Program Overview

Providing babies, toddlers, and their parents or caregivers the safe connections and supports needed to remain safe, stable, and healthy

Safe Babies, a program of ZERO TO THREE, works to keep families together by preventing the need for babies and toddlers to enter out-of-home care, or for further involvement in the child welfare system.

EVERY BABY HAS UNLIMITED POTENTIAL
Positive experiences and emotionally nourishing relationships are critical to the healthy development and lifelong well-being of babies and toddlers. Yet, due to the adverse childhood experiences and systemic social and health inequities faced by some parents, children under the age of 3 enter the child welfare system at a higher rate than any other age group.

WHAT WE DO
Build coordinated and aligned early childhood systems to support a SAFER path for families to flourish and thrive

OUR FOCUS (SAFER)

SERVE
as an entry point for community access to align a continuum of timely and equitable services for all families, regardless of their circumstances

ADVANCE
child and family well-being by providing the resources and supports that babies and toddlers need for a strong start in life

FOCUS
on the babies’ developmental need for safe, stable, and nurturing early relationships during all decision-making

EMPOWER
parents to lead with their voices and lived experiences to transform child welfare practice and advocate for fellow parents across the country

REDESIGN
policies and practices to promote racial equity and social justice
Program Overview

Meeting the immediate needs of babies and toddlers through an innovative, team-based approach that strengthens early relationships with parents and caregivers, ensuring healthy development and well-being

**IMPACT**

- **FAMILIES REMAIN TOGETHER**
  - Keeping babies and toddlers with their families whenever possible
  - Connecting children and their families with timely and equitable services and supports
  - Strengthening families to reduce the likelihood of repeated maltreatment or involvement with Child Protective Services

- **EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT STAYS ON TRACK**
  - Promoting timely screening and assessment for developmental needs and services
  - Increasing medical home access for preventative pediatric care
  - Prioritizing family time when children are placed out of home

- **PARTNERS HAVE A SPACE TO CONVENE**
  - Collaborating on a shared mission and vision, with children and families at the center
  - Prioritizing parents’ voice and leadership within the team
  - Developing strategies using a continuous quality improvement lens
  - Strengthening communities by building supports and services for families

**ZERO TO THREE**
Early connections last a lifetime