

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2008-2009

- Recognized by ZERO TO THREE in its monthly Baby Monitor as a top ten advocacy innovation for 2008
- Helped block imposition of parent fees for Early Intervention with petition drive
- Advocated for funding of home visiting programs
- Contributed to NYZTT *Action Brief: Oppose Parent Fees for Early Intervention*
- Convened statewide meeting on gaps in infant/toddler services and prepared summary document
- Established statewide steering committee with representatives from NYZTT, Winning Beginning NY, NYS Regional Infant-Toddler Network, and up- and down-state Infancy Leadership Circle coordinators
- Created Early Intervention Task Force to proactively ensure a fiscally sound and high-quality EI program



JOIN US!

Please join us in this work. Raising our voices together we can make a difference and build better futures for babies, their families, and communities.

*** Contact the NYS Infancy Leadership Circle coordinators to start or join a circle in your community:**

Jackie Jones in Buffalo:

jjjones6@verizon.net

Carole Oshinsky in Yonkers:

coshinsky@nyzerotothree.org

*** Read more about the vision for the Leadership Circles at:**

www.nyzerotothree.org

*** Support the work of the Infancy Leadership Circles with a donation:**

Send check made out to NYZTT with Infancy Leadership Circles in the memo or go to www.nyztt.org and make a Paypal secure donation

*** Become a member of New York Zero-to-Three Network:**

Go to www.nyztt.org to learn about the many benefits of membership

- Individual membership is \$55
- \$35 for students
- Sign up your organization as a member;

for \$250 all staff receive a 35% discount to NYZTT events, including the annual conference

Raising Voices for Babies



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Web
www.nyztt.org/infancycircle

A Project of

New York Zero-to-Three Network
•fostering collaboration among those who work with babies, toddlers and their families•

WHO WE ARE

The Infancy Leadership Circles are the communication pipeline for the infancy movement in New York State. We aim to move local issues to the state level and take state issues to communities to advance better policies and comprehensive services for babies and their families. We represent a broad array of professionals from all fields who provide services to infants and toddlers and their families. We build on existing local and state efforts, strengthening the “infancy voice” within broader child advocacy initiatives. Ours is a two-generation approach that considers the child in the context of the family and community.

ROLE OF NYZTT

The New York Zero-to-Three Network (NYZTT) has more than two decades of experience in New York City as the only interdisciplinary organization focused exclusively on infants and toddlers. NYZTT members are a diverse lot, including practitioners, business executives, lawyers, academics, and people in the arts.

Since NYZTT was inaugurated, the organization has fostered cross-disciplinary dialogue and sharing the rapidly expanding scientific discoveries that confirm the importance of the first three years of life. Advocacy, networking, education, and public awareness campaigns, along with opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and collaboration, have all been part of our work. Beginning with the first statewide Infancy Conference in 1994, NYZTT has had a statewide focus.



NYZTT’s report *Unequal from the Start: A Check-Up on New York City’s Infants and Toddlers*, reveals a wealth of information on the well-being of babies and families in New York City, serving as a blueprint for advocacy in other localities.

NYZTT created the Infancy Leadership Circles based on the belief that the needs of infants and toddlers were often missing from policy development and decision-making at all levels—local, state, and national. The dramatic shift in national policy, evidenced by unprecedented support for early childhood initiatives, has spurred our goal to formalize a local and state movement around increasing investments in our youngest citizens. NYZTT’s multidisciplinary framework and organizational structure uniquely qualify us to provide resources and mentoring to Infancy Leadership Circles across the state.

OUR MISSION

Through cross-disciplinary dialogue and strategic communications, the New York State Infancy Leadership Circles promote high-quality comprehensive services for infants, toddlers, and their families in New York State.

WHAT WE DO

- Reach out to interested professionals across New York State to establish Infancy Leadership Circles in local communities
- Stimulate cross-disciplinary regional and statewide activities that will lead to systems change based on local needs and priorities
- Bring local agendas to state policymakers
- Share research on best practices and child development
- Collaboratively build on existing initiatives such as Winning Beginning NY and Home Visiting Coalition to promote the infancy agenda
- Maintain a web site with local activity pages, a research database, webinar offerings, and links to advocacy tools
- Facilitate communication within and across localities
- Sponsor face-to-face statewide annual meeting

GOALS FOR 2010

- Create and mentor more regional Infancy Leadership Circles
- Co-sponsor Infancy Summits on Using Data for Advocacy
- Hold collaborative regional policy and advocacy trainings
- Work with existing coalitions such as Winning Beginning NY, Home Visiting Coalition, and others to put infancy policy goals on their statewide legislative agendas
- Increase regular communications and opportunities for dialogue