



YoungLives

## YoungLives Notes

Additional YoungLives resources can be found at: [ylvs.blogspot.com](http://ylvs.blogspot.com)

### Junior Leaders

- Create a model for girls to become junior mentors. For instance, they can be responsible for finding their own childcare and/or transportation, take on responsibilities as club helpers (program, sound, setup/tear down), help with transportation, do contact work with you, etc.
- Junior leaders help with club
- Junior leaders can leave their school a better place

### Camp

- Camp Sign Up days
- Do a couple great fundraisers that the teens can participate in rather than a bunch of small ones that don't produce much. Provide childcare to help the teens be able to participate in the fundraiser.
- Maximize 1:1 times at camps. Talk about where girls can be. Not just where they are. Share with teen moms what they were created for and instill hope.

### Follow Up

- Area meeting at camp (day 6) or on the way home.
- Camp follow up works well once a week for 4-6 weeks. Challenge is transportation and childcare.

### Being in the Fabric of the School (or Pregnancy Center)

- Be ready to start contact work in the school before school starts
- Build relationship with teen parent coordinator at the school
- Build relationship with the childcare director, volunteer
- Help meet needs at the school, Keep them informed
- Volunteer at the local crisis pregnancy center
- Host YoungLives school lunches through nurse. School nurse and administration invite pregnant and/or parenting teen moms.
- Take some girls to a parenting class at the pregnancy center - hang out, talk to staff and other girls.
- Make friends at WIC office, be seen, make conversation with others, take young moms to sign up for services.
- Get posters at the schools, WIC offices, pregnancy centers.

## Contact Work

- Contact work needs to happen every week.
- It is important to have an understanding of teen culture as we are doing contact work.
- Healthy YoungLives ministries are started with a team of women who are passionate about walking alongside teen moms.
- Have a mentor team in place before starting contact work.
- This team of mentors will be the most essential piece to the longevity of your YoungLives ministry.
- Because of the transitional nature of the lives teen moms have experienced, it is important that mentors are a stable presence in their lives. It is necessary to ask mentors to commit for at least one year--however two years is best.

## Club

- Club is not normally held in homes, but in community centers or churches.
- Take flyers to the lunches, childcare, and teen parent coordinator.
- Instead of seniors giving rides, mentors provide rides.
- Call and text girls to personally invite them (some will not be in school).
- Transportation is frequently provided both to and from club.
- It is common for club to take place where childcare can be provided.
- It is often more feasible to have club at a church on a weeknight or another neutral place where a clean nursery can be provided for their babies.
- YoungLives clubs may or may not include: crafts, a "store" with donations for the girls, or parenting education. Inclusion of these elements depends on the resources in the local community and the leadership team in place for the local YoungLives club.
- Have teens help lead music
- Utilize Young Life kids and leaders to help run YoungLives club
- We gear club toward the young teen mom who may not know very much about Jesus and who may have negative feelings toward Him.
- A successful club is one in which Jesus Christ is made known. It may have nothing to do with number of girls, how many laughs, or how smoothly you felt like it was run.
- Mentors participate!
- Men are welcome to help with childcare, music and program
- Most games can be adapted for YoungLives clubs. (e.g., guy/girl teams, split the group in two).

## Small Groups in Club

- At the end of club break up into small groups (envision cabin time) Girls can be known by name in a smaller group

- Small groups gives them a safe place to process what they just heard while it's fresh on their mind
- Small group gives them a chance to be heard
- It is easier to connect and build relationships in a small group
- Young Life kids/Campaigner kids volunteering for childcare with their leader

### **The Four-Year Plan**

Year 1: Summer Camp

Year 2: Summer Camp, Weekend Work crew

Year 3: Junior Mentor

Year 4: Campaigners group for the older moms, Graduation