



Creating a unified voice for babies and toddlers

**Cross systems collaboration at the
local and state level**

Winning Beginning NY

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Winning Beginning NY Vision



- Every child should get a healthy start and have the opportunity to acquire the skills necessary for success in school and life in today's global economy.
- All early childhood programs should be of the highest quality by aligning public investments with quality improvements to help everychild excel.



Advancing the Mission

- Educate the executive and legislative branches about the importance of early care and learning.
- Raise public awareness about the importance of early care and learning.
- Advocate for change where deemed necessary, both in policy and implementation.
- Analyze policy and budgetary information.
- Disseminate information statewide.



Join the Chorus!

Winning Beginning NY uses online advocacy to spread the word about the importance of early care and learning.

Join more than 4,000 e-advocates by signing up at

www.winningbeginningny.org.



Healthy Children

Pregnancies are wanted, healthy, and safe
Children are free from preventable injury, illness, and disability
Children have optimal physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development
Children receive early recognition & intervention for special needs
Children are enrolled in public or private health insurance programs
Children's health, mental health, and oral health services are accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family centered, coordinated, compassionate and culturally effective (Medical Home)

Strong Families

Families have adequate and stable employment, income, and basic needs (food, shelter, clothing)
Families have the knowledge, skills, confidence, and social supports to nurture the health, safety, and positive development of children
Parents' special needs are recognized and supported, including health, mental health, & substance abuse
Families are empowered to seek, utilize, and actively participate in supportive services
Families provide children with safe and healthy environments free from abuse and neglect
Families provide children with positive, nurturing, consistent relationships

Early Learning

Children have positive and consistent attachments to parents, caregivers, and educators
Caregivers and other providers have the knowledge, skills, confidence, and social supports to nurture the health, safety, and positive development of children
Families have access to high quality, developmentally-appropriate early care and education
Families and caregivers support children's early literacy
Parents, caregivers, and educators communicate regularly about children's learning and development

Supportive Communities & Coordinated Systems



Infancy Movement - Statewide



- NYS IT Resource Network - 2002
- NYS Conference on Infancy– 2004 and 2005
- Infancy summits – 2007 and 2009
- Community forums – Advancing the needs of infants and toddlers 2009
- Data Summits - 2009
- NYZTT Network report – Unequal from the Start



Action at the State level



- Children's Cabinet, the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) and BUILD
- NYS Children's Action Network
- Winning Beginning NY
 - NY Zero-to-Three Network and the Infancy Leadership Circles
 - NYS Home Visiting Coalition
 - Other partners and members



What is NY Zero-to-Three Network ?



- **Began in 1990 in NYC**
- **Modeled after National Zero to Three**
- **Mission:** to promote the optimal development of young children, their families and their communities
 - By providing support to IT professionals
 - Opportunities for cross disciplinary learning
 - Collaboration, public awareness and advocacy



Infancy Leadership Circle: New York State



2 prongs -

Communication pipeline for infancy movement: local to state, state to local to advance policy issues

Promote cross-disciplinary dialogue to result in improved comprehensive service delivery at the local level



Organizational structure



- **Steering committee:**
 - NYZTT Network exec committee
 - Coordinator of the NYS IT Resource Network
 - upstate and down state coordinators
 - representative from WBNY
- Upstate and downstate coordinators will function as facilitators and resources for the local infancy leadership circles



Local infancy leadership circles



- Infancy leadership circle: New York City
 - Formerly policy committee of the NYZTT
- Other regions/communities will have circles that act locally and feedback into the statewide circle. Build on existing vehicles
 - ECDI
 - Success by Six
 - IT Coalitions
- Goal is not to add new groups but to organize existing efforts and give them some clout as an infancy voice within broader child advocacy efforts



Work of the local circles



- Come together to identify gaps and assets using a tool to prioritize
 - Example: data summits, ZTT self assessment tool
- Communicate local issues to the state
- Document trends and identify policy recommendations
- Expand the infancy voice on existing coalitions



Region II Infant and Toddler Resource Center



Information on best practices in infant and toddler care

Technical assistance for existing and potential IT caregivers

Training and workshops

Training of CCRR trainers in 9 county region

Mentoring and guidance

Lending library of IT materials



Cross disciplinary collaborations in region II



- Office of Children & Family Services
- Child Care Center Director's & Family Child Care groups
- Collaborative community groups
- Professional development groups
- Health Networks
- Early Head Start
- Family Resource Centers





Next steps

Identify existing groups in your area

Identify infancy issues in your area

Get connected to WBNY at the state and local level

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