



## MINUTES

Quality Assurance Advisory Council (QAAC)

Video Conference Meeting

May 20, 2020

1300-1415 EDT

### Participants

Present: Heidelise Als, Deborah Buehler, Melissa Johnson, James Helm, Inga Warren, Joy Browne, Dorothy Vittner, gretchen Lawhon, Jean Powlesland

Absent: Nikk Conneman, Karen Smith, Graciela Basso

Courtesy Copy: Kathleen VandenBerg

**Minutes from the April 29, 2020** Quality Assurance Advisory Council (QAAC) meeting were presented electronically. Motion to approve the Minutes carried.

**Follow-up of QAAC description with Program Committee description:** H. Als reported that this work is in progress, close to complete, and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Follow-up of FINE document:** I. Warren and her group have collaborated with the Program Committee and the QAAC in the completion and approval of the document describing FINE and how it links with NIDCAP. It has been sent to S. Kosta and will be posted on the website in the “Endorsement” section. I. Warren also noted that further discussion is underway regarding strategies for providing training remotely, given the current pandemic and likely ongoing restrictions on travel and group training. She noted that this is a complex topic requiring much thought.

**Discussion of “Next Steps” document summarizing meetings at the NTM:** The summary document prepared by J. Powlesland and D. Silberstein, based on notes from the discussion sessions, contained valuable feedback and suggestions from the participants. M. Johnson noted that the QAAC hopes to support and facilitate consideration and implementation when appropriate. H. Als described several items that are either accomplished (i.e. Group 2 # 2: reducing excess of congratulatory e-mails) or actively in progress with the appropriate committee, subcommittee or individual (i.e. Group 1 # 3: Adaptations of NNP manual based on cultural differences; Group 1 # 2: Language translations). It was also noted that the “Ten Pearls” document is being translated into several languages. I. Warren made suggestions about formatting and organizing, and D. Buehler reported that reformatting, graphic presentation, and organizing of the “Pearls” is in progress in concert with the translation work, so that this document will be accessible and appealing to families.

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A significant item on the list, Group 1 # 5: Suggestions of Adaptions to NIDCAP Training Materials and Strategies, is one into which the QAAC potentially may have input after the Sub-Committee on NIDCAP and APIB training has reviewed and made its contributions. The document authors requested that ideas be shared with D. Silberstein. J. Powlesland reported that few items have been received so far. The group noted that this document was sent out shortly before the international ramp-up of the pandemic crisis. The group discussed goals, next steps, and likely important issues around this question. I. Warren shared insights from the FINE process, including the value of emphasizing the family experience within the NICU system as well as change management at all levels of training and especially in advanced training, H. Als recalled the 2019 NTM presentation by Natalie Wetzel and her team in Tübingen that outlined the iterative use of the NIDCAP Nursery self-assessment process for the identification of nursery wide change steps that Tübingen has implemented and continues to implement. H. Als also noted that the NNP website contains documents relevant to understanding and step-wide implementation of nursery-wide change. D. Vittner reflected on the many topics and suggestions that speak to the growth and development of the NIDCAP training process as it continues to be refined and operationalized in the translation of theory and into practice.

The Council then discussed next steps for the QAAC in facilitating progress around this document. D. Buehler and H. Als suggested that J. Powlesland and D. Silberstein revisit the suggestions that they received, update the activities accomplished and underway, and develop a table with expandable boxes in order to facilitate the NIDCAP and APIB Training Sub-Committee's report as to next steps to be taken.

**Next step:** J. Powlesland will work with D. Silberstein on creating the document described above, which will facilitate planning and communication of the NIDCAP and APIB Training Sub-Committee's regarding the topics identified by the membership. Subsequently the Sub-Committee will report its considerations to the QAAC for the QAAC's further consultation.

**Discussion of planning for ZOOM support call planning:** The "Masayang pulong Flash Mob" initiated by J. Browne was very successful, with several dozen members logging on and sharing mutual support. Joy Browne emphasized that this call was an *impromptu* call organized simply for mutual support during this time of COVID-19. Implementation of next steps for continued long-term support for specific Trainers was discussed separately and several members volunteered to move the process forward. Trainers, who agreed to offer on-line support should be re-contacted in order to confirm their participation and a plan should be developed to share with Trainers at large their commitment to be available.

**Next Steps:** J. Browne, J. Powlesland and I. Warren agreed to communicate with those, who have indicated that they will provide such support; they then will develop a plan how best to make virtual support sessions available.

**Discussion of NIDCAP and Science Sub-Committee work on the NIDCAP Reading List:** Due to time limitations this topic will be addressed early in the next QAAC meeting. H. Als has shared edits of the first draft of documents from this sub-committee with the QAAC.

**THE NEXT QAAC MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2020 FROM 1300-1400 EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa R. Johnson

May 20, 2020

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NOTE: Should NFI Members wish further detail or have questions related to the Minutes, please feel free to write to any of the Members, who attended this meeting.

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