

February 2020

Dear Members of the NFI,

We are an international community connected by our steadfast belief in the importance of supporting hospitalized premature and ill newborns and young infants and their families. Being linked in this way organizes, unites and mobilizes us to make a difference for care now and for the future. Last March, we collectively honored our NIDCAP model, the babies and families that it serves, and the professionals and supporters who bring it to life. We are continuing to pay tribute to NIDCAP as a now annual event. This means that we are ONE MONTH AWAY FROM OUR ANNUAL **WORLD NIDCAP DAY** (and month) CELEBRATION!



So it's time to make plans!!! For ideas for your own 2020 World NIDCAP Day (and month) celebrations, here are some of the ways that we celebrated last year: held afternoon teas, shared celebratory special cakes and cupcakes, displayed flowers, wore teal-colored clothing and awareness ribbons, gave out infant onsie outfits, hung NIDCAP posters, facilitated family photo projects, held conferences, lit bridges, showed films, and spotlighted NIDCAP on television news programs. As you can see there are quite a range of possibilities to draw from... as well as your own creativity to realize new ways of recognizing NIDCAP during March.

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS:** Throughout the month, Mandy Daly will continue the tradition she began last year of posting our NIDCAP wisdoms on our NIDCAP Facebook and Twitter sites. So that she has enough content to post quotes EVERY DAY, please send Mandy ([mandy.daly@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mandy.daly@yahoo.co.uk)) a sentence (or two) of **WHAT NIDCAP MEANS TO YOU**. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.

On [nidcap.org](http://nidcap.org), you will find materials to support your World NIDCAP Day/Month activities. Some of our materials include information about the day (available in English at this time and 12 additional languages soon); our World NIDCAP Day logo; and social media headers for your Facebook and Twitter social media pages. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing our *2020 World NIDCAP Day* poster with images of NIDCAP care from around the world. Also, we invite you to send us your local, national, and international activities (in text and/or photographs) for us to share on our website. Please send us your activities to [shareyourstory@nidcap.org](mailto:shareyourstory@nidcap.org) (be sure you have permissions to share images you send).



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# How will you honor our 2020

Please continue to check back to our website for World NIDCAP Day materials and to see how others are commemorating the importance, strength and beauty of our NIDCAP work.

## ***NFI Updates***



**Jean Powlesland, RN, MS** was unanimously voted by the NFI Board of Directors to be a **Senior NIDCAP Trainer**. Dorothy Vittner, PhD, RN, CHPE, NFI Program Committee Chair, wrote (*Jean's*) commitment to continued professional growth and development provides significant assurance to the NFI for securing the future of the NIDCAP Training process and therewith for the continued improved outcomes for newborns and their families as well as for the professional caregivers in intensive care settings. Please send Jean your congratulatory wishes for this well-deserved achievement ([JPowlesl@uic.edu](mailto:JPowlesl@uic.edu)).

The NFI Board of Directors oversees and guides our organization and its Mission *to promote the advancement of the philosophy and science of NIDCAP care and assure the quality of NIDCAP education, training, mentoring and certification for professionals and hospital systems*. The Board meets monthly with video conference calls and twice a year in person. Additionally, the Board leads a yearly NFI Membership Meeting during our NIDCAP Trainers Meeting open to all members of the NFI.

Minutes from NFI Board and Membership Meetings are available within our website's [Membership Section](#). Here are some of the **HIGHLIGHTS** from recent meetings including decisions made and efforts ongoing.

<p><b>NFI Board of Directors</b></p> <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>October 4, 2019</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of Year President’s, Program, Governance and Advancement Committee Reports were approved</li> <li>• World NIDCAP Day and Month were reviewed and recommendations for 2020 were offered</li> <li>• Discussions for expanding the “N” in NIDCAP to include “Newborn and Family” were held and it was determined that further considerations were warranted</li> <li>• The NFI FY 2019-19 End of Year Financial Committee Report was unanimously accepted</li> <li>• The \$5,000 seed money to host the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting was removed from the proposed FY 2019-2020 budget. These monies will continue to be available for host sites as a loan</li> <li>• Membership dues will increase for (new fees in USD in parentheses): NIDCAP Training Centers (\$1800) Student Members (\$50) and Professional Members (\$125). Family dues will remain same.</li> <li>• The NFI FY 2019-20 Proposed Budget was unanimously approved with plans to be officially approved by the Members during the 2019 NFI Membership Meeting</li> <li>• H. Als’ and J. Helm’s extraordinary contributions to the NFI and the Board of Directors were recognized</li> </ul>
<p><b>NFI Membership</b></p> <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>October 6, 2019</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports (available online for NFI members) from the President and Chairs of the Program, Governance, Finance and Advancement were presented</li> <li>• The Annual Election for this year’s two open NFI Board of Director seats was held and Maria Lopez, MD and Fatima Clemente, MD were elected to the 2019-2020 NFI Board of Directors</li> <li>• The extraordinary contributions of the Board members stepping down from service Heidelise Als, PhD, James Helm, PhD and Nikk Conneman, MD were acknowledged</li> <li>• Two graphics were distributed to members: <i>The History of NIDCAP</i> and an updated <i>Four Decades of Training and Mentoring</i></li> <li>• The NFI FY 2019-2020 Proposed Budget was approved by the majority vote</li> </ul>
<p><b>NFI Board of Directors</b></p> <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>October 8, 2019</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Officers D. Buehler (President), D. Vittner (Vice President), G. McNulty (Treasurer), and J. Powlesland (Secretary) were reelected to serve for FY 2019-2020</li> <li>• Jean Powlesland and Dalia Silberstein are Co-Chairs of the Governance Committee</li> <li>• The contract for the NIDCAP Nursery Program Director will be offered for a six-month term as future finances and program goals are evaluated</li> <li>• The 2019 election results for the Board of Directors were announced and are available in the Minutes</li> <li>• Initial reviews of the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting and the NFI Membership Meeting were made</li> <li>• The Board of Directors reviewed NFI organizational priorities for future discussion</li> </ul>
<p><b>NFI Board of Directors</b></p> <p><b>Video Conference Call</b></p> <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>November 4, 2019</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sandra Kosta was re-elected as the NFI Board of Directors’ Assistant Treasurer</li> <li>• The Quality Assurance Training (QAT) document regarding the certification of inaugural NIDCAP and APIB professionals was discussed and approved.</li> </ul>

<p><b>NFI Board of Directors</b></p> <p><b>Video Conference Call Minutes</b></p> <p><b>December 2, 2019</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NFI Board of Directors Mid-Year Meeting will be held March 30-31, 2020 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire USA</li> <li>• Jennifer Degl will serve as the Co-Chair of Advancement</li> <li>• PricewaterhouseCoopers' placement representative offered to help match an employee(s) with the NFI Board of Directors for our board recruitment</li> <li>• Discussions with Sandra Miley, Management Consultant, have helped the BOD focus on creating a sustainable future through more effective strategic positioning to support fundraising and marketing efforts</li> <li>• Plans are underway for the 2020 World NIDCAP Day and month. A survey will be developed and distributed for NIDCAP Trainers' ideas and experiences from last year event(s)</li> </ul>
<p><b>NFI Board of Directors</b></p> <p><b>Video Conference Call Minutes</b></p> <p><b>January 6, 2020</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Advancement Committee reported that a survey was sent to NIDCAP Trainers and Center Directors about World NIDCAP Day celebrations</li> <li>• Work continues on developing video based foundational education</li> <li>• The NFI plans to connect with organizations that create podcasts on newborn health (contact Jennifer Degl with interest in participating)</li> <li>• The overall evaluation of the 2019 NIDCAP Trainers Meeting was discussed. Progress on the 2020 and 2021 meetings were briefly discussed</li> <li>• Quality Assurance Training Policies 005 and 006, recently revised and approved by the Program Committee and the Quality Assurance Advisory Council, were presented and approved</li> </ul>

**Please note that my future correspondences may come from this new email address:**

[nfipresident@nidcap.org](mailto:nfipresident@nidcap.org) . Some members may need to approve of this email address to receive these communications (so they are not blocked or placed in a Spam Folder).

Your feedback, questions, comments, NFI updates, and membership news written to me personally and/or to the whole board, are welcome.

Yours in support of the NFI,

Deborah

Deborah Buehler, PhD  
NFI, President, Member of the Board  
Director of the West Coast NIDCAP and APiB Training Center  
West Coast NIDCAP & APiB Training Center  
UCSF Division of Neonatology, Box 0734  
550 16th Street, Floor 5  
San Francisco, CA 94143 USA  
Email: [deborahbuehler@comcast.net](mailto:deborahbuehler@comcast.net)  
Linked In: [www.linkedin.com/in/deborahbuehler/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/deborahbuehler/)  
Organization: [www.nidcap.org](http://www.nidcap.org)