



BABY TALK

The Official Newsletter of the Ohio Association for Infant Mental Health

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OAIMH Officers
 President:
 Twinkle (French)
 Schottke
 Secretary:
 Janece Warfield
 Treasurer:
 Will Mosier
 Baby Talk Editor:
 John Kinsel

Rub Those Babies the Right Way!

This month's sharing of information on our website is provided by Kristine Snell, Infant and Early Childhood Therapist and member of the OAIMH Board. Her topic: Infant Massage. We have long known that gentle sensory engagement between a caregiver and his/her infant promotes healthy Attachment.

While all sense systems (auditory, olfactory, visual, taste, tactile) are important in this connecting process, by far the most sensitive at birth is the tactile system. The skin provides a huge sensory field upon which to stimulate connection via gentle touch, triggering the flow of Dopamine in the infant's brain, associating the touch of the caregiver with pleasure and safety.

Infant massage is a great way to maximize this positive influence on early caregiver/infant relationships. Kristine has provided a wealth of information about this healthy practice (plus a few great pictures!) Please take advantage of this by clicking on the highlighted words below to review this material. Enjoy!

OAIMH MOVES INTO THE 21ST CENTURY!

THE OAIMH BOARD HAS RECENTLY TAKEN STEPS TO CREATE THE AVAILABILITY OF ON-LINE REGISTRATION OF OAIMH MEMBERSHIP AND PAYMENT OF DUES. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OCCRA, OAIMH HAS MADE A COMMITMENT TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN WITHIN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

WHILE MEMBERSHIP DUES WILL NEED TO BE RAISED FROM THE CURRENT \$35/YEAR (WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN SINCE OUR INCEPTION OVER 10 YEARS AGO!) TO \$50/YEAR TO COVER THE COST, MEMBERSHIP IS STILL A BARGAIN FOR THOSE OF US WHO SUPPORT THE STRENGTHENING OF INFANT MENTAL HEALTH IN OHIO.

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Please contact the Editor at john.kinsel@gmail.com with your comments, suggestions, submissions, etc. Thanks, THE ED.

OAIMH MOVES INTO THE 21ST CENTURY! (CONT'D. FROM P.1)

STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS WILL REMAIN AT THEIR CURRENT REDUCED RATE. ALL MEMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NEWS AND SUPPORT FROM OAIMH REGARDING INFANT MENTAL HEALTH AS WELL AS RECEIVE REDUCED REGISTRATION FEES AT FUTURE OAIMH SPONSORED TRAINING EVENTS.

WATCH THIS WEBSITE FOR THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, AND, IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY A MEMBER, BE AMONG THE FIRST TO SIGN-UP ONLINE!

OAIMH Partners with Voices for Ohio's Children to Spread the Word.

Members of OAIMH's Board will be presenting in upcoming months at regional gatherings of Voices for Ohio's Children. The purpose of these "lunch & learn" sessions will be to raise awareness of community resources associated with Voices regarding the importance of Infant Mental Health and the purposes of OAIMH. The hope is that a wider community of local partners for OAIMH will be identified and ways OAIMH can serve those communities better discerned. Below is the schedule for these presentations:

- July 16, Cleveland
- July 21, Cleveland
- July 23, Toledo
- July 31, Zanesville
- August 4, North Canton
- August 10, Cincinnati
- August 14, Mansfield
- August 18, Portsmouth
- August 25, Athens
- August 27- Dayton

Please visit the Voices website at www.raiseyourvoiceforkids.org to find out specific times and locations for the regional meeting near you. Please join us at one of these forums and expand your awareness of two child focused not-for-profits at the same time. . Who knows, you may be moved to join both of them! ☺

We'll look for you there!