**Tips for Holding a Successful *Think Babies* Advocacy Training**

* Make the event family friendly by holding the session at a time and location convenient for families, providing child care or making the event itself child friendly, and providing a meal or snacks.
* Make the training as interactive as possible. Having time for participants to practice their story makes them much more likely to feel ready to engage in advocacy.
* Clearly recognize the expertise of families and service providers and the importance of their voices in advocacy. People may not know how vital their voices are to the policy process.
* If your training will include both parents and service providers, think through how you will ensure that content is relevant and engaging for both audiences.
* If you have existing relationships with strong parent advocates, consider having them participate as presenters to model sharing their story and speak about what advocacy means to them.
* Be sure to add participants to your email lists so that they receive information from you about future advocacy opportunities following the training.
* Be mindful that you keep the training a non-lobbying event. Please be sure to review the *Think Babies* local events lobbying guidance.