

Larissa: My name's Larissa, and I'm 27 years old. I found out I was pregnant through that little stick, and immediately all these fears came through me because I didn't know what to do. The fear of my parents' reaction, the fear of being able to take care of a baby, and also most of my fear was surrounded by everything outside of my confidence in being a mother. If I wasn't sure that I wanted to keep the baby.

Desmond: We were still trying to figure out everything that was going on, so we weren't sure what we were going to do. So some people have some opinions on things on what they think I or we should do, and some of them were leaning towards abortion.

Larissa: I think that week I made an appointment to not keep her, and right after getting off the phone, I couldn't keep it. I could not. Oh, it was really overwhelming. I ended up talking to Des's mom. She was asking me all my fears, and what they were, and they were all outside of me. There was not one part of me that didn't think that I would be a good mother. She just looked at me, and touched my heart and she was like, "So you want to keep this baby?" And I was like, "Yes." And I found First Choice.

Desmond: They've been nothing but supportive. First Choice was very helpful up until now, but those first few months, especially when we first found out.

Larissa: I went into the office with Miss Tina and she just held so much space for me. She walked me through all of the options and there was never a moment with her that I felt any pressure. We ended up going to get the ultrasound, And at that point, again, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. And the woman asked if we wanted to hear the heartbeat. He was like, "Yeah" and then we heard that little baby heartbeat and everything changed.

When she first came, she was just so quiet, and soft and sweet. She teaches me unconditional love. Every single fear that I had is like, the last of my worries right now. To the people that support First Choice, I am super grateful for all of the information that I was given, for the support and the space that was held for me to feel safe, and given the time and the information to make a decision on my own. And ultimately, it gave me the confidence to keep this beautiful little angel. And for that, I'm so grateful.