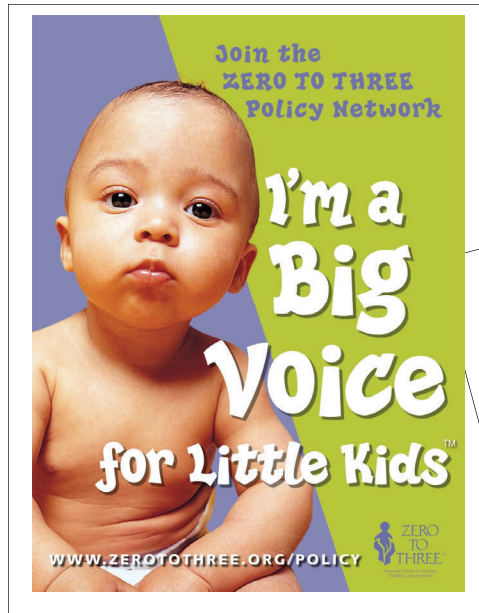


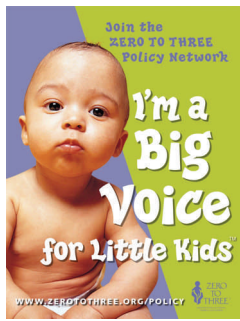
APRIL 2011



ZERO TO THREE Policy Network Advocacy Developmental Milestone Calendar

Make your voice heard! The media can be an effective way to share your knowledge about infant-toddler issues and garner the attention of both policymakers and the community. Your advocacy challenge this month is to write a letter to the editor, an op-ed or a blog post highlighting the devastating effects that the proposed federal budget cuts would have on infants, toddlers and their families.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
It's Child Abuse Prevention Month	It's Autism Awareness Month	It's Month of the Military Child			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Week of the Young Child Begins	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Congressional Recess					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Congressional Recess					



APRIL 2011 ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONE

Take Action Now!

Make your voice heard! The media can be an effective way to share your knowledge about infant-toddler issues and garner the attention of both policymakers and the community. **Your advocacy challenge this month is to write a letter to the editor, an op-ed or a blog post highlighting the devastating effects that the proposed federal budget cuts would have on infants, toddlers and their families.**

It's as Easy as 1-2-3

1. Review the status of the federal budget process on our [Federal Policy Baby Blog](#) to be sure you have the most up-to-date information to include in your piece, and then select the outlet (such as a blog, a local newspaper, or e-newsletter) that you think would best allow you to express your thoughts .
2. Decide whether you will write a letter to the editor, opinion editorial, or blog post, and review the guidelines and deadlines for submission.
3. Write your piece, explaining the importance of protecting programs that serve infants and toddlers. April 10-16 is [The Week of the Young Child](#), making this the perfect time to highlight the unique needs of young children and the tremendous benefits of investing in them.

Resources

- There are a variety of federal budget resources available on the ZERO TO THREE [website](#) explaining the federal budget process and where it currently stands, including our [Federal Policy Baby Blog](#) and [analysis](#) of the continuing resolution proposed by the House of Representatives and its impact on babies.
- Get tips on [how to write a letter to the editor or opinion editorial](#) from the ZERO TO THREE Policy Network.
- Check out the First Five Years Fund [website](#) for templates of a budget blog post and letter to the editor.
- See these great examples: Paul Krugman's op-ed in *The New York Times*, [Leaving Children Behind](#), highlighting the dangers of the proposed budget cuts; and the blog post [Building Better Kids](#) by Kevin Drum published in his blog on *Mother Jones* drawing on the work of Nobel laureate economist James Heckman.

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 accomplished your advocacy action, please tell us all about it by [clicking here](#).