



# Preemie Professional

## Preemie Professional

### *Kate Weldon LeBlanc, BSW MSPA*



Photo Credit: Weldon LeBlanc Family

#### Professional Tip!

Parents of preemies ARE the pros. They know, give and share so much. Take time to listen and learn.

**Org:** Jewish Family & Children's Services

**Unit:** Fragile Beginnings  
Preemie Parent Alliance

**Focus:** Coordinator of the FBPPA since 2010. Our focus is promoting the need for specialized emotional support for the parents of preemies.

**Web:** [www.jfcsboston.org/CERS](http://www.jfcsboston.org/CERS)

Caring for Generations  
**JF&CS**  
Jewish Family & Children's Service

## Advocate: The Preemie Petition

PreemieWorld was alerted that the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is planning to further restrict their guidelines surrounding the drug Synagis (for RSV prevention in preemies and high-risk infants). PreemieWorld launched **The Preemie Petition** for parents and pros to join together in battling this change. **Please sign and pass it on:** <http://bit.ly/PreemiePetition>

## Preemie Freebie: Preemie Tough

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 a special logo, "Preemie Tough."** "Parents often call their preemies fighters, so it made sense to create a logo around that theme," comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC. "This gives

parents and pros the ability to celebrate preemies on Facebook and Twitter in a unique and united way." Parents and professionals alike will appreciate this freebie in that it is easy to print and reproduce.

**Download it here now:** <http://bit.ly/PreemieTough>  
**and check out more like this on our site here:**  
<http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies>

## To Do List



**CONGRATS:** [Trichelle Smith](#) is our winner for the "little man" DVD contest giveaway for June. Congrats!



**LIKED US YET?:** PreemieWorld is doing another PreemieWorld Facebook page contest. See page 2 of this newsletter for details!



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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



2014 NAHN Annual Conference  
National Assoc. Hispanic Nurses  
July 15-18, 2014  
[www.nahnet.org](http://www.nahnet.org)

Golfing for Graham's Foundation  
Graham's Foundation  
July 19, 2014  
Bayonne, NJ  
[www.GrahamsFoundation.org](http://www.GrahamsFoundation.org)

Have an event you want to share with our community? Contact us at: [connect@preemieworld.com](mailto:connect@preemieworld.com)

Tools and Resources  
for the Preemie Community

## Support: Early Buds



**Year Established:** 2010

**Web:** [www.earlybuds.org.nz](http://www.earlybuds.org.nz)

**Outreach:** New Zealand parents of premature babies from 23 weeks to 36 weeks.

**Background:** After the birth of her son Lucas at 28 weeks, founder Janelle Baine wanted to create an organization that would offer hope and support to other parents through that same journey.

**Programs:** Providing parents of premature babies in New Zealand with a free "Prem Pack" filled with goodies from their generous sponsors.

## Org: Tiny Footprints Guild

*Two mothers, each with her own journey with premature birth and the NICU, came together to create the Tiny Footprints Guild and raise funds for research through a partnership with The Global Alliance for Prevention of Prematurity and Stillbirth (GAPPS).*

**Established:** 2009

**Type of Outreach:** International

**Website:** [www.TinyFootprintsGuild.com](http://www.TinyFootprintsGuild.com)

**Focus:** The guild is dedicated to raising awareness and funding research to prevent and treat premature birth in association with Seattle Children's Hospital and the Global

Alliance for Prevention of Prematurity and Stillbirth (GAPPS).

**Background:** The organization was started by Gina Dunn (mother to her late son Ryan) and Erica Gower (mother to Katie born at 31 weeks), parents of preterm infants that had NICU stays at Seattle Children's Hospital.

**Programs:** This year's annual fundraiser raised over \$35,000 for research to prevent and treat prematurity. The team also created a special awareness video that you can find on Facebook at: <http://bit.ly/TinyFootprintsG>



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## PremieWorld: "Like" Us On Facebook & You Could Win!



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

**"Like" our FB page from 7/1/14 to 7/24/14 and you could win a copy of the award-winning *little man* DVD from PremieWorld!**

<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

*Parents & Professionals:*  
Subscribe to our FREE newsletters today @ [www.PremieWorld.com](http://www.PremieWorld.com)

**The Details:**

**By:**  
Diesel Films

**Website:**  
[www.MattTheFilm.com](http://www.MattTheFilm.com)

**View the Movie at:**  
<http://bit.ly/1huDG8f>

**MATT: The Film****The Genius:**

MATT is a true testimony to the resilience of preemies as they get older and take on life.

The short film is centered around Matt (who had been born 3 months premature at 1.5 lbs. and had suffered brain trauma), is now a senior at Santa Monica High School and becomes a member of the varsity football team and later the basketball team.

The film is a solid reminder of what it means to break barriers to be a part of society despite the odds. Matt on his own brought together a team, a school and a community that showed him respect and admiration.

**After the NICU:  
Visiting the Dentist**

*Though your preemie's teeth might not even be in yet, a visit to the dentist early on is a smart idea. Here's why:*

- Some preemies have what is called *delayed eruption*, meaning they can come in later than is normally expected.
- A dentist can give you some tips on gum care and pre-brushing ideas to help with teething and any other issues can come up.
- Since teeth can affect feeding, talk to the dentist about ways to keep your child moving forward on feeding though the teeth might not be in yet.
- See if your dentist would suggest you take your child to see a pediatric dentist.

**Premie Professional Online****NICU Professionals Group:  
(www.Linkedin.com)**

“Breastfeeding the Medically Complex Infant “

“Power to create positive change in the NICU Environment “

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

“Early exposure to books makes a difference “

“Autism usually not diagnosed until age 5 or older“

“Preventing Food Jags: What’s a Parent to Do?“

**Premie World (www.Twitter.com):**

“URGENT: Premie RSV Drug is Being Further Restricted – Please Sign Our Petition NOW – <http://ow.ly/xYNT0> “

**BE THE COOL PRO: Tell Your Families about the  
“Premie Network” on Inspire.com:**

Deb Discenza of PremieWorld moderates this global network of *over 19,000 parents* from NICU to home to school. [www.inspire.com/preemie](http://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](mailto:connect@preemieworld.com)

## Get "Social" With Us!



[www.PremieWorld.com](http://www.PremieWorld.com)  
[www.LittleMantheMovie.com](http://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

*Tools and Resources  
for the Premie Community*



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## Tips: Preparing for a Pediatric Dentist

Many preemie parents decide to take their child to a pediatric dentist. These dental specialists are like the pediatrician for teeth. Learn more:

- Don't know exactly what pediatric dentists are or do? Learn here: <http://bit.ly/1sgoYvw>
- Ask your pediatrician if a pediatric dentist is a good choice for your child. If so you can find a pediatric dentist here at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry website at: [www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org)
- Pediatric dentists are an excellent way to educate yourself and your child on proper oral healthcare in terms of brushing, flossing, and even a healthy diet.
- Not all dental plans cover pediatric dentists. Make sure to check your health plan before making an appointment so you know if you are in-network or out-of-network. If you think you have a specific need for a pediatric dentist that warrants coverage, see if your pediatrician or your family dentist can help talk to your insurance company.