



## Update from the President, NIDCAP Federation International to the Membership

December 31, 2013

As 2013 is literally drawing to a close, I wanted to take a few moments to reflect on the events and accomplishments over this past year. This practice of reflection is an integral part of all that each of us does within the organization and is rather unique to the NIDCAP process.

**🕒 The major highlight for 2013 has been the re-“vision” of our mission statement:**

The NIDCAP Federation International (NFI) promotes the Newborn Individualized Developmental Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP). NIDCAP is the most comprehensive, evidence-based model of developmentally supportive care and assessment for preterm and fullterm newborns and their families in the hospital, and the transition home.

The NFI aspires for all newborns and families to receive hospital care and assessment in the relationship based, family integrated NIDCAP model.

The NFI assures the quality of NIDCAP education, training and certification for professionals and hospital systems, and advances the philosophy and science of such care.

**and the creation of our new strategic plan and ongoing implementation through our new organizational structure of the Advancement, Finance, Executive, Program and Governance committees.**

**🕒 Celebrated the achievements of Sylvie Minguy and Nastascia Bertoncelli as a new NIDCAP Trainers**

**🕒 Provided an NFI world-wide response from 15 countries to the Meta-Analyses published in Pediatrics**

**🕒 Certification of the NIDCAP Training Center at the University Hospital Modena, Italy**

**🕒 Welcomed Vicki Batkin Bjornson as a new Director of the NFI Board**

**🕒 Establishment of the first NFI Chapter, NIDCAP France**

**🕒 Certification of Meir Hospital Medical Center in Kfar Saba, Israel as a NIDCAP Nursery**

**🕒 Bid farewell with much appreciation to Board members Jacques Sizun and Inga Warren**

**🕒 Welcomed Nikk Conneman as a new Director of the NFI Board**

**🕒 Closure of two NIDCAP Centers in the United States in Connecticut and New Jersey**

On a professional and personal note, I am in transition due to the reduction in work force of the department of pediatrics resulting in the elimination of my position. I will continue in my volunteer role as President of the NIDCAP Federation and a member of the Board of Directors. My work as a NIDCAP Trainer and NIDCAP Master Trainer will continue under the auspices of another NIDCAP Center until such time that I can re-establish myself.

Finally please know that I greatly appreciate each one of you and thank you for all your dedication to infants, families and staff. I welcome your comments and suggestions regarding the NFI via my personal email at [premieg@gmail.com](mailto:premieg@gmail.com).

In anticipation for a wonderful and productive 2014,

**Gretchen Lawhon, PhD, RN, CBC, FAAN**  
President, NIDCAP Federation International, Inc.

**Mentoring** caregivers. **Changing** hospitals. **Improving** the future for newborns and their families.