



Helping Children and Families

Smart Start is doing our part in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence to help children and families deal with this unfortunate event. This event can cause trauma in young children who will express it differently. Here are some resources for teachers working with young children to check out and utilize.

⇒ Smart Start of New Hanover County– a variety of community resources are listed to help children and families

www.newhanoverkids.org

⇒ Sesame Street in Communities– Traumatic Experiences
<https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/traumatic-experiences/>

⇒ DCDEE Licensing: Child care consultants are available as a resource if providers have sustained damage, have questions about relocating, or need any other assistance in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence.

For DCDEE staff contact information call 1-800-859-0829.

⇒ National Child Traumatic Stress Network:

Hurricane Resources and tips for educators and parents

<https://www.nctsn.org/what-is-child-trauma/trauma-types/disasters/hurricane-resources>

⇒ Helping Your Child Cope After a Disaster

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/coping-with-disaster-eng.pdf>

“A child must be taught how to think, not what to think.”

- Margaret Mead

In This Issue

- Resources for Dealing with Hurricane Florence
- Director Dialogues
- Family Festival
- Smart Start Job Board
- Training Calendar
- CCR&R Consultants
- BIS Consultants
- Staff Contact Info.

Heartfelt Staff Orientation

"Consider this cornerstone question," write Ann Pelo and Margie Carter in their new book, *From Teaching to Thinking: A Pedagogy for Reimagining Our Work*. "How will we structure our orientation for new staff, so that it parallels how we hope educators welcome and orient new children and their families? It's tempting to hand piles of paperwork...full of details about staff schedules and break times, how payroll is managed, how leave requests and sick days are handled...

We would cringe – and rightly so – if that was how educators greeted children and families as they began their time in our program.

What if, in our first exchange with new staff members, we welcomed 'the self that teaches?' What if we invited conversations about what we hope our center stands for – the values and vision that anchor our community? What if we made time for thoughtful observation and those vulnerable first steps into relationship – just as we would for a child when she joins our center?" **...food for thought.**

Director Dialogues

Looking for a way to meet other directors, network, get ideas, or share frustrations?

Join us at the Smart Start office for an informal gathering specifically for directors. We meet the last Wednesday of every other month at 1:00p. Feel free to bring your lunch!

No planned agenda or RSVP needed, just come to chat!

Wednesday, November 28

Wednesday, January 30

For more information or questions, contact:

Mindy Davis | 910.815.3731

Behavior and Inclusion Support (BIS) Program

How does BIS work?

- Referrals are made to BIS by directors or teachers requesting a visit to observe the classroom or a specific child (with parent permission).
- BIS consultants will provide feedback to the teacher about the observation to provide resources and strategies that teachers can implement to improve classroom management or provide support for an individual child.
- Ongoing support and coaching is offered as long as necessary; teachers/directors work with the consultants to implement changes.
- BIS is most effective with continual visits over the course of weeks or months. It is not a service to use as a last resort before expulsion is being considered.
- BIS is not a therapeutic service; children are not typically pulled out of the classroom for specific services with BIS.

To learn more or make a referral, contact Kim Klein or Kelly Puzon at 910.815.3731.

Smart Start Job Board

Check out our job board to post open positions at your program.

Browse the job board if you're looking for a job working with young children.

Visit our website at www.newhanoverkids.org or call Matt at 910.815.3731 for details about posting.

**CCR&R's Early Care & Education Consultants...
not just for getting you ready
for assessment**

Through coaching and mentoring, the ECE Consultants can visit your classroom to offer techniques and strategies to help you provide the best quality of care in your room. Below are a few examples of support they can offer.

*Observe routines and transition to provide feedback

*Assist with room arrangement

*Review your schedule to see if you're allotting enough time for free play or too much time in circle time

*Guide you in having meaningful interactions with your children

*Provide you with resources (articles, websites, books) to learn more about child development, family relationships, and other important topics

*Make referrals to Smart Start Behavior & Inclusion Support Consultants

*And many others!

**Give us a call for more help
beyond helping you get ready for
Rated Licensing Assessment.**

**Smart Start Resource Room for the
Early Childhood Teacher**

If you've never visited our Resource Room, you're missing out! For a small annual membership fee, there are a variety of resources available to you!

Your membership awards you the following resources:

◇Educator Workstation– we have a computer w/printer, connected to the internet, available for you to do research for your curriculum planning, college coursework, type parent newsletters, and more!

◇Binding Machine- create classroom books that document your special activities or field trips!

◇Theme Boxes– enhance your dramatic play area or add to your curriculum theme by checking out a theme box for up to 2 weeks at a time. There are enough materials for your whole class.

◇Resource Books– learn more about biting, child development, working with parents and other topics. We also have activity and curriculum books to give you more ideas for classroom activities.

◇Children's Books- check-out different books to add to your classroom library or to go along with a theme or special event you're doing.

◇Laminator, Die Cut Machine, and Bulletin Board Paper– for a minimal fee, we offer these services as you enhance your classroom. This is an inexpensive way to get your room ready for fall!

Individual membership: \$5

Group membership: \$15-\$25

We will no longer be providing a hard copy of our training registration forms with our newsletter.

You can print the forms from our website... look for this picture on our workshop page.

You can also register and pay online!



www.newhanoverkids.org



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If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically, send us an email letting us know.

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