



**Report of the President**  
**NFI Board Meeting FY 2015 – 2016**  
**Bologna, Emilia-Romagna, Italy**  
**October 25, 2016**

**Directors of the Board:** J. Alberts, H. Als, D. Buehler, N. Conneman, R. Cummings, M. Daly, J. Helm, g. Lawhon, G. McAnulty, K. Spence and K. VandenBerg

*This report summarizes the highlights and accomplishments from October 16, 2015 through October 14, 2016 in chronological order.*

### **October 2015**

- 🕒 Mandy Daly, Jim Helm and gretchen Lawhon were each elected to an additional three year term
- 🕒 The NFI Strategic Plan was clarified and three work teams identified as (1) revenue, (2) profile raising and (3) training and certification expansion.
- 🕒 The Director of NNACP (2%) and Financial Operations and Administration Director (4%) consultant salaries were increased to adjust to current market value.
- 🕒 The NFI elected officers for the year 2015 – 2016.  
President – gretchen Lawhon  
Vice President for Administration – Jim Helm  
Vice President for Organizational Advancement – Deborah Buehler  
Treasurer – Gloria McAnulty  
Secretary – Kaye Spence
- 🕒 The Newborn Intensive Care Nursery (NICN) at the Pediatric Clinic, University Hospital, Linköping, Sweden received NIDCAP Nursery Certification.
- 🕒 The NFI has welcomed SONICU as our first corporate sponsor.
- 🕒 NIDCAP Blog by Mandy Daly “An Irish Mother’s Journey: Preterm Birth and Beyond Part II”

### **November 2015**

- 🕒 Establishment of the first German NIDCAP Center in Tübingen with the festivities coinciding with World Prematurity Day, November 17, 2015.
- 🕒 The NFI was active in promoting and celebrating World Prematurity Day with a beautiful poster as a tribute to newborns, and to their families, nursery staffs and hospitals around the world that provide essential NIDCAP care. The Zakim Bridge in Boston was lit in purple to honor the occasion.
- 🕒 Two of our NFI members of the National NIDCAP Training Center in Boston, Gloria McAnulty, PhD and Samantha Butler, PhD were promoted to Assistant Professors of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.
- 🕒 We acknowledged the passing of our colleague Zack Boukydis, PhD.

### **December 2015**

- 🕒 The NFI endorsed the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Gravens Conference on the Physical and Developmental Environment of the High Risk Infant.

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

- 🕒 The Advancement Committee under the guidance of Deborah Buehler sent a beautiful holiday card to each NFI member.

### **January 2016**

- 🕒 Graciela Basso, MD PhD, Director, Centro Latino Americano NIDCAP, Buenos Aires, Argentina was certificated as Senior NIDCAP Master Trainer and as a Senior APIB Trainer.
- 🕒 Agneta Kleberg, RN PhD, NIDCAP Master Trainer, Karolinska NIDCAP Training Center, Stockholm, Sweden was certified as Senior NIDCAP Master Trainer.
- 🕒 Handi-Craft Company's Dr. Brown's Medical Division became our second corporate sponsor with an unrestricted Bronze level (\$10,000.00) one year sponsorship.
- 🕒 Erin Sundseth Ross, PhD, CCC-SLP contributed "Nourishing and Nurturing during Feedings" to the NIDCAP Blog.

### **February 2016**

- 🕒 Endorsement of the Midwest Developmental Care Conference, Cincinnati, OH, 21-22 April 2016.
- 🕒 NIDCAP Blog by Rodd E. Hedlund, MEd "On Becoming a Caregiver: Part I" posted.

### **March 2016**

- 🕒 The NFI endorsed the Training Course 'Supporting Oral Feeding in Fragile Infants' (SOFFI), to be conducted by Erin Ross, PhD, Lafayette, Colorado, June 16-17, 2016.
- 🕒 The third installment of Mandy Daly's blog: *An Irish Mother's Journey: Preterm Birth and Beyond* was posted.

### **April 2016**

- 🕒 Volume 9, Issue 1 of the Developmental Observer was published.
- 🕒 The NFI Board of Directors approved the certification of the UK NIDCAP Training Centre at University College Hospital, London.
- 🕒 NFI one day conference "NIDCAP: Developmental Care for NICU Infants and Families from Admission through Discharge" was held at Abington Memorial Hospital on April 29, 2016.

### **May 2016**

- 🕒 The NFI Family Advisory Council has been formulated under the leadership of Mandy Daly and Samantha Butler
- 🕒 Our two day NFI Board of Directors meeting held in Burlington, MA on May 5 and 6, 2016
- 🕒 The Board has reopened the second family representative appointed position.
- 🕒 The Board voted to open the approval process of the budget to the membership at the annual membership meeting to be held in Italy in October 2016
- 🕒 The Board approved renewals of the contracts for the Director of the NNACP and the Financial Operations and Administration Director at the same financial amounts for the next fiscal year 2016 - 2017
- 🕒 The Board approved the NIDCAP Training Center-in-Development at the Grace Centre for Newborn Care, the Children's Hospital at West Mead, Sydney, Australia, with Nadine Griffith as NIDCAP Trainer-in-Training.
- 🕒 The Board adopted a revision of the NFI Endorsement Policy.

## **June 2016**

- 🕒 The NNACP Site Reviewer Training Policy has been created and approved as well as the corresponding Certification Renewal documents.

## **July 2016**

- 🕒 Samantha Butler has contributed the NIDCAP Blog “Individualized Developmental Care to Improve the Lives of Children with Congenital Heart Disease”

## **August 2016**

- 🕒 With sorrow we learned of the death of John Chappel, one of our most inspiring and stalwart members
- 🕒 Nina Nikolova contributed the NIDCAP Blog “When Life Gives you Lemons: A Personal Story from Bulgaria about Pregnancy, Birth, Loss and Family, Part I”

## **September 2016**

- 🕒 The Board endorsed the EADC Symposium Multisensory Processing and Developmental Care, planned for the EAPS Congress in Geneva, Switzerland, 24 October 2016.
- 🕒 The Sooner NIDCAP Training Center has moved to an Inactive Status
- 🕒 The NIDCAP Blog “The Journey Never Ends: a Time to Reflect” was contributed by Melissa Johnson

## **October 2016**

- 🕒 The Board endorsed the Infant Behavioral Assessment and Intervention Program (IBAIP) created by Rodd Hedlund, MEd.
- 🕒 The Board continues preparations of NFI Committee reports and planning for our 27<sup>th</sup> Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting being held in Italy October 26 – 29, 2016.

These are just the highlights of productivity and accomplishments for our organization this past year. The Governance, Finance, Advancement and Program Committee reports expand and provide far more detail on what has been accomplished during this time period. It has been an honor to serve as President of this organization for the past four years.

Respectfully submitted,



Gretchen Lawhon, PhD, RN, CBC, FAAN  
President, NIDCAP Federation International