

# News Release



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## **President of Australian Association for Infant Mental Health West Australian Branch selected for ZERO TO THREE Fellowship**

*Rochelle Matacz joins elite class of professionals advancing change for infants and toddlers*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**, — Perth resident Rochelle Matacz, M.S., has been selected for a prestigious 18-month ZERO TO THREE Fellowship.

Founded in 1981, the [ZERO TO THREE Fellowship Program](#) brings together multidisciplinary, cross-sector leaders that work across the country and around the world to positively impact the lives of infants and young children through research, practice, advocacy, and policy.

“Rochelle has an impressive background in clinical psychology and will bring a unique perspective to the team,” said Matthew Melmed, ZERO TO THREE Executive Director. “She will help us transform and advance programs, systems and policies that help give all children a strong start in life.”

Rochelle Matacz is a Clinical Psychologist specializing in Infant Mental Health. Ms. Matacz is President of the Australian Association for Infant Mental Health West Australian Branch Incorporated (AAIMHI WA) and has been in this role since 2014. As President of AAIMHI WA she has had a leading role in the implementation of the AAIMHI WA Competency Guidelines and Endorsement for Culturally-Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health®. AAIMHI WA is leading the way internationally as the first Affiliate of the World Association for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH) outside the USA to have a licensing agreement to use the *Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health (MI-AIMH) Competency Guidelines and Endorsement system®*.

Ms. Matacz is also the coordinator and clinical supervisor of the Edith Cowan University Pregnancy to Parenthood Clinic and provides reflective supervision and IMH training to a range of agencies working with infants, young children, and their families. Her clinical work in perinatal and infant mental health has focused on developing and implementing community and hospital-based services with vulnerable families. She lived and worked in Ireland from 2003-2013, where she received the WAIMH Award in 2012 in recognition of her significant contributions in establishing and promoting IMH in Ireland. Ms. Matacz co-founded the Irish Association for Infant Mental Health (IAIMH) in 2009. She was also responsible for developing IMH community-based therapeutic services and co-created Ireland’s first interdisciplinary training model (IMH Network Group) for building workforce capacity in IMH. She holds a Masters of Clinical Psychology and was endorsed as an IMH Specialist (IMH-E®) in 2006.

Matacz is joined by 14 other Fellows. This [extraordinary group](#) represents 12 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Australia and Turkey. The Fellows reflect the broad diversity of the infant-family field and demonstrate a diversity of fields including infant and early childhood development, infant mental health, early care, education and human services, child maltreatment, psychology and more.

### **About ZERO TO THREE**

*ZERO TO THREE works to ensure all babies and toddlers benefit from the family and community connections critical to their well-being and development. Since 1977, the organization has advanced the proven power of nurturing relationships by transforming the science of early childhood into helpful resources, practical tools and responsive policies for millions of parents, professionals and policymakers. For more information, and to learn how to become a ZERO TO THREE member, please visit [zerotothree.org](http://zerotothree.org), [facebook.com/ZEROTOTHREE](https://facebook.com/ZEROTOTHREE) or follow [@ZEROTOTHREE on Twitter](https://twitter.com/ZEROTOTHREE).*