

preemieFAMILY 🕊 🕊

Vol. IX, Issue 6: June 2022



"The preemie dad must be strong, supportive, loving and even stoic at times. Never think he isn't crying inside or less invested; he is in fact hurting because the woman and child he loves is in pain. A pain he can't fix." - Adam Wood, Preemie Adventures

Fathers in the NICU are typically known as the support system for mom and baby, the strong ones that have to keep it all together. However, a study by NIH showed significant levels of anxiety and depressive symptoms were found among fathers of preemies.

This month we celebrate the AMAZING preemie dads in our community. Thank you for your strength and support.

Need support? Check out **Preemie Adventures** for resources for preemie parents to connect in a unique way through humor and shared experiences while providing a positive platform for parents to share stories, books or other items invented that help the NICU community. https://preemieadventures.com



Visit preemieworld.com/our-partners to inquire.

AFTER THE NICU

You've spent days, weeks or even months in the NICU and now you have received the best news. Your preemie is ready to come home! You may greet the day of discharge from the hospital with a mixture of joy and worry, but remember, with some preparation and planning, you'll be ready, too.

 Medical needs after discharge: Some preemies will need specialized medical support after leaving the hospital, such as apnea monitors, oxygen, or feeding tubes. Communicate with your preemie's care team to find out the needs for your child and make sure YOU feel comfortable understanding and using all medical equipment prior to discharge.



continued at preemieworld.com/afterthenicu-2022-June



PREEMIE STORY OF THE MONTH

BRADY DAVID WOOD



C "The smallest person that I ever met in my life was also the strongest person I have ever met." **JJ** "Our son Brady was born at 25 weeks weighing 1 lb, 40 oz due to complications of preeclampsia and IUGR," shares preemie dad, Adam Wood.

"There were no days off for our 135 day journey and the hard work paid off when we were able to come home. We came home on room air oxygen, a g-tube, two cranial helmets and a variety of other medications that we used to keep him thriving. Throughout our journey we both grew stronger as a couple and found that when faced with adversity, we are so much better together."

continued at preemieworld.com/preemiestory-2022-June

PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION

OUTREACH: NATIONAL

S

Mission: **Patient Advocate Foundation** (PAF) is a national 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which provides case management services and financial aid to Americans with chronic, life threatening and debilitating illnesses.

Learn more about the Patient Advocate Foundation and how they advocate for health care policies and collaborate with community partners to advance person-centered care and an equitable health care system for all Americans.



continued at preemieworld.com/PAF

@ PreemieWorld @ PreemieWorld @ www.instagram.com/preemieworld

@ www.facebook.com/PreemieWorld

in







It's not just the cool design or perfect fitour t-shirts help support our organization.

Each shirt is constructed with 100% fine jersey cotton.





Did your preemie have ROP?

@mama_heidrich: Yes! Stage II in one eye and stage III in the other. He had injections in the NICU twice. Once for both eyes and the last time in only one eye. He is two now and his eyes are perfect.

@kimssosocial: Yes. Stage II. But it went away with time. And now he has perfect eyesight at 15-years old.

@sydneyfetsco: Yes, stage II ROP.

NON-PROFIT NEWS

CANADIAN PREMATURE BABIES FDN.

ROP Infographic | 2022

iCAN

iCAN Book Trailer | 2022



see more at preemieworld.com/npnews-2022-June

INDUSTRY NEWS

S

WHAT'S NEW?



New Alliance for Black NICU Families Blog Post by Deb Discenza and Ashley Randolph - Infant Formula Games: Black NICU Families Lose Yet Again. An important read for all preemie professionals and preemie parents.

- https://blacknicufamilies.org/blog/f/infant-formulagames-black-nicu-families-lose-yet-again



continued at preemieworld.com/WhatsNew-2022-June

PREEMIE GENIUS ★★★★★

OUR NICU JOURNEY

by Little Ward Books A love letter to the NICU community. A rhyming children's book with keepsake pages for personal information, important milestones, and signatures

preemieworld.com/preemiegenius-2022-June

4 Aston & Aria were born at 31+5 gestation

They are currently 2 years old. They are talking, walking, running and more!

Mama says, "we feel incredibly lucky and

continued at preemieworld.com/PWtags-2022-June

and spent 41 days in the NICU.



PREEMIEWORLD TAGS

ASTON & ARIA XENITOPOULOS



Tag us on Instagram before the 15th of the month for a chance to be highlighted!

PREEMIE FREEBIES

proud!"

FATHER'S DAY CARD FROM PREEMIE

A special card for our "RAD DADS" of preemies. Don't forget to honor a RAD dad this month! Our Preemie Freebies can be downloaded and printed. *Ahora disponible en Español*!



get it at preemieworld.com/preemie-freebies

WANT TO SEE YOUR NEWS HERE?

Visit preemieworld.com/contact to inquire.

f @ www.facebook.com/PreemieWorld @ PreemieWorld in @ PreemieWorld @ www.instagram.com/preemieworld

@ www.instagram.com/preemieworld

