

Guilford couple launches tutoring business

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GUILFORD—Tracy and Damian Lynch can both recall getting tutored in academics when they were younger and the moments when everything clicked.

“We both remember a time when we hit a turning point with a tutor, and we know what a difference that can make in people’s lives,” Damian Lynch says.

Now the couple hopes to give other children and even adults in college such an opportunity. They’ve started a tutoring business called Tutor Doctor, which is part of a franchise originating in Canada. The Lynches run the business side of things and meet with new clients, and they have a growing staff of about 20 tutors who travel to students’ homes for lessons. So far, there are about 50 clients, Damian Lynch said.

Though the business is based on the Shoreline out of the Lynch home, tutors travel to different areas of the state. Tracy Lynch, who used to work as a nurse, said Tutor Doctor stands out from learning centers or other tutoring agencies because its tutors don’t just focus on what students need academically.

“They also take into account a child’s learning style, personality and common interest with a tutor,” she added.

Tutoring sessions are also booked around clients’ schedules and can focus on more than one subject. Damian Lynch said he couldn’t give an estimate of rates, however, because they vary depending on how often lessons are needed and for how long, as well as what the topic is.

The pair decided to open the business because of their tutoring experiences in high school and because they have two children that need extra attention in academics, said Damian Lynch, who is still keeping his job in medical billing.

His wife explained that there is also a need for the service in the area.

“With all the changes going on in education and classroom sizes getting larger, we definitely thought kids need extra help,” Tracy Lynch said.

But they emphasized that tutoring can also be for people who want to get ahead, not just those who are struggling. Tutors will also focus on the students’ school curriculum, unless basics need to be reviewed.

“I think the most important thing is increasing confidence,” Tracy Lynch said.

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