



Empowering Adults. Enriching Our Community.

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### **FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM TO BEGIN AT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB - HHI**

The Literacy Center, formerly the Literacy Volunteers of the Lowcountry, is partnering with the Boys & Girls Club on Hilton Head Island to offer their Family Literacy Program beginning January 11, 2018. The goal of the program which began in Beaufort County in 2015, is to empower families to break the intergenerational cycle of low literacy. The program brings parents together with their children, ages 5-10, and focuses on them learning to read together and develop other skills including doing homework together. The curriculum and tutor training was created by The Literacy Center in partnership with University of South Carolina-Beaufort, Department of Education.

A new children's book is provided each week which the family keeps to start a home library. Other children's books are available for free. The families work individually with volunteer tutors and focus on critical thinking skills and the four elements of reading comprehension: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarizing. The program runs for three 6-week sessions, with a two week break in-between, each Thursday from 6-7:30 PM at 151 Gum Tree Road. At the end of the sessions families participate in Literature Circles which encourage group discussion of the books read each week. Older siblings, ages 9-12, who often attend with their parents are invited to participate in these group discussions. This helps capture a new group of older learners, who along with their younger siblings, can help build a bridge for their parents as they all learn deeper versions of the same basic strategies. "Family Literacy will continue to promote comprehension as its goal while reinforcing learning through enthusiasm and creativity," said Pam Wall, TLC's Executive Director.

Snacks and drinks and other gifts including homemade quilts made and donated by the Palmetto Quilt Guild. "The Boys & Girls Club is excited to provide this free program to members of the Club," said Terece Torquato, the Club Assistant Director.

The Literacy Center supports literacy for the people of Beaufort County so they can be successful in their job, with their families and in our community. TLC is the only nonprofit in Beaufort County providing adult and family literacy services at 6 locations. The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Lowcountry is to "enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens."

Family Literacy is also offered at The Deep Well Project on Wednesday's from 6-7:30 PM. Both programs currently have space available. For more information, contact The Literacy Center at 843-815-6616.