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Mother starts tutor program

BY DENISE SHERMAN, Staff Writer

KNIGHTDALE - A mother's concern for her children's academic performance has turned into a community tutoring program.

Track My Steps is the brain child of Toshiba Rice, an ordained minister who wants people to succeed.

Rice has brought together some of her educator friends and partnered with the East Regional Library for a tutoring program to start in August.

"I'm a person about solutions, a person about results, a person about support and that's what I want to give our students in eastern Wake County," she said.

"I looked at my own middle school children and others and saw how they get lost from that transition from elementary to middle school," she said. "I began to speak to friends who were educators and began to lay out a plan of partnership and fundamental rules and to see how we could put that into practice."

Rice said the tutoring program will not just be for homework assistance, but designed to close achievement gaps.

Parents will bring student report cards and other test assessments so that tutors can evaluate their needs.

Rice said the tutoring program will be for children of working and unengaged parents.

"We're not trying to reinvent the wheel," she said. "We're trying to

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water and let the sunlight shine upon the seeds that our teachers have planted to make it grow."

Rice said the program needs laptop computers and volunteers who will be trained as tutors.

"I love people," she said. "I want people to succeed in life and just don't want people to go through things they don't have to."

If you want to help, email Rice at awordtomoveon@yahoo.com.

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