

Dear Members of our NFI Community,

One of the constants within hospitals is that they are always changing... physical buildings and nurseries, technologies and medicines, care policies and practices, staffing, and so much more... and then there are the broader local, regional and global influences... this coronavirus pandemic has created a seismic, sudden, dramatic shift for all hospitals at once... with tragic impacts on the human experience of giving and receiving care.

The truly inspirational aspect of the NIDCAP/Synactive Model is that it is designed to reflect and to adapt to the environment in the moment – it is dynamic by definition. The NIDCAP Model draws on the principles of development, the power of relationships, and the critical importance of experience. And from this knowledge, goals and recommendations emerge to adapt environments and care for best possible experiences and outcomes.

From decades of NIDCAP observations, general themes have emerged of best ways to support care. *Fatima Clemente, MD, Mandy Daly, ACII, DLDU and Dalia Silberstein, RN, PhD* led the effort to create a set of recommendations for support for parents with hospitalized infants. Specifically, they outlined ten key “Pearls of NIDCAP Wisdom,” shared throughout the month of March on the NFI’s social media platforms. This guide is now available as a PDF and as a leaflet for printing (both are attached) and can be found on [nidcap.org](http://nidcap.org).

### Ten Pearls of NIDCAP Wisdom for Parents of Hospitalized Babies



This is an extraordinarily challenging time in health care. Circumstances may change, though our NIDCAP vision does not. Observation, reflection, and identification of opportunities shape our direction. Adapting care as best as you can, with creativity and perseverance, may offer strength and guidance. Which in turn may create opportunities toward re-establishing ever-integrated NIDCAP care for babies, their families and for one another.

## NFI News & Updates



### 31<sup>st</sup> Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting and 2020 NFI Annual Membership Meeting

In light of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic, it was determined that it is not feasible to meet in-person in Germany this fall. Please hold the original **October 24-26, 2020** meeting dates while next steps and plans are made for alternative virtual meetings. Updates will be shared as soon as they are available!

## NFI Community



**Stina Klemming, MD** has just been certified as a NIDCAP Trainer at the Karolinska NIDCAP Training Center! She completed her training earlier this week with the certification of her second NIDCAP Professional, **Olga Bebenek**. Stina's NIDCAP training was accomplished under the ongoing guidance of *Agneta Kleberg, RN, PhD* and becoming an APiB Professional with me (in April 2019). Agneta wrote this "means that we have one more NIDCAP-trainer and one more NIDCAP-professional at Karolinska University Hospital Neonatal

Department.” It also means that our effort to bring NIDCAP to newborns and young infants and their families and those that care for them all around the world has just become that much more of a reality. Stina brings an incredible dedication, passion, deep understanding and warmth to her NIDCAP efforts and to our NFI community. Please join us in extending heartfelt wishes of congratulations to Stina ([stina.klemming@sll.se](mailto:stina.klemming@sll.se)), to Agneta ([agneta.kleberg@telia.com](mailto:agneta.kleberg@telia.com)) and to the Karolinska team.



**Jannie Haaber, RN** is the newest NIDCAP Trainer-in-Training. And the *NICU at Rigshospitalet, Department of Neonatology, Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark* is the newest NIDCAP Training Center under development. *Agneta Kleberg, PhD, RN* will support Jannie’s training and the development of the Training Center. *Nikk Conneman, MD* will work with Jannie as her APIB Trainer. Please welcome Jannie and the newly developing Training Center at Copenhagen University Hospital ([jannie.haaber@regionh.dk](mailto:jannie.haaber@regionh.dk)).



**Yvonne Kant, Nurse Manager** at the Erasmus Medical Center (for 40 years) and **Nursing Director** of the Sophia NIDCAP & APIB Training Center (for nearly 15 years), Rotterdam, The Netherlands has recently retired. *Nikk Conneman, MD* (Director) and *Monique Oude Reimer, RN* (Co-Director) shared their tremendous appreciation for Yvonne:

*Yvonne has shown great support of the NIDCAP work in Rotterdam and has supported the Erasmus team by actively advocating for them with the hospital’s higher management, approaching the chief of pediatrics at the time to convince him of the necessity of the NIDCAP work in the NICU. She made it possible for Monique Ouder-Reimer to become a developmental specialist in their NICU... and for the unit to have a NIDCAP specialist on call every day of the week all year long.*

*Yvonne rallied for NIDCAP in the hospitals to which the in-born babies were sometimes transferred, resulting in NIDCAP training in those local hospitals. She always made her positive opinion known on a national level in times of great opposition to NIDCAP in The Netherlands.*

*The NIDCAP team at the Sophia NIDCAP & APiB Training Center has always enjoyed Yvonne's company at the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting, and felt her presence in the NFI through all the networking she did, and gaining a bigger perspective for the NIDCAP work, which she then integrated in their NICU.*

Please join us in extending our very sincere appreciation and well wished to Yvonne and her many years of NIDCAP support and NFI participation ([yvonnekantdewit@gmail.com](mailto:yvonnekantdewit@gmail.com)).

## NFI Board of Directors

### NFI Board of Directors

#### Video Conference Call Minutes

April 6, 2020

April 20, 2020

#### Highlights

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 April meetings.

#### April 6, 2020

- *The Mid-Year Reports of the President, Program, Finance, Governance and Advancement Committee were unanimously approved.*
- *The dates and venue for the 2021 NIDCAP Trainers Meeting are close to being finalized and will be hosted by the German team in Tübingen.*
- *The 2020 NIDCAP Trainers Meeting's invitee list for the virtual meeting will be discussed by the Program Committee and NTM Planning Subcommittee.*
- *A preliminary discussion of the current Board structure and function was held and will continue to be discussed over the next two NFI Board of Director conference call meetings.*

#### April 20, 2020

- *NFI Board of Director Meeting Minutes from March 2, March 31 and April 6 were approved.*
- *The Board reviewed and discussed the NFI committee organizational structure. D. Buehler shared an overview of the committees leading 2017 Strategic Plan initiatives. The Governance Committee will apply SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-Based) Goals criteria to this overview. This strategy offers a process for identifying and achieving goals for each committee and will be reviewed at the next Board Meeting.*

- |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>The NFI's Governance and Finance Committees will develop a formal process for developing the NFI annual budget for review at the next Board meeting.</i></li><li>• <i>The NFI Program Committee and the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting (NTM) Planning Subcommittee are discussing the format and invitation list for the virtual 2020 NTM. To accommodate the wide range of time zones, the meeting will likely be three hours or less over the three days and may be focused specifically on training issues and support.</i></li><li>• <i>The Governance Committee discussed how elections to the Board and for Officers of the Board might be conducted virtually.</i></li></ul> |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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

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)