“WE’VE LEARNED THINGS I WOULD HAVE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT WE NEEDED TO KNOW,” JERMAINE SAYS. “HAVING SOMEONE THERE TO TALK TO, TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS AND GIVE YOU POINTERS IS SO IMPORTANT. IT’S GREAT TO HAVE SOMEONE LIKE CONNIE ON YOUR SIDE.”
“…Lately we’ve talked a lot about reading to Ja’Marr,” Jermaine says. “He can’t talk yet, and I’m not sure he understands what we’re reading to him, but Connie told us that it will help his brain develop in a healthy way.”

when something comes up or he starts crying, we put our heads together to figure out what is going on.”

He says the program is invaluable.

“We’ve learned things I would have never even thought we needed to know,” he says. “Having someone there to talk to, to answer your questions and give you pointers is so important. It’s great to have someone like Connie on your side.”

Connie says that as the visits progress and Ja’Marr gets a little older, she plans to spend more time with Jermaine and let him know what a great role model he can be for Ja’Marr.

“Jermaine is so thoughtful, so polite and respectful,” she says. “If Ja’Marr just watches and learns from his dad, he’ll grow into a great kid and wonderful young man.”

Jermaine and Shanice are also planning for Ja’Marr’s future even though he’s only 2-months old. Jermaine is confident about the success that lays ahead for his son.

“Connie has been talking to us a lot about financial planning and we’re starting a savings account,” he says. “Ja’Marr’s going to college.”

The Nurse-Family Partnership program in Asheville, North Carolina, is implemented through the Buncombe County Health Department.