



# Preemie Professional



## Preemie Professional

### *Jane Marie Chen*

Founder & CEO of Embrace Innovations



Photo Credit: Embrace Innovations

Org: [Embrace Innovations](#)

Years Helping Premies: 7

**Focus:** Helping to save premature babies in developing countries who do not have access to standard hospital incubators. The [Embrace Infant Warmer](#) is a low-cost incubator that has now helped over 200,000 babies worldwide. She has also created [Little Lotus](#), a line of swaddlers, sleeping bags, and blankets that use innovative technology to keep babies at the perfect temperature and sleep better. With each purchase a baby will be helped by the Embrace Infant Warmer.

### Professional Tip:

*It's important to be sensitive to the needs of premies and their families and to offer products and services that go the extra mile to give parents peace of mind.*

### Advocate: Multiples Awareness Month

Many premies in our community are twins, triplets, and more. Imagine having more than one baby in the NICU?! With this in mind, we are proud to celebrate all multiples as **April, 2016 is Multiples Awareness Month**. For information on multiples, especially the supertwins kind, check out our friends at **Mothers of Supertwins** at [www.raisingmultiples.org](http://www.raisingmultiples.org) #premiemultiples

## Preemie Resource: Premie Multiples are More to Love

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 "Premie Multiples are More to Love."** "Multiples have been on the rise for a while now," comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC. "In honor of Multiples Awareness Month we wanted

to create a graphic that represented multiples in our preemie community. They are true miracles!" Parents and professionals alike will appreciate this freebie in that it is easy to print and reproduce.

**Download it:** <http://preemie.us/PremieMultiples>  
And **check more freebies right here:**  
<http://bit.ly/PremieFreebies>

### To Do List



**CONGRATS:** [Judy Hess](#) won our little man DVD and C. Michael Gibson, MD won the *Tiny Steps My First Year Record Book*.



**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/PremieFreebies> and pass them onto NICU Parents as part of your welcome packet.



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

3<sup>rd</sup> Int'l Academy of Neonatology & Mediterranean Congress of Pediatrics  
March 16-19, 2016  
Lisbon, Portugal  
<http://ia-neonatology.org>

Young Child Expo & Conference  
April 13-15-2016  
New York, NY  
[www.youngchildexpo.com](http://www.youngchildexpo.com)

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

Tools and Resources  
for the Premie Community

## Support:

### Maison Alexander Support Group

*With the birth and survival of her 28-weeker son, Maison, Mariann Shaw learned a lot about faith and determination and felt a calling from God to help others in the form of a support group.*

**Established:**  
2014

**Outreach:**  
National

**Website:**  
[www.masgnicu.org](http://www.masgnicu.org)



**Programs:**  
Supporting families during their journey with gas/food cards, preemie clothes, items, breastfeeding information and more. We take heart in a place of encouragement, prayer, and donating items.

## Org: Emma's Footprints

**Founders and Parents Joseph and Programs:**

*Amelia Kowalisyn created Emma's Footprints after the early birth of their twins, Emma and Alexander at just 31 weeks. Emma had a severe stroke in utero and passed away 23 days later after being airlifted to another NICU. Alex was released at 29 days old. The family received such incredible support from friends and the community that they wanted to re-create that for other NICU families.*

**Established:** 2014

**Web Site:**  
[www.facebook.com/EmmaKsfootprints](http://www.facebook.com/EmmaKsfootprints)  
(for events and more)

**Outreach:**  
NW Indiana and National to preemies of any gestation as well as stillbirth and infant loss.

Emma's Footprints provides:

- o Care packages for NICU families,
- o Bereavement care packages,
- o Support for families after the loss of an infant,
- o Projects toward bringing awareness to premature birth and infant loss.



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



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

**"Like" our FB page from 3/29/16 to 4/22/16 and you could win a copy of the award-winning *little man* DVD from PreemieWorld!**

<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

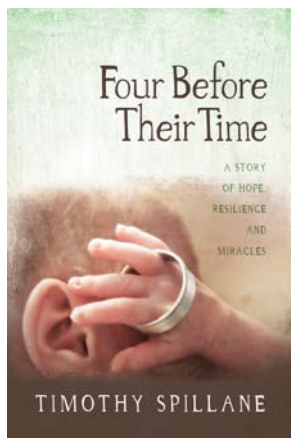
*Parents & Professionals:*  
Subscribe to our FREE newsletters today @ [www.PreemieWorld.com](http://www.PreemieWorld.com)

**The Details:**

**By:**  
Timothy Spillane

**Available at:**  
[www.4b4theirtime.com](http://www.4b4theirtime.com)

**Cost:**  
\$17.66 USD



## Book:

### Four Before Their Time

The arrival of quadruplets will throw any family into disarray and this book details that perfectly. Written by the grandfather who delivered the 24-week preemies, he filters their experiences through the lens of Christian spirituality. From PDA to brain bleeds to Hydrocephalus, from NEC to Cerebral Palsy, these tiny babies endure many of the common NICU nightmares. To add to this, it is set within the structures of the U.S. Army medical system and its own bureaucracy, which lends its own chaos to the tale. This is a solid read for parent and pro alike, specifically those who are preparing for the birth of multiples of any quantity.

*We're giving away this book! Follow us on Twitter by 4/22/16 to enter: <http://bit.ly/PremieTweets>*

## After the NICU:

### You are the Expert of Your Child

*After the push and pull of control in the NICU, you are likely feeling rattled and not sure where you fit into the medical and therapeutic maze post-NICU. You are the expert of your child and here is why:*

- You knew your baby first, before anyone else did.
- You have a physical connection to your child unlike anyone else.
- Your child seeks out your voice and your smell for comfort.
- Your child knows you are the voice for him/her.

*Have a preemie parent expert moment with a professional? Tell us and inspire our community! - [#preemieparentexpert](https://twitter.com/preemieparentexpert)*

## Premie Professional Online

### NICU Professionals Group: ([www.Linkedin.com](http://www.Linkedin.com))

TRUTH: Neonatologists have One of THE Toughest Jobs in Medicine

STUDY: Drug Used for Premie Eye Disease Tied to Disabilities

SMART: Music Therapy Helps NICU Babies Go Home Sooner

### Early Intervention Professionals Group: ([www.Linkedin.com](http://www.Linkedin.com))

INTERESTING: Premies and ADHD

Early Intervention Resources for Parents

You're Not Her Guardian Anymore, Dorothy

### Premie World ([www.Twitter.com](http://www.Twitter.com)):

ARTICLE: NICU Mom Guilt is Real

ADVOCATE: Help Pharma Innovate New Therapies for Neonates

### BE THE SMART PRO: Tell Your Families about the "Premie Network" on Inspire.com:

Our own Deb Discenza moderates this FREE global network almost **26,000 parents** from NICU to school. <https://www.inspire.com/groups/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



We moderate these LinkedIn Groups:

- PremieWorld
- NICU Professionals
- Early Intervention Professionals
- Premie Parent Support Group Leaders
- Premie Parents

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## UPDATE: International Neonatal Consortium

*In early March Deb Discenza attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Neonatal Consortium at the FDA.*

With neonatal drugs often being a minimized dosing of adult medications, not enough research has been done to 1) check the effectiveness of these medicines and 2) to consider new therapies specifically for this field.

The International Neonatal Consortium recently convened at the FDA to take steps to rectify this across the areas of Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), Infections and Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC), hemodynamics (conditions relating to blood pressure), seizures and Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD).

*What is your #neonatalresearch priority?*



*Left to Right: at the INC meeting - Deb Discenza (Mom to 30-weeker, PremieWorld, Inspire Premie, and Premie Parent Alliance), Wakako Eklund, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC (National Association of Neonatal Nurses), and Carole Kenner, PhD, RN, NNP, FAAN and CEO (Council of International Neonatal Nurses) and speaker at the event.*

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