



# BEST BEGINNINGS

Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

E-Newsletter

## July 2012 E-newsletter

### Welcome, Julie!



#### Early childhood priorities fare well in state budget

Alaska's governor and legislators took great steps toward promoting school readiness with increased funds this year. For the story on how young children and their families benefit in the budget, and the efforts that made that possible, [read on...](#)

Julie Varee, CFRE, is Best Beginnings' new Development Manager. Julie has 28 years experience helping engage individuals, corporations and foundations in nonprofit missions and work. What a tremendous asset!



#### Credit Union 1 supports Best Beginnings

Throughout August, all Credit Union 1 branches will have signs on their counters inviting patrons to donate to Best Beginnings. This statewide campaign raised more than \$3,000 last August, a sign of great support by Credit Union 1 members. [Find out how you can take part...](#)

Your charitable gift helps ensure all Alaska children begin school ready to succeed.

[Give today!](#)

#### BIG contest and a little favor

Let your baby shine. [Submit a photo](#) of your baby with a *Babies on Track* book – *Our Alaska Family* or *Let's Talk Alaska!* – and get all your friends and family to vote for it. Contest runs until July 31. How is *Babies on Track* working for you and your family? [Let us know with this quick survey...](#)

### Congratulations to Sandy Solenberger

Sandy Solenberger of the [North Slope Imagination Library](#) has been honored by the [Alaska Center for the Book](#) as a recipient of their annual Contributions



to Literacy in Alaska (CLIA) Award.



Significant social changes occur partly because of shifts in how people think. When Best Beginnings becomes part of your world through [Facebook](#), you are contributing to that change in thinking.



### Librarians recommend baby board books

Looking for fresh ideas for board books to share with your baby? Want to introduce them to the pleasures of summer reading? Wordless books, colorful books, Alaska books. We asked a few librarians around the state for their favorites, and [here's what they told us...](#)

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Best Beginnings is a public-private partnership that mobilizes people and resources to ensure all Alaska children begin school ready to succeed.

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