**TALK FIRST STARK** is a new initiative under Great Start for Great Futures Coalition geared toward families with children from Prenatal to age 3. The premise is designed to promote and showcase the importance of “language nutrition” as the foundation for healthy growth and brain development.

Through **TALK FIRST STARK**, families, caregivers, educators and community members will understand that:

- Parents are their child’s first and most important teacher.
- The brain is the only organ not fully developed at birth.
- Babies and young children need lots of loving words to grow healthy brains.
- The language shared in the early years of a child’s life provides a strong foundation for both academic and social-emotional growth and learning.

**Language Nutrition** means feeding young children’s brains with loving words through responsive interactions.

You don’t begin at age 3. You don’t begin at age 5. **YOU BEGIN BEFORE BIRTH!**