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New York Zero-to-Three Network

Fostering collaboration among those who work with infants, toddlers and their families

February 2013

In This Issue

[NYZTT Discussion Group](#)

[Highlighted Reports and Media Coverage](#)

[Calendar Highlights](#)

[Infant Mental Health Summit](#)

[Stonger Families NY Summit Highlights](#)



Join our LinkedIn Discussion Group

New York Zero-to-Three Network has a [LinkedIn discussion group](#). Please join us in sharing interesting articles, media coverage, and announcing upcoming events.

We ask that participants do not share specific cases in this venue but use it as a general discussion area.



MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS:

Action Alert From Advocates for Children: [Protect Access to Early Intervention Services](#)

STATE OF THE UNION 2013:

[WHITE HOUSE FACT SHEET on Early Childhood investment plans](#)

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

FULL CALENDAR [CLICK HERE](#)

February 26, Tuesday, 6:00-8:00pm NYZTT NETWORK ROUNDTABLE - [Using Video Review in Work with Parents and Young Children.](#)

Thursday, March 7, 2013, 9:00am-4:00pm Adelphi University Parenting Institute -

[Families in Motion: The Dancing Dialogue - Using the Power of Movement to Support Communication and Attachment with Infants, Young Children and Families.](#)

Wednesdays, February 27-June 5: The Institute for Infants, Children and Families at JBFCS announces a new training series, beginning with "Reflective SUPER-Vision: Learning While Viewing and Doing," with Rebecca Shahmoon Shanok, LCSW, PhD, in collaboration with Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College. [Visit JBFCS](#) to see March offerings on play, women working with fathers, and more.

INFANT MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

New York State brought needed attention to the promotion of social emotional health and the prevention of social emotional problems by convening a Infant Mental Health Summit on February 6th in Albany.

Convened by the NYS Council on Children and Families, the Early Care and Learning Council, the Office of Mental Health, and the Department of Health's Bureau of Early Intervention, the one-day meeting brought together diverse experts from across New York State: Early Intervention providers, psychologists, social workers, recently appointed Early Recognition Specialists, Infant-Toddler Specialists, health care consultants, and others working to promote early screening and treatment of social and emotional difficulties in very young children.

For media coverage on the Summit [click here](#).

Using the public health model of promotion, prevention, and intervention, speakers pointed to the role that diverse professionals and agencies can play in promoting healthy relationship building in early childhood. Speakers addresses screening for emotional and social problems, treatment looking at the whole family and the need for community supports.

READY NATION RESPONSE

THRIVE BY FIVE COVERAGE

HECKMAN ON NPR

CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE OF CONNECTICUT: [Kids Mental Health Info Website](#) (check out the early childhood/infant mental health section)

[BARRY T. BRAZELTON](#) awarded Presidential Citizens Award

PEDIATRICS: [The Science of Early Life Toxic Stress for Pediatric Practice and Advocacy](#)

[Comparative Effectiveness of Interventions for Children Exposed to Non-relational Traumatic Events](#)

[Paternal Mental Health and the Social-emotional and Behavioral Development in Their Children](#)

[Nine-Year Follow-up of a Home-Visitation Program: A Randomized Trial](#)

As keynote speaker Dr. Gilbert Foley, a psychologist and professor at Yeshiva University said: "Developmental work is far more effective and easier accomplished than reconstructive work."

Dr. Jeff Daly of Four Winds Hospital, another keynote speaker said: "We live in a country where it's easier to get an automatic weapon than to get a child adolescent psychologist to see a kid and we have to look at that. Access to services are limited for kids who really need it."

One goal of the Summit is to encourage cross-systems dialogue and change to promote continuing strengthening of early childhood mental health services in communities across the state. In order to further this goal, the conveners are offering "Mini Grants" of \$500 to \$1,500 for a five-month period of one or more activities in a community that address promotion, prevention and/or treatment of infant mental health. Applications are due on February 27th at 5 pm. For a Mini-Grant application and further information on state infant mental health activities, contact:

[Britt Myrol-Clarke](#), Office of Mental Health, (212-330-6399) or [Evelyn Efinger](#), Early Care and Learning Council, (518-690-4217).

A vehicle for cross-disciplinary dialogue may already exist in your local community. Carole Oshinsky, co-director of the [Infancy Leadership Circles](#) project of the NYZTT Network spoke about the circles around the state that have been working to establish cross-disciplinary dialogue for the last three years at the local level. Circles currently operate in: New York City, Erie, Niagara, Westchester, Cautaugua, East Harlem, Delaware, Ostego, Chenango, and Schoharie. Meetings started Feb 19 in Suffolk and May 1 in Rockland. Plans are being made for Brooklyn and Bronx counties. To join or start a Circle, contact [Carole Oshinsky](#) in Yonkers or [Jackie Jones](#) in Buffalo.

Stronger Families NY Leadership Summit

to January 31st, Poughkeepsie NY.

The [Stronger Families NY Coalition](#) held their first ever leadership summit bringing together leaders across many family-serving disciplines to collaborate and learn from one another. New York Zero-to-Three Network is a member of the Coalition and Carole Oshinsky was integral in planning and executing the day-long summit.

Is your organization interested in joining the Stronger Families NY Coalition? Contact [Barbara Andrews](#), the group's coordinator at the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

Joyce Thomas, Chair of the Stronger Families New York Coalition and Regional Administrator, ACF, Region II, DHHS welcomed the group of more than 100 leaders from across the state that had gathered in Poughkeepsie. Ms. Thomas eloquently focused on the mission of the Stronger Families NY Coalition: to strengthen families in NY and agencies that service them, building capacity and maximizing resources.

Key note speaker, Joseph T. Jones, President and CEO of the [Center for Urban Families](#), spoke on the need to change the perception of the word "families" in health, education, and social service provision. Often, the word "family" is short hand for services to women and children. The tag line of his organization - helping fathers and families work - specifically calls out the need to reach and engage fathers in a way that has, historically, not been done.

Two panel presentations then moved the conversation into the specifics of how to strengthen families. Panelists included Erika Rosenberg, Senior Associate, Center for Governmental Research, Liz Isakson, Co-director of DOCS FOR TOTS, Kenneth Braswell, Sr., Director, National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, Donald N. Hammond, President and CEO, United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region, Roberta Keller, Executive Director, Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc, and Elba Montalvo, Founder and CEO, The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families.

Earl Johnston, Director of the federal Office of Family Assistance, HHS spoke over lunch on how critical it is for the work of the Stronger Families Coalition to occur--so that connections across silos are made and that the message of what families need can be heard all the way in Washington, DC. Most memorably Dr. Johnston said "Time is short; we have to love these kids from before birth, stay loving them no matter what they do, even when they make mistake, they can still do good things."

Members the Stronger Families NY Coalition will be using the rich presentations and follow-up discussions for prepare an agenda to strengthen families in New York State.

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