

Dear Members of our NFI Community,

Around the world there is a quest for racial justice and human rights. Peaceful protests and riots are happening during this time of the overwhelming coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). The NFI speaks out as a “voice” for the vulnerable. The NFI and NIDCAP offer clarity about the value of the human experience. All interactions and care should happen with respect and understanding for babies and their families, and for one another, from all races, ethnicities and geographies.

Now many months into this COVID-19 outbreak, we are grappling with understanding how to make sense of this experience, personally and professionally. With challenges to connect and to nurture our relationships there are also opportunities for growth and new ways of being. This idea of “challenges creating opportunities” is intrinsic to the Synactive Theory (of Newborn Behavioral Organization and Development). Opportunities for the NFI exist all around us as we adapt ways to be present, supportive and helpful. 2020 is definitely becoming a year to reflect, reset, recommit, refashion and renew our commitment and capacities for the NFI, NIDCAP and one another.

Connection & Relationships.

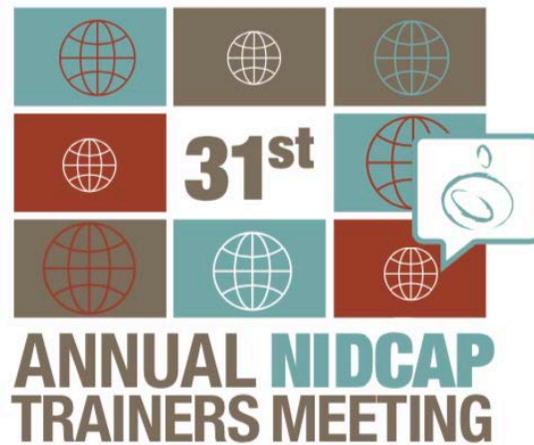
Last month, Joy Browne created an opportunity for us to participate in a Masayang Pulong (“happy meeting”) flash mob. Members joined a Zoom call to share stories, updates and support with one another.

Growth.

The *NFI Board of Directors* described ways their work has changed and/or expanded during this time of COVID-19:



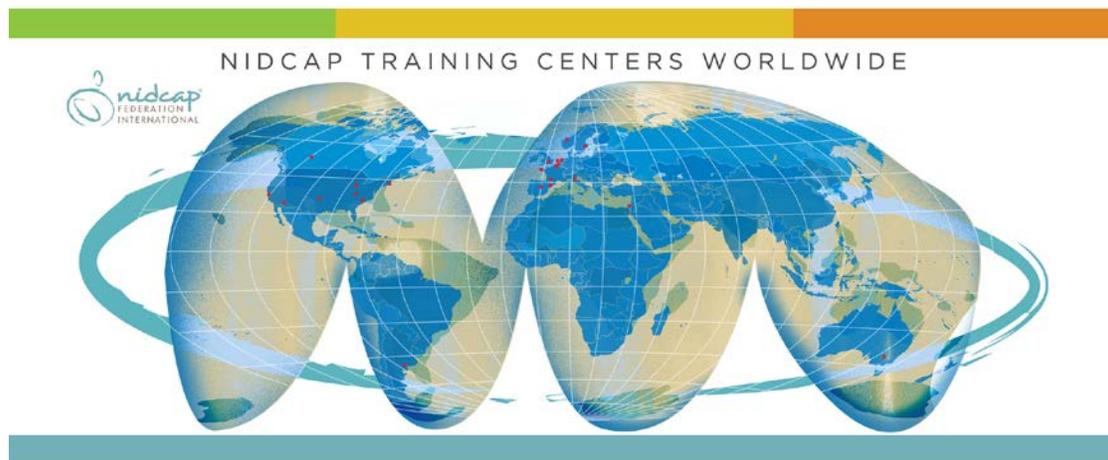
The Program and Advancement Committees are creating online resources to introduce NIDCAP and support training efforts. The Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting Planning Committee is working to reimagine our annual meeting using video conferencing to virtually capture aspects that are unique and cherished by meeting participants each year.



**ANNUAL NIDCAP
TRAINERS MEETING**

This is an extraordinarily challenging time. Yet as an organization, the NFI is working to strengthen its capacities. We will explore, experiment and evolve. We will continue to strive to support and nurture one another, our organization, our model and our work. We will build into our new ways of being in the world connection, compassion and inspiration. We are so very fortunate for your NFI participation in being an integral part of how we evolve.

NFI News & Updates



31st Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting

and

2020 NFI Annual Membership Meeting



This year’s meetings will be held virtually using video conferencing **October 24-26, 2020**.

The NIDCAP and Science Subcommittee is (very soon) calling for Abstract Presentations to be submitted by July 26, 2020 to Maria Maestro, MD (mariamaestro@gmail.com). Please see email communications for further details.

Meeting invitations and specifics to follow.

New Initiative

Pearls of NIDCAP Wisdom For Healthcare Professionals

- 1) For our 30th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting celebration, *gretchen Lawhon* collected 30 beautiful inspirational *Pearls of Wisdom from our NIDCAP work* from our members.
- 2) This year, *Fatima Clemente, Mandy Daly and Dalia Silberstein* took the lead to write incredibly powerful *Pearls of NIDCAP Wisdom for Parents of Hospitalized Infants*.
- 3) **Now... we are inviting NIDCAP Professionals, Trainers and Supporters to help us create *Pearls of NIDCAP Wisdom for Healthcare Professionals*.** We plan to develop this resource in parallel to the one we have for families. Let’s work together to tell the story of what makes NIDCAP unique and critical to the hospital care of newborns and infants and their families.

WHAT WISDOM(S) WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE TO HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NIDCAP IN HOSPITALS?

Please send topics, statements and/or paragraphs to shareyourstory@nidcap.org.

NFI Board of Directors

NFI Board of Directors

When available the full NFI Board of Director Minutes will be posted within our website’s [Membership Section](#). The following are summaries of Board discussions from the two May meetings.

Video Conference Call Minutes

May 4, 2020

May 18, 2020

Highlights

May 4, 2020

- *Program Committee recognized the achievements of Stina Klemming, MD (NIDCAP Trainer Certification), Jannie Haaber (Trainer-in-Training status approval), Copenhagen University Hospital (Training Center in Development granted).*
- *Governance Committee presented an example of how the NFI Board of Directors might utilize cascading criteria to set and achieve “Specific, Measurable Achievable, Relevant and Timely,” SMART, organizational goals.*
- *Tentative dates were identified for a series of two-hour virtual meetings for the End of the NFI Fiscal Year Board of*

Directors Meeting, as well as one virtual meeting for the first NFI Board meeting of the new fiscal year.

- *Sandra Miley, Board Strategist, led a discussion on structure and functions of typical nonprofit board of directors and offered recommendations for the NFI. The Board plans to consider this information during the next Board conference call on May 18th.*

May 18, 2020

- *An NFI survey on care practices for hospitalized infants and families during the coronavirus pandemic will be sent to health care professionals, including to NFI members through the NFI Google Listserv.*
- *“Pearls of Wisdom” for parents are being translated into various languages. NFI Members who are available to make translations are invited to contact Dorothy Vittner.*
- *The dates for the next in-person NIDCAP Trainers Meeting, in Germany, are September 24-26, 2021.*
- *The May 4th Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting Minutes were approved.*
- *A discussion of Board structure and process included: A review of the document that listed the various accountabilities of the various committees and councils; and a recommendation that Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely (SMART) goals be developed with a one to two-year timeframe. The focus of these overriding goals will be on the NFI’s online presence due to the pandemic’s impact and a focus on strengthening the NFI organization. A draft of SMART goals will be developed and submitted to the Board. After Board review and approval, the NFI committees will develop interrelated SMART goals of their own to support these processes.*

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

Sending wishes of health and well-being to our entire NFI community,

Deborah

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