



Public Health
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Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREAT Start Program becomes Quality Confirmed

Champaign-Urbana Public Health District GREAT Start Program is now Baby TALK Quality Confirmed

CHAMPAIGN, IL – The Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD), announces their GREAT Start program has become Baby TALK Quality Confirmed.

GREAT Start is an Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) home visiting prevention initiative program. It focuses on the parent-child relationship, promoting positive interactions, child development, and family support. The program serves pregnant mothers and families that have children birth to age 3.

Becoming a Baby TALK Quality Confirmed program means that the staff of GREAT Start have met and exceeded all the Baby TALK requirements to operate a high-quality home visiting program. Achieving this goal was a collective effort of each member of the GREAT Start team. Under the direction of the Program Coordinator, the team developed a carefully crafted plan that included being proactive and strategically organizing all aspects of the program. Undoubtedly, it was difficult during a pandemic, but the GREAT Start team was dedicated to the process of becoming a quality confirmed program.

“In the GREAT Start program, we believe that each parent is their child’s first teacher. It is our program's mission and a firm belief in meeting families where they are and joining them on their journey of parenthood,” said Program Coordinator, Tasha Thompson.

It is important to note that becoming Quality Confirmed proves that the program provided evidence showing that GREAT Start provides developmentally appropriate activities, GREAT Start staff are highly qualified to work with families, and GREAT Start staff individualize programming for each family so that they can "come alongside" them providing ongoing support.

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