



Preemie Professional

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Joel Brens

Founder, Papas of Premies



Photo Credit: Gena Brens

Years in Field: 1 ½ Years of NICU support

Preemie Focus: Advocating and providing support/resources for NICU dads and their families.

Web: Check out Joel's organizational webs site at www.PapasofPremies.com

Extras: Learn more about Papas of Premies in this edition in our "Support" section. And Joel's son Jayden is our "Cover Boy" in the June edition of *Preemie Family*.

Professional Tip!

Providing sound resources is great, but getting your community engaged makes all of the difference!

Advocate: World Blood Donor Day

Every preemie parent and professional is likely to know the life-giving aid of a blood donation. June 14, 2013 is World Blood Donor Day. Take this day to give back by donating blood at your local blood donation center. Perhaps a premature or many "preemies" will benefit from your generosity. To learn more about this day go here: <http://bit.ly/WorldBloodDay>

Preemie Resource: Tips for Preemie Dads

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 "Tips for Preemie Dads."** "Preemie Dads are often unfairly ignored," comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC. "This sheet gives Preemie Dads tips on how to participate in their

child's care in the NICU, at home, and more. Preemie Dads have a huge impact on their children short-term and long-term." 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/PreemieDads> **And check out many more here:** <http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies>

To Do List



CONGRATS: Kiley Latow is the winner of our Facebook "likes" contest and the *little man* DVD.



Professionals, sign up your organization to receive Preemie Family to distribute to your families: <http://bit.ly/PreemieFam4Pros>



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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



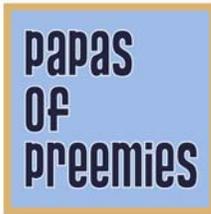
AWHONN Annual Convention
AWHONN
June 15-19, 2013
Nashville, TN
www.AWHONN.org

CMSA Annual Conference & Expo
Case Management Society of Amer
June 25-28, 2013
New Orleans, LA
www.CMSA.org

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

*Tools and Resources
for the Preemie Community*

Support: *Papas of Premies*



Outreach: National

Established: 2012

Web: www.PapasofPremies.com

Focus: Advocacy for NICU dads and their families

Background: After his son was born 7 weeks early, Joel noticed a lack of a father's presence in a majority of NICU support groups. Papas of Premies was created to help NICU dads and their families navigate their NICU journey.

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

Org: *Global Alliance to Prevent Prematurity & Stillbirth*

A neonatologist and a pediatric infectious disease specialist at Seattle Children's formed GAPPS to accelerate research into the causes and mechanisms of preterm birth and stillbirth in order to reduce the impact on children, families, and the community.

Established: 2007

Website: www.gapps.org

Focus: GAPPS works to find the causes and mechanisms of preterm birth and stillbirth, and the best ways to care for preterm newborns, by funding research, building research infrastructure and advocating for more science and

more research funding on preterm birth and stillbirth prevention.

- The Preventing Preterm Birth Initiative (PPB), which provides grants to discover new solutions to ensure healthy births.
- The GAPPS Repository that is the first standardized, widely accessible collection of high-quality specimens linked to data from diverse populations of pregnant women.
- The Perinatal Interventions Program that aids providers in assisting mothers and newborns before, during and after birth.



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



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

**"Like" our FB page
from 6/1/13 to 6/24/13
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.PreemieWorld.com*

Preemie Genius: Tamiko

The Details:

Item:

Tamiko

Company:

Sigurast ehf (brand name Tamiko)

Founder:

Berglind Baldursdottir

Website:

www.nicuwear.com



Tamiko 

The Genius:

This NICU-approved clothing is high-quality and made of the softest cotton on the market, specially picked for a preemie's sensitive skin needs. Each outfit is designed with the ability to allow parents and NICU staff to change clothes on the baby with the minimum of disturbance for the baby.

CONTEST!

PreemieWorld and Tamiko have partnered to supply a winning NICU with a set of preemie outfits. The winner will be selected from those NICUs that sign up for our Preemie Family for Pros list 6/1/13 - 6/24/13 at: <http://bit.ly/PreemieFam4Pros>

After the NICU:

Father's Day: NICU & Beyond

Dads in the NICU and at home - know that you make a difference!

Fathers often feel shut out of the NICU experience but hospitals are quickly realizing that Dads are crucial to Mom's coping and baby's long-term development and socialization. Father's Day tips:

- Read to your child. Your voice is soothing and so is your smell.
- Talk to your child. Again you provide protection and comfort as much as Mom.
- Singing, Kangaroo Care and more are also your strengths as Dad. So don't be shy!

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

Preemie Professional Online

NICU Professionals Group: (www.LinkedIN.com)

"COOL: Tiny Preemies get a boost from live music therapy - <http://ow.ly/l83Ex> "

"ARTICLE: Getting Mama's Milk in the NICU - <http://ow.ly/l84fk> "

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

"ARTICLE: Infant Massage Therapy Reduces Stress in Premature Babies - <http://ow.ly/l81H4>"

"RESEARCH: Kids with Autism May Perceive Movement More Quickly - <http://ow.ly/l1FJM>

Preemie World (www.Twitter.com):

"ARTICLE: Preemie Researchers were Purposely Given Wrong Data - <http://ow.ly/l81rn> "

"RESEARCH: Reducing Respiratory Virus in Premies Lessens Wheezing: Study - <http://ow.ly/kZu19> "

"FDA subcommittee to examine regulatory science for neonatal studies - <http://ow.ly/l9jJY>"

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.PreemieWorld.com
www.LittleMantheMovie.com



@ PreemieWorld



- PreemieWorld
- Preemie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU



PreemieWorld



Check out other LinkedIN groups we moderate:

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

Tools and Resources for the Preemie Community



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“Little man” educates NICU professionals



www.littlemanthemovie.com

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Parent Tips for Pros: A Preemie Dad's Perspective on Father's Day

With Father's Day upon us, we checked in with Papas of Premies founder Joel Brens on the very important (and often left out) Preemie Dad perspective.

Q: How did you celebrate your first Father's Day as a "Papa of a Preemie," Joel?

We brought our son Jayden home from the NICU a couple of weeks before Father's Day, so we celebrated the day by enjoying each other's company and being grateful for our many blessings.

Q: What would you like to tell fathers in the NICU to give them hope and to celebrate Father's Day?

A: Every NICU story is different, but there are so

many dads out there who have been through similar situations. You are not alone. Regardless of your circumstances, being a father is such an amazing gift. Embrace the moment!

Q: What would you like to tell Dads out of the NICU?

A: Sometimes you need to take a step back and realize your child is making progress every day, though it may not be as obvious as you realize. The more involved you are, the greater the progress.

Check out Papas of Premies great info at: www.PapasofPremies.com