



The National Partnership for Community Leadership
"Strengthening Communities and Organizations to Serve People for the Future"

CASE STUDY 4

Terry is a 24-year-old unemployed father. His girlfriend Joyce is part of the Healthy Start program and just had their first child. They are not interested in marriage; however, Terry supports Joyce throughout her pregnancy. Although he was looking for work, he took time with Joyce on every doctor's visit and regularly gave her back rubs. Terry and Joyce also attended childbirth classes together, and Terry was in the delivery room when the baby was born. Terry sees Joyce and the baby almost daily, but he rarely has any money for Joyce, which causes arguments from time to time. Joyce is usually okay, but her mother hates Terry because he doesn't work. She thinks that Terry and Joyce need a co-parenting plan that includes her in caring for Terry and Joyce's child.