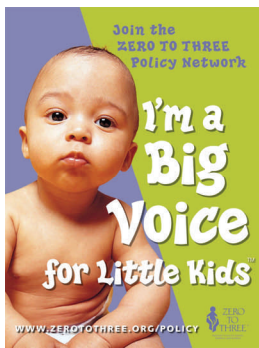


**ZERO TO THREE
Policy Network
Advocacy
Developmental
Milestone Calendar**

MAY 2009

During the month of May, it's time to focus on the emotional health of infants and toddlers in honor of Mental Health Month. Your challenge this month is to invite three people who work with young children to meet you for coffee on May 7th to talk about early childhood mental health and how you can help policymakers recognize and support this important aspect of development. ➡

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
It's Foster Care Month	It's Better Hearing & Speech Month	It's Mental Health Month			1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Children's Mental Health Awareness Day	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



MAY 2009 ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONE

Take Action Now!

During the month of May, it's time to focus on the emotional health of infants and toddlers in honor of Mental Health Month. Your challenge this month is to invite three people who work with young children to meet you for coffee on May 7th — Children's Mental Health Awareness Day — to talk about infant and early childhood mental health, and how you can help policymakers recognize and support this important aspect of development.

It's as Easy as 1-2-3

1. Think of three infant-toddler professionals that you would like to get to know better and invite them to join you for coffee on Thursday, May 7th for Children's Mental Health Awareness Day.
2. Over coffee, talk about infant and early childhood mental health and the ways in which it impacts on your work with very young children. Discuss how all of you can help policymakers recognize how important social-emotional development is to a child's ability to learn and succeed in school, as well as ways in which policymakers can promote policies and programs to support the mental health of young children.
3. Bring your colleagues resources about infant and early childhood mental health and the ways in which policy can be utilized to support the emotional health of young children.

Resources to Share and Use in Advocating for the Social and Emotional Health of Very Young Children

- [Laying the Foundation for Early Development: Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health](#) by the ZERO TO THREE Policy Center
- [Helping Young Children Succeed: Strategies to Promote Early Childhood Social and Emotional Development](#) by the ZERO TO THREE Policy Center and the National Conference of State Legislatures
- [Information](#) from the National Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Summit and Congressional testimony on social-emotional development.

Tell Us About It!

We are eager to hear about your experiences advocating for babies and toddlers, so that we can continue to improve the support we give you as an advocate. After you have completed this month's Advocacy Developmental Milestone challenge, please tell us all about it by [clicking here](#).