preemieFAMILY
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A NOTE FROM JENNY

April is Autism Awareness Month. Let’s talk statistics. According to Spectrum: “About 7 percent of children born preterm are autistic, compared with 1 to 2 percent of children in the general population.”

Prematurity can cause problems for babies throughout their lives - long-term intellectual and developmental disabilities and problems with lungs, brain, eyes and other organs.

Crystal Ball Health is working to create a preemie registry that will power the research to provide better patient outcomes – in the NICU through the adult years with the hope to help former premature babies answer questions about their early births and inform their care long after they’ve left the NICU.

To date, there is no such registry in existence until now. Sign up to be a part of the research project and receive updates. Join the movement here: https://crystalballhealth.com/join/

STRAATEGIC PARTNERS

PROLACTA BIOSCIENCE
sage.com

NICU HEALING
onceuponapreemie.com

WANT TO PARTNER WITH PREEMIEWORLD?
Visit preemieworld.com/our-partners to inquire.

AFTER THE NICU

Babies born before 37 weeks of pregnancy may be more likely to show signs or symptoms of autism than other babies. Are you years out of the NICU and now have a child with an Autism diagnosis? You are not alone. Here are a few suggestions for helping you and your child thrive:

- Don’t wait for a diagnosis. Seek help as soon as you suspect something’s wrong. Don’t wait to see if your child will catch up later or outgrow the problem. Early intervention is the most effective way to speed up your child’s development and reduce the symptoms of autism over the lifespan.
- Become an expert on your child. Educate yourself and reach out to professionals with experience. Learning all you can about autism and getting involved in treatment will go a long way toward helping your child.

PREEMIE STORY OF THE MONTH

DOMINIC MARTIN HERNANDEZ

“Domestic was one of the biggest surprises I never knew I needed. Our story is a little unconventional compared to others, but when I found out I was 12 weeks pregnant, I had to face a few challenging decisions,” shares Preemie Mom, Angela.

“Truth be told, I didn’t want kids. I didn’t want to be a mother, nor did I want to be a single mother given the way Dominic was conceived. By the time I made my decision to parent, I was already 22 weeks pregnant.”

GLO PREEMIES

GLO Preemies™ seeks to raise the voice of black families in the NICU and post-NICU in terms of creating racial and health equity through policy advocacy, professional educational initiatives, family educational initiatives, family support for African American families for continuous 18 years and public outreach for assistance.

“No matter which way the wheel spins, GLO Preemies will be here to support you every step of the way.” - Ashley Randolph, President & Founder, GLO Preemies
**Preemie Freebies**

Our April freebie is an Autism Statistics Card for Autism Awareness Month brought to you by Preemie Crystal Ball - Powering Preemie Research.

Ahora disponible en Español!

*get it at preemieworld.com/preemie-freebies*

**Preemie News**

**Preemie Crystal Ball - Powering Preemie Research**

- PCB needs YOUR feedback on your feelings around research. - [https://preemie.us/PCBSurvey](https://preemie.us/PCBSurvey)
- Check out this amazing freebie to download, print out and/or e-mail to colleagues, families, etc. - [https://crystalballhealth.com/freebies/](https://crystalballhealth.com/freebies/)

**Preemie Genius**

26 Ways to Grow with Your Premature Baby

Author Tami C. Gaines openly shares her story to help inspire and support preemie parents.

A wealth of insight and resources in one book!

*preemieworld.com/preemiegenius-2021-Apr*

**Preemieworld Tags**

**Isabella & Alexandra Goncalves**

“*Our daughters were born at 25 weeks via gestational carrier and spent 122 days in the NICU,*” shares twin mom, Krista.

The twins are now almost 14.5 months old and sit up on their own, crawl everywhere and want to get into everything. *They bring so much happiness to everyone and we’re truly so proud and amazed at them for reaching all their milestones!*”

*preemieworld.com/PWtags-2021-Apr*

**Non-Profit News**

**Hope for HIE**

April kicks off World HIE Awareness Month

**Alliance For Black NICU Families**

Black NICU Moms and Dads, we need YOUR voice!

*see more at preemieworld.com/npnews-2021-Apr*

**Want to See Your News Here?**

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