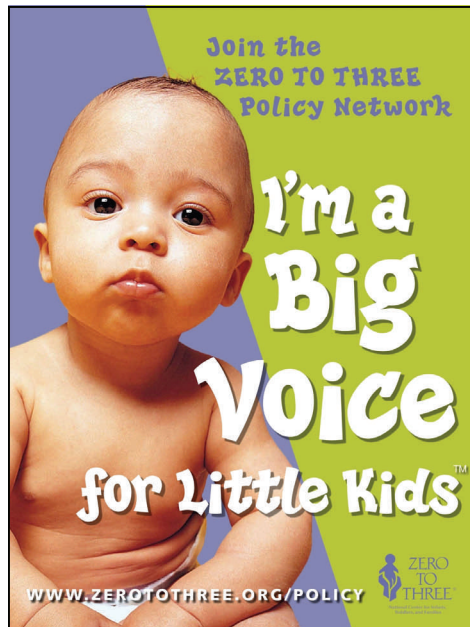


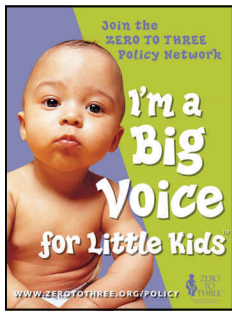
NOVEMBER 2009



ZERO TO THREE Policy Network Advocacy Developmental Milestone Calendar

Money, money, money! This month it's all about the money and how to be creative with it. Your challenge is to engage two policymakers in your state in a discussion about creative ways to finance services for infants and toddlers by sending them *Inspiring Innovation: Creative State Financing Structures for Infant-Toddler Services*, a new paper from ZERO TO THREE and the Ounce of Prevention Fund. See page 2 for more details. ➔

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Election Day	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30			It's National Adoption Month!		



NOVEMBER 2009 ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONE

Take Action Now!

Money, money, money! This month it's all about the money and how to be creative with it. Your challenge in November is to engage two policymakers in your state in a discussion about creative ways to finance services for infants and toddlers by sending them [*Inspiring Innovation: Creative State Financing Structures for Infant-Toddler Services*](#), a new paper from ZERO TO THREE and the Ounce of Prevention Fund. Download and send it now!

Background

State governments play an important role in ensuring that our infants and toddlers have access to high-quality and affordable early care and education, physical and mental health, and family support services. Programs and services that address these areas are essential, yet they are only as strong as the infrastructure that supports them. An effective system of care and services for infants and toddlers requires solid funding structures that combine federal and state dollars with private funding sources. Although the federal government invests in young children, it cannot do so alone. States can and should be investing in infants and toddlers as they work to build their birth-to-five systems.

It's as Easy as 1-2-3!

Use the suggestions below to inspire policymakers in your state to think creatively about developing financing structures that support very young children!

1. Identify two policymakers who are involved in your state's early childhood system building who you think could impact the development of new funding structures for infants and toddlers. The policymakers could be state legislators or administrators of state agencies serving young children, members of a public/private partnership or Children's Cabinet, or representatives of other state-level early childhood planning groups.
2. Download [*Inspiring Innovation: Creative State Financing Structures for Infant-Toddler Services*](#) and send it to the policymakers you have identified. When you send the paper, be sure to include a personal note about how dedicated funding for infants and toddlers would impact the children in your state and community. Feel free to use our paper to identify talking points for your message.
3. Follow-up with an email or phone call to arrange a time to talk with them further about the ways your state can be innovative about financing a system of services for infant-toddlers.

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 sent the paper to your policymakers, please tell us all about it by [clicking here](#).