expecting and parenting teens, creating happy, healthy and skilled families.



|| BRAVE

ABOUT OUR ORGANISATION



➤ The Brave story

Brave Foundation began in 2009, as a result of Founding Director Bernadette Black publishing 'Brave Little Bear,' her own story of teenage pregnancy through to becoming the Barnardos Australian Mother of the Year. After the launch of her book, Bernadette would receive emails from expecting and parenting teens in Australia asking where they could finish their secondary schooling and find support where they lived. This was in fact why Bernadette Black wrote her book, as it was something just like this that she searched for at 16 but could not find.

The Charity has a full board of skill mixed Directors with The Honourable David Bartlett, former Tasmanian Premier as its Chair.

Brave Foundation is an Australian Not for Profit Registered Charity that is registered as a Deductible Gift Recipient.

➤ What is Brave Foundation?

Brave Foundation builds up the village of support and acceptance around expecting and parenting teens. We share stories of others who have been on this journey and provide encouragement at this potentially difficult time in the life of their family.

Brave Foundation partners with and promotes existing pregnancy and parenting support services and educational opportunities. We act as a central point of reference for those seeking support. Please visit our location-based directory at www.bravefoundation.org.au to see which services are available in your area.

➤ Triage services

Currently, Brave Foundation provides its triage service online, on its social media platforms and also via its triage hotline: 1800 827 441. At Brave we all have a personal connection with teenage pregnancy and parenthood, you can begin a conversation with us through any platform at any time. We will figuratively hold your hand as we help you find the right support and educational services to equip you as a expecting or parenting teen - girl or guy - or as a critical support person. Support people in the 'Brave Village' include; parents of expecting/parenting teens, extended family members, friends and education or health care professionals. There is a place for each of you at Brave Foundation.

➤ Education support, resources and scholarships

Brave Foundation assists secondary schools and their staff with policy standards and resources to help them deliver individualised education pathway plans for expecting and parenting students. We also provide scholarship opportunities for those students to help them complete their secondary schooling or begin university studies.

➤ How you can become a part of the Brave Village

There are many opportunities available for you to support us through volunteering or with fundraising initiatives. We look forward to growing the village alongside you!