



Preemie Professional



PREEMIE PROFESSIONAL

Sue Ludwig, OTR/L

President & Founder of the National Association of Neonatal Therapists (NANT)



Photo Credit: Kristi Hedberg

Years Helping Premies: 21

Current Org:

National Association of Neonatal Therapists

Previous Org:

University of Cincinnati Medical Center

Focus: Sue Ludwig has specific interests in neonatal feeding, infant-parent attachment and neurodevelopment.

Web:

www.NeonatalTherapists.com
Make sure to follow Sue Ludwig's thought-provoking blog posts on LinkedIn and the website.

PROFESSIONAL TIP:

Premies are expert vibe-readers. In the stressed environment of the NICU, remember to take a few seconds to breathe and enter their space in a calm and present manner. This changes things for the better - you, the baby, and the family.

ADVOCATE: HIE Awareness Month

A brain injury that is caused by oxygen deprivation to the brain, **Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE)** is sometimes diagnosed in preemies. So **April** is **HIE Awareness Month**. To learn more about HIE and its effects, what you can do and to get more support, reach out to our friends at **Hope for HIE** at their website: www.HopeforHIE.org or Facebook Page: Hope For HIE.

PREEMIE FREEBIE: Premie Birth & Angel Certificates

PremieWorld provides a number of free handouts to be used in the NICU and beyond in its "[Freebies](#)" section of the website.

This month's freebies are a **Premie Birth Certificate** and a **Premie Angel Certificate**. "We created these certificates to help families celebrate their preemie and when needed, their Premie Angel," notes **Deb Discenza, Founder**

of **PremieWorld**. "These are PDFs that have fields for typing in the babies' information. NICU Nurses should be using these with all their preemie families."

DOWNLOAD IT:

<http://preemie.us/PremieAngelCert>
<http://preemie.us/PremieBirthCert>

MORE FREEBIES:

<https://bit.ly/PremieFreebies>

TO DO LIST:

✓ **CONGRATS!** **Pam Holland** (Premie Shower), **Brittany Lothe** (*little man* DVD) & **Avie Banks** (Premie Genius).

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

✓ **DOWNLOAD FREE TOOLS:**

Free from PremieWorld at <http://bit.ly/PremieFreebies> and pass them onto Premie Parents in their welcome packets.

✓ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

NEC Symposium
April 5-7, 2017, Davis, CA, USA
<https://NECSociety.org>

Young Child Expo & Conference - NYC
May 2-5, 2017, New York, New York, USA
<http://youngchildexpo.com/>

✓ **CONTACT US:**

Have an event to share? A pro or an organization, or product to highlight? Tell us at: connect@premieworld.com

TOOLS AND RESOURCES FOR THE PREEMIE COMMUNITY

SUPPORT:

HandFullHearts.com

After giving birth to twin boys at 26 weeks gestation and losing one to stillbirth and the other enduring a 146-day stay in the NICU, **Fabiana Bacchini** wanted to give back to the hospital. And so **HandfullHearts** was born.

Established: 2014 **Outreach:** Toronto, Canada

Web: www.HandfullHearts.com

Programs:

- Baskets of essential items for families over the holidays. *Editor: Donations needed!*
- "Life with a Preterm Baby" program to support families transitioning from the NICU to home. www.LifeWithaBaby.com/preterm
- HandfullHearts is an ambassador of Family Integrated Care (FICare) which truly integrates parents in the care of their baby. Web: www.FamilyIntegratedCare.com

ORGANIZATION:

Hope for HIE

Out of a virtual network of parents seeking to connect after their child had been diagnosed with Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE), the volunteer-based, 501c3 non-profit **Hope for HIE** has since grown to serve thousands of families worldwide. Today Hope for HIE is the premiere organization serving this population of families.

Established: 2010

Website: www.HopeforHIE.org

Reach: International

Programs:

- Hosting annual caregiver retreats, meet-ups and educational conferences.
- 24/7 peer-to-peer support through the organization's closed Facebook forums.
- Website: resources list that includes family stories, ways to connect with families, printable resources and more.

HOPE for HIE
awareness • education • support

PREMIEWORLD: "LIKE US" ON FACEBOOK & YOU COULD WIN!

LIKE US HERE:



<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

"Like" our FB page from **3/28/17 to 4/22/17** and you could win a copy of the award-winning *little man* DVD documentary from PreemieWorld!



READ AND SUBSCRIBE:

Preemie parents and professionals are invited to subscribe to our **FREE** newsletters today @ www.PremieWorld.com

PREEMIE GENIUS:

APP: Peek a Boo ICU Preemie

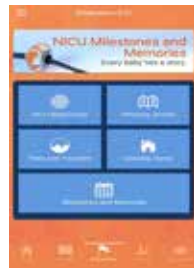


by PeekabooICU
www.PeekabooICU.com

It seems like there is an app out there for everyone and that is definitely the case for preemie parents. PeekabooICU, a company that provides the very popular NICU Journey beads and bracelets has recently released a free app for preemie parents.

The app is parent-friendly with numerous personal touches so that it seems more like a solid friend to lean on during the NICU stay than simply a piece of technology. It educates parents on subjects such as feeding, growth charts, milestones, weekly developmental changes and tips, this app has it all. It even provides a nice bridge section to discharge day.

NICUs - add this one to your resource lists for families. As a time-saver on patient education, you will be glad you did.



AFTER THE NICU:

Planning A Baby Shower for Your Preemie

Never had that baby shower and now you are heading home or already at home? It is not too late. And you can create one that is RSV season-friendly thanks to a little technology.

- Set up a special group on Facebook and invite your friends (and make it secret so it is private).
- Provide some pictures of your preemie along with the invitation to the group.
- Add in a link to your fave baby site registry and let participants know that you would appreciate the gifts being shipped to you if at all possible.
- On the day of the shower, provide more photos of the special event and then at one point, provide a Facebook live video with the baby. Make sure to say thanks to all who attended this event.

SHARE YOUR TIPS:

Have a baby shower for your preemie?

Tell us about it using the hash tag [#preemieworld](https://twitter.com/preemieworld)

PREEMIE PROFESSIONAL ONLINE

NICU PROFESSIONALS GROUP (LINKEDIN)

Is there a right and a wrong time to transfuse preterm infants?

Can We Stop Our Kids From Going Blind in the NICU?

NICU in Las Vegas Experiences Decrease in NEC 14.6% to 3.4% During the Six Months of Probiotic use.

EARLY INTERVENTION PROFESSIONALS GROUP (LINKEDIN)

Sensory Activities in Preschool & Kindergarten

Think About Using the 2+2 Strategy with Your Students Who are Oppositional

How to Spot Toys that Promote Language Learning

@PREEMIEWORLD @TWITTER.COM

PREEMIE UPDATE: Superman TJ

NEEDED: PreemieWorld Sponsors CareNav Sessions
4 Preemie Parents post-NICU Help

BE THE SMART PRO FOR FAMILIES

Tell your families about the **Preemie Support Forum** on Inspire.com! Our own **Deb Discenza** moderates this **FREE global network of over 35,000 parents from NICU to school to adulthood.** **Visit us at <https://preemie.inspire.com>**

FIND OUT HOW TO JOIN THESE GROUPS

Refer to "Get Social with Us" on page 4 for more information.
Share news and research with us at connect@preemieworld.com.

GET SOCIAL WITH US!



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- www.premieworld.com
- www.littlemanthemovie.com



- @PremieWorld



- www.facebook.com/PremieWorld
- [Premie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU](#)



- www.instagram.com/premieworld



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- [NICU Professionals](#)
- [Early Intervention Professionals](#)
- [Premie Parent Support Group Leaders](#)
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Interested in advertising? Contact us at connect@premieworld.com

PREMIEWORLD'S "PREEMIE SHOWER"

PremieWorld continues its monthly **Premie Shower!** Each month we will be picking *one* NICU to receive donated items.

Our friends at WaterWipes will be providing ONE NICU with: a DOZEN CASES of their 99.9% Chemical-Free Baby Wipes

We will select one NICU from our "Premie Family for Professionals" list **by 4/22/17** at www.bit.ly/PremieFam4Pros

NICUs: What do YOU want for a Premie Shower? Tell us using the hash tag **#premieworld**





CHEMICAL FREE
99.9% Water
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WaterWipes