

# Preemie Professional

## Preemie Professional

### Sharon M. Chesna, MPA



Professional Tip!

Take time to "think like the parent" of a premature baby, this will help you provide your particular expertise with more empathy and compassion. Also, take time to know your community resources so you can refer more appropriately.

#### **Organization:**

Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network of South NY, Inc.

#### Website:

www.MothersandBabies.org

**Years Helping Preemies:** 

#### **Preemie Focus:**

Advocacy for families with premature infants and children and availability of family support services in hospitals and communities.

## Advocate: Preemie Parent Alliance

If you run or are part of a preemie parent support group or are in the process of starting one, Chicago is the place to be September 20, 2012. This is a unique chance for preemie support group leaders to connect and share best practices for everything from membership to fundraising to marketing and more. Set your reservation now at www.PreemieParentAlliance.org

#### To Do List



NICUs: Sign up for our Preemie Family for Pros list thru 8/27/12 & you could win a little man DVD



Professionals, sign up your organization to receive Preemie Family to distribute to your families:



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

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



September 5-8, 2012 15th National Mother Baby Nurses Conf Chicago, IL

October 18-20, 2012 National Perinatal Association Tampa Florida

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

Tools and Resources for the Preemie Community

## Preemie Resource: Medication List

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 Medication List. "Who isn't frustrated by the nurse asking about medications and the time spent remembering names, doses and more? " comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC.

"This sheet makes it easy for parents. All they have to do is pull it out and ask that it be copied. Super easy!" Parents and professionals alike will appreciate this freebie in that it is easy to print and reproduce. So go download it here now: http://bit.ly/PreemieMeds. And check out more like this here: <a href="http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies">http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies</a>

## Support: NPA's FAN



**History:** Under the National Perinatal Association (established 1977), the national Family Advocacy Network (FAN) has been around since 1982.

Focus: FAN assists support groups for Founded: parents of NICU infants, and provides emotional support for mothers and families in the NICU and post-NICU with general support including grief/bereavement and special needs child support.

**Programs**: FAN provides 1) a regular consulting call for groups supporting NICU parents, 2) a database of support groups, and 3) a regular conversation between NICU psychologists.

Web: www.nationalperinatal/fan.php

## Preemie Org: Lahav Lab

Out of his own family's experience, Dr. Amir Lahav was determined to find innovative technologies to help NICU babies thrive.

#### Name:

Lahav Lab

November 2008

#### **Even More Information:**

http://bit.ly/LahavLab

#### **Background:**

The Lab was founded by Amir Lahav, Ph.D. who shifted his academic focus from auditory neuroscience to the study of extremely premature and critically ill babies in the NICU. In drawing from his own personal experience of

having twins born at 25 weeks, Dr. Lahav found a great need to help NICU babies.

#### **Programs:**

The Lahav Lab is focused on developing ways to optimize brain development and longterm outcomes of extremely premature infants in the neonatal intensive care unit by making significant impacts on perinatal and neonatal care.



## PreemieWorld: "Like" Us On FaceBook & You Could Win!



*Visit PreemieWorld's FB page at:* www.facebook.com/preemieworld

Checked out our Facebook page yet?

If not, go now and "like" our page and you could win a copy of the little man DVD from PreemieWorld! TWO winners will be selected from the "like" list that occurs 8/1/12-8/27/12.

PreemieWorld's page is here:

#### www.facebook.com/preemieworld

The deadline for the contest is Monday, 27 August 2012. We will notify the winners personally and announce them in our September 2012 edition.

Make sure to "share" this with others! Thanks!

Parents & Professionals: Subscribe to this FREE newsletter today @ www.PreemieWorld.com

## Preemie Genius: Hug Me Joey

## preemie JOY!

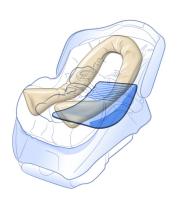
#### The Details:

Name: Hug Me Joey By: Hug Me Joey, LLC

Est.: 2005 Site:

(http://bit.ly/HugMeJoey)

**Focus:** Premature babies are discharged from the NICU with inappropriate head and neck support in the car seat.



#### The Genius:

Every preemie parent lives in fear of discharge day and rightfully so. Walking out the door and having the baby on your watch is exhilarating and terrifying. So the drive home has you peeking into the back seat regularly. The nurses may have tucked rolled up blankets to give your baby support but they don't work and the baby's head rolls everywhere. For babies with reflux, colic, and at risk for SIDS, these are definitely worth a look!

COOL: The first TWO people that contact Hug Me Joey's CEO at jojojoey@ameritech.net and mention "Preemie Family" could win a FREE Hug Me Joey!

#### Eli is Amazing!

"My son Eli just finished first grade, which is a huge accomplishment for him because he has been struggling. Recently I got to spend some alone time with him, and he was happy getting all the attention. At one point during dinner he leaned back and said, "This is the life!" It made my heart smile, and I know he's going to be just fine."

- Jessica Guthrie, Mom of Eli born at 30 weeks and 3 pounds, now seven years old.

Have a proud moment? Send it into us at connect@preemieworld.com

## Preemie Professional Online

### **NICU Professionals Group:**

(www.LinkedIN.com)

"PLEASE ANSWER: Survey About Preemie Diapers - http://ow.ly/cwJPz "

"Preemie Matters from the National Premature Infant Health Coalition – http://ow.ly/cl1AE"

## <u>Early Intervention Professionals Group:</u> (www.LinkedIN.com)

"COOL-FREE: Online Kangaroo Care Magazine - 'Kangaroos and Penguins' - http://alturl.com/d8e7F "

#### **Preemie World (www.Twitter.com):**

"REGISTER NOW & SAVE: National Perinatal Association's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in Oct 2012 – http://ow.ly/coe0r "

#### **Preemie World (www.Twitter.com):**

FREE WEBINAR: Vision Development and the Link to Overall Development in the Premature Infant – <a href="http://ow.ly/cbOq2">http://ow.ly/cbOq2</a>"

"PREEMIE COOL!: Mother of '3 little miracles' triplets to carry Olympic torch – <a href="http://ow.ly/cwIHO">http://ow.ly/cwIHO</a>"

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? <a href="mailto:connect@preemieworld.com">connect@preemieworld.com</a>









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## Preemie THANK YOU!

Publisher <u>Deb Discenza</u> is proud to thank the medical professionals at her daughter's NICU. Becky was born at 30 weeks weighing in at 2 lbs. 15.5 oz. She's now 9 years old and starts 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in the fall in a full-time gifted and talented program! Way to go Becky!

<u>NICU Team Members</u>: Robin Baker, M.D., Daniele Huntington, M.D., John M. North, M.D., Donna Reed, R.N. and Theresa Ziemba, P.T.

Organization Name: Inova Fairfax Hospital NICU, Falls Church, VA

<u>From Deb</u>: I was totally terrified in the NICU but grew less so thanks to your incredible training, your compassion for these very small and very sick infants and your interest in making sure families are trained and ready to walk out that door at discharge time. In the weeks that followed discharge, I heard Nurse Donna's voice in my head as I walked through the steps with the medical equipment, the medications and even a bath. THANK YOU!

Have a special thank you to a professional (doctor, nurse, therapist, specialist)?

Contact us at: connect@preemieworld.com