

# Smart Start of New Hanover County

The early years of childhood are critical.....there are only 2,000 days between the time a baby is born and when that child begins Kindergarten, and the experiences during that time have a lasting impact on later learning, health, and success. Smart Start brings together all the people in a child's life to ensure every child has all they need for health growth and development.

Below are the 2018-2019 services Smart Start of New Hanover County (SSNHC) is offering:

## FOR FAMILIES:

### **Child Care Advantage / New Hanover County Department of Social Services**

Contact: Mary John Brantley / mbrantley@nhcgov.com / 910-798-3400

Through a state-level contract, Smart Start funds enhance the child care subsidy program which provides financial assistance with the cost of high quality child care to families who are working or attending school. Locally, the Smart Start subsidy program is titled "Child Care Advantage" and funds funnel directly through the NHC DSS.

### **Circle of Parents / Smart Start of New Hanover County,**

Contact: Liat Weingarten / liat.weingarten@newhanoverkids.org / 910-815-3731

Through funding provided by NC Department of Social Services, weekly support group meetings are held for parents of children with special needs. These meetings provide opportunities for parents to engage with one another and take on leadership roles. Meals and child care are provided at each meeting.

### **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library / Smart Start of New Hanover County**

Contact: Krista Turner / krista.turner@newhanoverkids.org / 910-815-3731

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a FREE program for families where each registered child will receive a book by mail at home each month. State funds have been allocated to ensure that families in every county of North Carolina have the opportunity to participate.

### **Parents As Teachers® / Smart Start of New Hanover County**

Contact: Liat Weingarten / liat.weingarten@newhanoverkids.org / 910-815-3731

Parents As Teachers is a home visiting program which provides families and other primary caregivers with information on child development and parenting to promote child language, intellectual growth, and physical and social-emotional skills.

### **Positive Parenting / Smart Start of New Hanover County**

Contact: Beth Bowen / beth.bowen@newhanoverkids.org / 910-815-3731

Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) is a prevention and intervention parenting education service to families with children utilizing seminars (Level 2), brief interaction opportunities (Level 2-Brief), and a series of group sessions (Level 4). Families are introduced to strategies including looking for and praising desired behaviors and providing a safe and engaging environment for their child(ren).

### **Raising A Reader / New Hanover County Public Library**

Contact: Amy Read / aread@nhcgov.com / 910-798-6364

Raising A Reader staff equips early childhood professionals with books, materials, and strategies for engaging families in reading activities. The program focuses on school-to-home book bag rotation, literacy events, and library utilization.

### **Reach Out and Read® / New Hanover County Public Library**

Contact: Amy Read / aread@nhcgov.com / 910-798-6364

Medical care providers at participating medical practices in New Hanover County are trained in the national evidence-based model to deliver early literacy guidance to parents of children 6 months to 5 years of age during each well-child visit.

### **Young Parents Support Program / Communities in Schools of Cape Fear**

Contact: Emmy Gibson / emmy@ciscapefear.org / 910-343-1901

Young Parents Support Program provides services to young parents using group meetings (Circle of Parents) and a home visiting curriculum to work toward the common goal of building family strengths in the areas of family management, communication, nurturing, and positive discipline.