

New York Zero-to-Three Network

• fostering collaboration among those who work with babies, toddlers and their families •

Dear Colleague:

June 10, 2008

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The infancy movement is taking hold across New York State. Parents and professionals from many disciplines are focused upon the importance of the first three years. They are gathering together to share exciting scientific discoveries and learning more about the critical nature of early development. And now it is time to educate the public and to create changes in public policy. We are writing to you today to invite you to join our newest effort – the creation of a statewide Infant Toddler Policy Leadership Circle.

New York Zero-to-Three (NYZTT) Network has been facilitating an infancy dialogue in the New York City metropolitan area since 1987. NYZTT Network is currently comprised of 220 members - professionals from health, early education, early intervention and other disciplines who come together for presentations, clinical roundtables and other events to further their knowledge of infancy and to network with others in this growing field. This spring we just released our first major report “Unequal from the Start: A Check Up on New York City’s Infants and Toddlers” which discloses powerful information on the status of babies and families in the City and in New York State.

This year NYZTT Network is conducting a major outreach campaign to connect professionals from all across New York. Our aim is to expand networking, coordinate infancy activities across the state and create a more powerful voice for babies in the arena of public policy. We are writing to you as a leader of infancy activities in your community. We are asking you to visit our website and to consider joining NYZTT Network today. Our goal is to connect 20 new members from every region of the state. That’s about 200 new members. Attached is our membership brochure.

Please visit our website at www.nyzerotothree.org to learn more about all of our work. We would love to have you join any and all of our ventures however this letter is targeting professionals who want to make a difference in public policy. **Our Policy and Public Education Committee is developing a NYS Infant Toddler Policy Leadership Circle aimed at furthering a comprehensive policy agenda for babies, toddlers and families.** Once our agenda is articulated, we will bring it to the table with other child and family issues. We’ll be working with existing coalitions such as Winning Beginning NY and NY Children’s Action Network and eventually with the Governor and legislature.

The kick off event for this new Policy Leadership Circle will take place in New York City on June 26th from 5:30 – 7:30. If you can come in person, that would be great but we will also have opportunities to be connected to the meeting by phone and/or computer. Further instructions will be forth coming.

Please feel free to contact any of the leaders listed below for more information. Please consider Joining NYZTT Network today (brochure attached). Or learn more about us on June 26th and join at that time. We hope you'll lend your voice to the infancy movement in New York!

Sincerely,

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Attachments:

NYZTT Network Membership Brochure
New York State Infant and Toddler Policy Leadership Circle Description
Zero to Three New York State Policy Leaders