

# WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

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November 2008

## Site of the Month

### ZERO TO THREE

As a KIDS COUNT coordinator, I am frequently invited by organizations, such as the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Voices for America's Children, to participate in teleconferences pertaining to children. These conferences give me an opportunity to increase my knowledge of children's issues to become a better KIDS COUNT grant coordinator and to share what I have learned with Nevadans via this newsletter.

The most recent teleconference that I participated in was sponsored by Voices for America's Children. It was titled *Federal Legislative Opportunities for Infant/Toddler Issues*. Representatives from ZERO TO THREE, "an organization that informs, educates, and supports professionals, policymakers, and parents in their efforts to improve the lives of infants and toddlers" presented an overview of their organization and opportunities and challenges that organizations face in obtaining federal funding. This newsletter introduces ZERO TO THREE's policy network, using information given during the teleconference and from the organization's Web site.

ZERO TO THREE's policy network, started in 2005, is a vehicle for infant/toddler professionals to become involved in the policy process to improve the welfare of babies and toddlers. The network has about 8,200 members from all the states. Its agenda is to ensure that their members are informed, connected, and active. Members can become informed about infant/toddler issues by reading the organization's electronic publication called *Baby Monitor*; they can stay connected by sharing "innovative policies and promising strategies" with other members via a group page on UFace; and they can become active by responding to the organization's policy action alerts by speaking out on behalf of policies for infants and toddlers. Infant/toddler professionals can sign up to become members of the policy network on the organization's Web site.

The Web site also may be a valuable resource for parents, who can access information on various topics, including health and nutrition, sleep, early care and education, child development, child abuse and neglect, and temperament and behavior. Parents can also sign up to receive information on parenting materials, and they may enjoy browsing the on-line book catalogue.

To learn more about ZERO TO THREE go to: <http://www.zerotothree.org/>.

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