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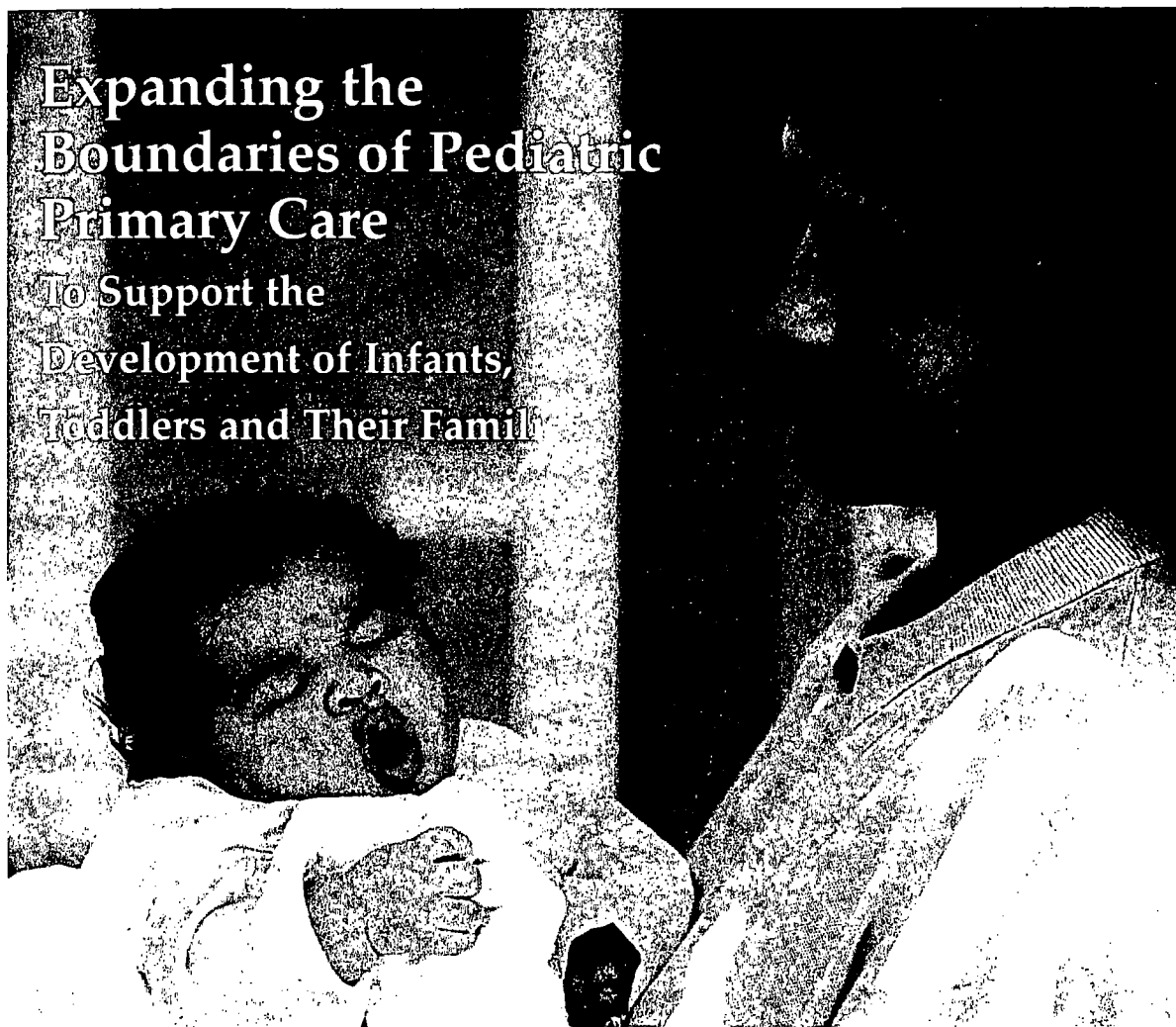


ZERO TO THREE

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Expanding the Boundaries of Pediatric Primary Care To Support the Development of Infants, Toddlers and Their Families



Barbara Young

Linda Eggbeer, M.Ed.

Director, Developmental Specialist in Pediatric Practice
Project, ZERO TO THREE/The National Center,
Arlington, Virginia

How can our nation use its resources most wisely to reach and support parents of infants and toddlers at a time when help is likely to count the most? Through what systems or mechanisms that currently exist can we most efficiently and effectively reach large numbers of caregiving adults with new information about the potential capacities — and vulnerability — of their children during the first three years?

ZERO TO THREE believes that one possible answer to these questions might lie in this country's

health care system — particularly in primary pediatrics. Primary health care settings, including private pediatricians, health maintenance organizations (HMOs), and community health centers are in many ways natural settings for joining with and supporting the parents of very young children. This article will describe ZERO TO THREE's work in exploring the potential of pediatric primary care for expanded services that emphasize the tremendous importance of parents as their chil-

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