



Preemie Professional

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Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

Years in Field: 5



Photo Credit: Daniel Segre

Org: Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Preemie Focus: Research on optimizing brain development and improving long-term outcomes of babies born prematurely by exposing them to audio recordings of their mother's voice as they would otherwise experience in the womb. This has the potential to provide NICU infants with a more nurturing and less stressful environment to mature and develop.

Professional Tip!

Encourage NICU parents to speak to and to engage with their infants when visiting.

Advocate: Int'l Day of Persons with Disabilities

As preemies are at risk for various disabilities, it is important to note a special day recognized by the United Nations. December 3rd is **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** under the UN Enable Program and this year's theme is "**Break Barriers, Open Doors for An Inclusive Society for All.**" Learn more about this day here: <http://bit.ly/Disability2013>

To Do List



CONTEST WINNERS: Congrats to **Jennifer Daniels** on winning the *little man* DVD in our FB contest and to **Cassie Bates** for winning our book for the e-newsletter contest.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS: Thank you for your tireless work day in and day out helping preemies thrive in the NICU and beyond!



Download PreemieWorld's FREE tools <http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies> and pass them onto NICU Parents as part of your welcome packet.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



buy buy BABY Holiday Toy Drive
Little Giraffe Foundation
November 29-December 18, 2013
Chicago, IL
<http://www.littlegiraffefoundation.org>

Holiday Adopt A Family Drop Off
Dallas Preemie Parents
Texas
<http://www.dallaspreemieparents.org>

Have an event to share? Email us details at connect@preemieworld.com

*Tools and Resources
for the Preemie Community*

Preemie Resource: Holidays with Preemies

PreemieWorld provides a number of free handouts to be used in the **NICU and beyond** in its "Freebies For You" section of the website.

This month's freebie is "Holidays with Preemies."

"Holidays are really tough for preemie families," comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC. "Whether they are in the NICU

or at home on lockdown it is important to help them find ways to celebrate the season - Preemie Style!" Parents and professionals alike will appreciate this freebie in that it is easy to print and reproduce.

Download it here now:

<http://bit.ly/PreemieHolidays> **And check out more like this here:** <http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies>

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Support: NPF



National Premmie Foundation
Caring, Supporting, Informing Australia

Year Established: 2007

Focus: National (Australia)

Web: www.prembaby.org.au

Goals: Raise awareness of preterm birth, represent interests of parents in terms of hospital policies, health policy, funding, and standards of care; work as part of the World Prematurity Network; link parents with groups and facilitate and assist with the formation of new groups.

Programs: Australian Premature Birth Awareness Ribbon, World Prematurity Day activities, support and promote member events for NPF.

Have a support group you want to share? Contact us!
connect@premieworld.com

Organization: Skyler's Gift Foundation

After the loss of their son, Skyler, a 24-weeker twin, Stephen and Tiffany Bowen learned of the heartache of preemie families who had difficulty in paying for funeral costs and had to opt for non-burial or mass cremation. Skyler's Gift Foundation gives families their back their dignity and more.

Website:
www.skylersgift.org

Focus: Premature infants, families of premature infants who pass away.

Programs:

- Pays for funerals for premature infants who pass away. Families can apply right online at the website.

- Helps families get free counseling services or subsidizes the counseling services.

COOL Event:

The organization relies solely on donations and fundraising. Their annual NFL Bowl-a-thon is on May 2nd, 2014 at Lucky Strike in Washington, DC. They have over 20 NFL players come out and bowl with the fans in order to raise the money for this cause.



PreemieWorld: "Like" Us On Facebook & You Could Win!



Visit PreemieWorld's FB page at:
<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

**"Like" our FB page
from 12/3/13 to 12/26/13
and you could win a copy of the
award-winning *little man* DVD
from PreemieWorld!**

<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

*Parents & Professionals:
Subscribe to our FREE newsletters
today @ www.PremieWorld.com*

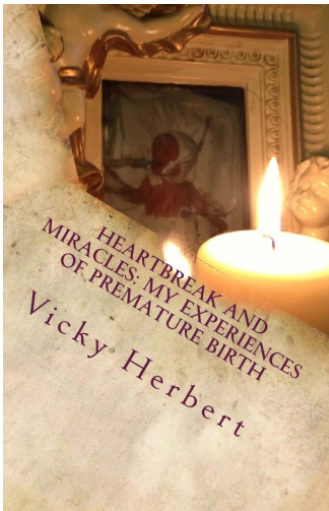
Preemie Genius: Heartbreak and Miracles

The Details:

By:
Vicky Herbert

Website:

www.vickyherbert.org.uk



The Genius:

Vicky Herbert tells her story with startling honesty and clarity.

Having experienced the full spectrum of issues surrounding preterm birth, her experience will give all readers great pause. With courage she details the daily trials surrounding each of her children and the circumstances behind the birth, the NICU stay and the aftermath.

This is not only a story for the fellow preemie parent community to read but also one for the professional set as well. There is much to be learned on both sides of the NICU world.

After the NICU: Creating a Preemie Box

With so much going on a parent might not have the time to fill in a baby journal or create a scrapbook about the NICU days. A simple Preemie Box will go a long way:

- Add your preemie's hat from the NICU
- Add the first outfit worn in the NICU
- Add a blanket that was used to cover the incubator (if you have room)
- Add a few pictures from the NICU
- Write down some statistics
- Write a love note to your preemie
- Pull it together in a nice keepsakes box.

Have a topic for After the NICU? Send it into us at connect@preemieworld.com

Preemie Professional Online

NICU Professionals Group: (www.Linkedin.com)

"Hi everybody. I'm an Iranian nurse in and work in the NICU."

"STUDY: Preterm Boys Face Worse Odds Than Girls - <http://ow.ly/qX9Lq>"

Early Intervention Professionals Group: (www.Linkedin.com)

"Study Finds Attention to Others' Eyes Declines in 2 to 6-month old Infants Later Diagnosed with Autism - <http://ow.ly/qz1uk>"

"STUDY: Premies in private NICU rooms later show lower language scores - <http://ow.ly/qqr11>"

Preemie World (www.Twitter.com):

"COOL: Preemie Update from a Preemie Born in 1946 - <http://bit.ly/PreemieRichard>"

"RESEARCH: Study Ties Weight-Loss Surgery to Higher Risk of Preemie Birth- <http://ow.ly/qXaqZ>"

BE THE COOL PRO: Tell Your Families about the "Preemie Network" on Inspire.com:

Deb Discenza of PreemieWorld moderates this global network of over 16,000 parents from NICU to home to school. www.inspire.com/preemie

Check out these groups and more by referring to the "Get 'Social' With Us" on page 4 for more information. Have news or research to share with us? connect@preemieworld.com

Get "Social" With Us!



www.PremieWorld.com
www.LittleMantheMovie.com



@ PremieWorld



- PremieWorld
- Premie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU



PremieWorld



Check out other LinkedIN groups we moderate:

- NICU Professionals
- Early Intervention Professionals
- Premie Parent Support Group Leaders
- Premie Parents
- Little Man the Movie

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COOL: Discount at Nurtured by Design to Benefit Lahav Lab

Premie Holiday Treat: Our friends at Nurtured by Design (www.NurturedByDesign.com) have created a large discount program that PremieWorld is thrilled to offer to its readers. Bonus: Your purchase creates a donation to our selected organization - the Lahav Lab (www.lahavlab.com).

Q: What is Nurtured By Design, Inc.? Started by Yamile Jackson after the premature birth of her son, Zachary, NBD creates products that promote the parent/baby bond such as the **Zaky** and the **Kangaroo Zak**. Sold globally, these products have made a huge difference in the lives of premie families.

Q: What is Lahav Lab? Based at Brigham and Women's Hospital and created by Amir Lahav (a father of premie twins), the organization is focused on developing ways to optimize brain development and long-term outcomes of extremely premature infants in the NICU.

Q: Great! How do I do it? Go here to buy your products and learn more: <http://bit.ly/OBOZlahav>

