

Patty Weiner, MS

BIOGRAPHY

Patty Weiner is a mother and grandmother whose career spans over thirty-five years as a child life specialist, educator, education and healthcare consultant. She holds a Master's degree in Special Education and has many years experience teaching young children, supporting families and professionals.

Patty is an education and healthcare consultant who recently co-created content and a train-the-trainer “Benefits of Parents Reading to Their Babies in the **NICU**.” She is currently an educational consultant to The Making Headway Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to children with brain and spinal cord tumors and their families. Patty’s recently published book, *Taking Your Child to the Doctor or The Hospital: Helpful suggestions and practical tips to make your child’s visits more comfortable* is an impressive and helpful book to teach parents how to support infants and young children on the topic of going to the doctor for well-care visits or the hospital.

Patty has supported parents during difficult times and founded an Advocacy Group for Parents and a Task Force that included school administrators, parents and healthcare professionals working together to improve the quality of life for children with health issues and academic challenges. Patty has taught medical professionals (including doctors, residents, nurses and nursing students). Patty worked as the Director of Child Life and Education Services at North Shore-Long Island Jewish Medical Center. She served as a liaison and advocate for Project DOCC: Delivery of Chronic Care, a medical education program developed and taught by parents to educate others about chronic illness, and its impact on children, families and communities which is still active today in over 25 hospitals in the US and abroad.

Patty was the founding Director of the Master’s Degree program in Child Life at Bank Street College of Education. She served as a faculty member and co-created numerous courses, including a **NICU** course, which is near and dear to her heart. She continues to serve as a mentor to Bank Street graduate students.

Over the years, Patty has received numerous service awards for her work. She has presented at professional forums on topics including educational advocacy, parenting skills, comfort care for infants and young children, coping techniques for doctor or hospital visits and family-centered care. During her time at North Shore University Hospital she served on the **NICU** Multidisciplinary Committee. As a strong advocate for infants and their families she began child life programming in the **NICU**. She is a published author of numerous textbook chapters and journal articles. Patty served on the board of the Starlight Children’s Foundation and The Advisory Board for Child Life at Bank Street College. She is presently a member of The Steering Committee, The Louis Armstrong Center for Music and Medicine at Beth Israel Medical Center.