

**Taproots Records, 1978-2000, n.d.**

**Creator:** TAPROOTS – Monica Cahill, BVM

**Extent:** 1.25 linear ft.

**Processor:** Jeanelle Bergen, BVM. Updated by Elizabeth A. Myers, May 2007. Updated by Catherine Crosse, June 2011.

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** Box 5 is restricted until 2024.

**Usage Restrictions:** None. Copyright of the material was transferred to the Women & Leadership Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University of Chicago, Women and Leadership Archives, Taproots Records, Box #, Folder #.

**Provenance:** This material was donated by Mary Ellen Meckley, BVM in the name of Monica Cahill, BVM. Date unknown. (WLA2004.42)

**Separations:** Some duplicate material was removed.

**Administrative History**

Founded by Monica Cahill, BVM, Taproots began as a center for teenage mothers in the rectory of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in 1978. In 1980, Taproots (Teen-Age Parents Realizing Ongoing Orientation Toward Success) moved to a six-room flat at 2424 W. Polk St. Located on Chicago's West Side, Taproots was offered its services to help ease the difficulties of teen-age pregnancy and single parenthood.

Taproots' initial focus on teenage pregnancy eventually expanded to include an outreach program which serviced the entire community. Its three-pronged program included empowerment training for young mothers, a child development laboratory for parenting instruction, and adolescent pregnancy forums held throughout the community. Taproots focused on skills training in parenting, nutrition, hygiene, career awareness, and assistance in reaching proper community resources to help teenage parents.

**Scope and Content**

**Series 1: Administration & History, 1978-2000, n.d. Boxes 1-2**

Includes abstracts and general history of the programs, by-laws, and personnel manuals, board members profiles, meeting minutes, and committee reports. Other records reflect the relationship of the city of Chicago agencies and Taproots including the Board of Health, outreach and caseworker reports, some finance information related to budgets, long range planning, newsletters, brochures, flyers, and general correspondence.

**Series 2: Audio-Visual, 1966-1994, n.d. Boxes 2-4**

This series includes slides, film, and photographs of Taproots' personnel, general activities, and location activities.

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**Series 3: Restricted Material, Box 5**

These materials are restricted until 2024.

**Subjects:**

Catholic Charities of Chicago  
Outreach Program (U.S.)  
Teenage mothers

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Administration &amp; History, 1978-2000, n.d.</b>			
1	1	Activities: Fliers, Brochures, Pamphlets Program	n.d.
	2	Board Meeting Minutes	1981-1986
	3	Board Meeting Minutes	1987-1989
	4	Board Meeting Minutes	1990-1992
	5	Board Meeting Minutes	1993-2000
	6	Board Meeting Schedules	n.d.
	7	Board Members Financial Pledges: Major Donors	n.d.
	8	Budget: Financial Statements	1984-1991
	9	Committee Reports	n.d.
	10	Correspondence: Catholic Charities Foundation	1986
	11	Correspondence: General	1981-1999
	12	Correspondence: Harris Foundation	1982-1993
	13	Executive Board Members' Profile	n.d.
	14	Executive Director: Job Description	n.d.
	15	Governing Board Standing Committees	n.d.
	16	History of Founding – Fact Sheet -Cahill's letter of retirement – Change of Location	1978-1999
	17	Loretta Lacey Memorial	1995
	18	Program Operation: Empowerment Module	n.d.
	19	Progress Report: Long Range Plans	1984-1988
	20	Taproots' By-Laws: Personnel Manual	n.d.
2	1	Taproot News: publication	1986-1987
	2	Tax Exemption Certification	1982, 1988, 1990
	3	Upward Bound #1	n.d.
	4	Upward Bound #2	n.d.
<b>Series 2: Audio-Visual, 1966-1994, n.d.</b>			
	5	Photographs: Children	n.d.
	6	Photographs: Christmas	n.d.
	7	Photographs: Monica Cahill, BVM and Coworkers	n.d.
	8	Photographs: Staff with Children	n.d.
	9	Photographs: Staff with Children	1984-1988, 1994, n.d.
	10	Photographs: Staff with Children	1994, n.d.
3		Untitled Slides	1966-1989, n.d.
4		Untitled Film Reels (3)	n.d.
		Upward Bound Film Reel (1)	n.d.

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Empty Film Reel (1)

n.d.

**Series 3: Restricted**

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Restricted Material