

BCC - Nomination Guidelines and Award Selection

Guidelines and processes for nominating and selecting award recipients.

Eligibility:

Any person over the age of 18 serving young children (0-5) and/or their families in New Hanover County is eligible to be nominated. Service may be in a professional or volunteer capacity. Nominations may come from any community members not employed with or on the Board of Smart Start of NHC.

The nomination process:

Nominations are taken for people that have made significant contributions towards the success of young children (0-5) in New Hanover County. This may include someone going over and above their expected duties, someone who has give of their time and resources to support young children, or someone who has made an extraordinary difference in the lives of children. SSNHC is interested in receiving nominations of individuals at all stages in their careers, including both senior and mid-career professionals, and “rising stars”.

Each nominee will be announced and honored at the annual Smart Start Breakfast for Children’s Champions.

- The nomination period is Oct 16, 2023 through Jan 8, 2024.
- Nominators are asked to give specific examples of the nominee's accomplishments.
- The nomination form constitutes the sole basis for the nomination. The thoroughness and details of the nomination matters.
- The Smart Start Board’s Advocacy Committee will select award recipients.
- The award(s) will be presented during the Smart Start Breakfast for Children’s Champions Fundraiser.

Criteria under consideration include:

- Focus on service impacting children prenatal to kindergarten entry.
- Dedication to the development, delivery, expansion, or improvement of services for young children and their families
- Significant work toward developing innovative approaches to delivery of services and/or addressing previously unmet needs
- Successful advocacy that favorably affects services, policy, funding, and/or community understanding of key issues impacting young children and their families.
- Exemplary service by emerging leaders who have shown outstanding accomplishments and achievements that have positively impacted the delivery of services and recognition of lifetime commitment to improving the lives of children and families.

Additional Information

- Current Smart Start of NHC employees and board members are not eligible for the award.
- Repeat nominations are allowed with an updated narrative but prior champions may not be re-nominated.
- The Smart Start Advocacy Committee welcomes nominees from every race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, ability, family status and socioeconomic status in our effort to recognize the accomplishments of richly varied perspectives.

For more information, please email Jennifer Gallo, jennifer.gallo@newhanoverkids.org