

# SIMPLE RULES

1

## **Foster a Culture of Leadership and Growth.**

Encourage innovation, excellence, and leadership by intentionally learning from and sharing with others, internally, externally, and across the Smart Start network.

2

## **Stay Mission Focused.**

Our “why” centers around children and families: each child, every community. Their needs should come first, and as a result, we should make as many decisions locally as possible, even when it challenges our current context or understanding of our work.

3

## **Always Assume Positive Intent.**

The complexity of our work requires us to assume the best in others, seek clarity in all interactions, and be open to finding solutions, especially when there are differences in opinion, interpretation, or priorities.

4

## **Create Space for Courageous Conversations.**

Seek multiple and diverse perspectives and be respectful and clear in all communication, especially in times of change.

5

## **Acknowledge the Collective Power of Our Network.**

Be consistent and intentional in the promotion and leveraging of our strengths, knowledge, and talent while also acknowledging that building stronger alliances is all of our responsibilities.

6

## **Embrace Our Diversity as a Strength.**

Commit to an equitable approach to decision making by recognizing and valuing the differences that exist across counties and Local Partnerships.