

Line from Lin

With the Holidays upon us I want to wish you and yours a Happy Holiday and best wishes for a Wonderful New Year!

In a previous newsletter I shared that I was stepping down from my position as Executive Director, but not stepping away from my commitment to all of you. I will continue to passionately promote our work with families. I will serve the Organization as a Board member and spokesperson but not as ED. If you are interested in learning more about the role of Executive Director or if you know someone you think might be interested in applying, please contact Angelica Garcia at angelica.garcia@infantmassageusa.org

The National Training Institute (NTI) is Zero To Three's annual multidisciplinary training event for experienced childhood professionals. Now in its 27th year, the NTI is the "greatest resource" for enriching our work. Los Angeles hosted the Zero to Three conference this past week for almost 2000 attendees from

The Tao of Motherhood by Vimala McClure

Detachment

Like the eternal Tao, a wise mother gives birth but does not possess. She meets the child's needs yet requires not gratitude.

Observe how great masters raise up their dearest disciples.
Observe How nature raises up the plants and animals. Great teachers take no credit for their students' growth, yet they will go to any length to teach them what they need to know.

Nature requires no praise, yet it provides for the needs of earth's inhabitants. Mother is the reflective principle, the balancing agent for the child. Like a guru, she allows the child to make mistakes and love the child without condition. Like nature, she allows consequences to unfold and balance to be restored when it is lost.

throughout the US and many from throughout the world. Barbara Zimmerman and Michael Curtis, US Chapter Board Members, greeted many of our CEIMs and soon to be CEIMs. They spoke to many attendees regarding the importance and benefits of the work we do....Bonding and Attachment. Thank you to all who stopped by and thank you for sharing your experiences. I invite you to submit an article to the newsletter staff sharing your experiences in support of our Mission.

Zero to Three has just released the opportunity for people to listen to many of the sessions that were presented. [Click here](#) for more details.

In special touch,

Lin

Linda Storm, CEIM, IAIMT

She intervenes only when the right use of power is required.

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Georgia Hospital Introduces “Skin-to-Skin” Following C-Section Births

The National Initiative for Children’s Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) is leading an effort in close partnership with Baby-Friendly USA, and has recruited 90 hospitals in the US to participate in a 22 month long learning collaborative to make system-level changes to maternity care practices in pursuit of Baby-Friendly designation. “Skin-to-skin”, which means physical contact between the mother’s chest and

Chilling Brain Scans Show the Impact of a Mother's Love on a Child's Brain Size

A shocking comparison of brain scans from two three-year-old children reveals new evidence of the remarkable impact a mother's love has on a child's brain development. The images reveal that the left brain, which belongs to a normal 3-year-old, is significantly larger and contains fewer spots and dark "fuzzy" areas than the right brain, which belongs to that of a 3-year-old

baby five minutes after delivery, is one of those initiatives being used to encourage breastfeeding.

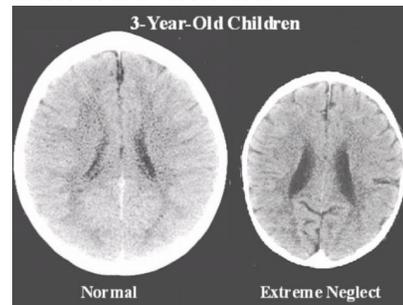
In June 2012 Doctors Hospital in Augusta, GA was chosen as one of the 90 hospitals to participate in the program. Doctors Hospital was already creating that bonding experience as soon as possible after normal healthy vaginal delivery and has implemented a national initiative on a local level to help promote instant bonding and breastfeeding between mother and baby. Recently, these efforts were further achieved when the first "skin-to-skin" caesarean section birth, took place at the hospital. The practice of "skin-to-skin" is based on intimate contact helping to facilitate maternal-infant behavior and interactions through sensory stimuli such as touch, warmth, and odor.

[To access the article](#)

Source: The International Association of Infant Massage Australia

Mother's Touch in the First Month Could Change Effects of Prenatal Stress

who has suffered extreme



neglect.

Neurologists say that the latest images provide more evidence that the way children are treated in their early years is important not only for the child's emotional development, but also in determining the size of their brains.

Professor Allan Schore from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) said that in the first two years, babies rely on a strong bond with their mothers for healthy brain development.

"The development of cerebral circuits depends on it," he said, adding that because 80 percent of brain cells grow in the first two years of life, problems in that development can affect people for the rest of their lives.

[To read the full article](#)

Source: Attachment Parenting International – API Links

Infant Bonding Decreases Chance of Behavioral Problems Later in Life



Mothers who stroke their baby's body in the first few weeks after birth may change the effects that stress during pregnancy can have on an infant's early-life development, researchers have found. (Credit: © Svetlana Fedoseeva / Fotolia)

[To read the full article](#)

Source: Attachment Parenting International – API Links

From CPSC: Eddie Bauer Bassinet Recall

A recent study published in *Child Development* found that infants who formed a close bond with even one parent were less likely to have emotional or behavioral problems when they reach school age compared to children who didn't experience such relationships.

Researchers at the University of Iowa said their findings provide further evidence about the influence that parents have at the earliest stages of a child's mental and emotional development.

The research suggested that a warm, secure and positive connection with at least one parent is enough to meet a child's needs for security and to provide a solid foundation for emotional and behavioral development.

[To read the full article](#)

Source: Attachment Parenting International – API Links

Skin-to-Skin Contact Reduces NICU Admission



The [US Consumer Product Safety Commission \(CPSC\)](#) has announced a recall of Eddie Bauer Rocking Wood Bassinets, manufactured by Dorel Juvenile Group, due to a potential infant suffocation hazard. The bottom locking mechanism of the bassinet can fail to lock properly if a spring is not installed, allowing the bassinet to tip to one side, causing infants to roll to the side. Dorel has received 17 reports of incidents with the recalled bassinets involving infants primarily younger than three months old. In two of the incidents, infants were reported to have had breathing difficulties after they rolled into the side of their bassinets. The recalled bassinets have a dark brown wooden headboard and footboard and a cotton bassinet that comes in a variety of colors and patterns. "Eddie Bauer" is printed on a metal plate on the bassinet's footboard, and there is a dial at the footboard base that locks and unlocks the rocking motion of the bassinet. The bassinets were sold at Target, Toys R Us and Sears stores nationwide and online at Ebay and other Web sites from December

A recent study was performed at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL to compare infant admission rates for infants with the diagnosis of respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) and transient tachypnea of the newborn (TTN) to NICU following implementation of early skin to skin contact. The benefits of skin to skin contact between mothers and infants have been well documented. The American Academy of Pediatrics 2005 policy statement directs that "Healthy infants should be placed and remain in direct skin-to-skin contact with their mothers immediately after delivery until the first feeding is accomplished."



Since placing vaginally delivered healthy newborns skin to skin for 30 minutes during the first hour of life, the rate of infants admitted to the NICU with a diagnosis of TTN or RDS had decreased from 2.63% during the last quarter of 2011 to 1.87% during their 1st quarter of 2012.

[To view the study](#)

Source: The International Association of Infant Massage Australia

2007 through January 2011 for about \$150. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled bassinets and contact [Dorel](#) online or at 877-416-0165 to obtain a free repair kit, which includes a spring and new instructions for assembly. Check out the [CPSC Web site](#) for more information, including the model numbers of the recalled bassinets.

Source: HMHB Monday Morning Memo

More Articles

Co-Sleeping Lowers Men's Testosterone Levels: Study

Moms aren't the only ones whose bodies change in response to their babies. A new study found that dads who share a bed with their children undergo a dip in their levels of testosterone, the so-called "male hormone." The decrease, researchers suggest, could influence how responsive bed-sharing dads are as parents.

"Understanding how [co-sleeping] may impact physiology is important in understanding men's health and our thinking about fatherhood as a component of men's health," the study's author, Lee Gettler, said. "There may be practical implications in terms of men's day-to-day well-being, as we know that testosterone is very important."

VFC Program Operations Guide

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) has updated the [Operations Guide](#) for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. The Guide was created to provide guidance and to communicate VFC program requirements to state and local immunization programs. The latest update was released on November 1st and includes detailed information about many areas of the VFC program. The [VFC Program](#) helps provide vaccines to children whose parents or guardians may not be able to afford them. The CDC buys vaccines at a discount and distributes them to grantees - state health departments and certain local and territorial public health agencies- which in turn distribute them at no charge to those private physicians'

[To read the full article](#)

Source: International Association of Infant Massage Australia

offices and public health clinics registered as VFC providers.

Source: HMHB Monday Morning Memo

Making Sense of Parenting

This month Attachment Parenting International (API) released its new edition of *Attached Family*, an issue examining how parenting information comes to us, how we can assess its value and significance, and determine its impact on our own parenting practices.



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