



Update from the President September 24, 2015

Dear Fellow Members of NIDCAP Federation International,

Since my earliest memories I have always felt that September is the beginning of a new year rather than January. I loved starting a new school year and really felt all the possibilities of a fresh start. When I learned of the Jewish high holy days and the importance of contemplation as one begins a new year in their tradition, it felt very comfortable and familiar to me personally. In my current reflection I am drawn to our work in the NFI and was surprised to discover how long it has been since I provided an official update to each of you. The following are the highlights since my last update of April 28, 2015.

- 🕒 NIDCAP is ever more accessible and discussed:
 - There have been excellent and varied discussions on our NIDCAP google group including such topics as; oral or nasal feeding tubes, ROP exams, cycled lighting, family centered care, bottle choices, music therapy, skin to skin holding, pacifier usage, support for a family in Japan, NICU awareness, new study on scent and dissemination of the letter to the editor from our Edmonton team on “Brain oriented care in the NICU”.
 - The NNACP manual has now been translated into Italian.
 - Volume 8, Number 1 of the 2015 Developmental Observer was published.
 - The first one day NFI Educational Conference was held in Raleigh, North Carolina in August.
 - Our social media outlets have been very productive as well with the new addition of our blogs on the NFI website thus far with contributions from Heidelise Als, PhD, Vicki Batkin-Bjornson, Jeffrey Alberts, PhD, Mandy Daly, Dip H Diet and Nutrition, and Deb Discenza.

- 🕒 We celebrated a number of our members and their team’s accomplishments:
 - Gillian Kennedy, NIDCAP Trainer and Speech/Language Therapist was honored in the UK for her work with infants and families as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire
 - Tübingen NIDCAP Center in Development with Nathalie Broghammer, RN became an APIB Professional and NIDCAP Trainer as well as Birgit Holzhüter, MD became an APIB Professional and NIDCAP Trainer- in- Training.
 - A new NIDCAP Training Center in Development with Natascia Simeone, RN as a NIDCAP Trainer-in- Training was established in the nursery of the Ospedale degli infermi, Rimini.
 - Rodd Hedlund, MEd was approved as a NIDCAP Trainer under the Auspices of the NFI.

- NIDCAP Nursery Certification was achieved by the Newborn Intensive Care Nursery (NICN) at the Rigshospitalet Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Our training process has been further developed:
 - Our NFI database is now up and running for greater accessibility and documentation of our world-wide training accomplishments.
 - The QAAC has completed work on the NIDCAP Certification Renewals to be presented at our 26th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting in Phoenix next month.
- Our NFI Board of Directors is working on next organizational steps:
 - To finalize our updated strategic plan.
 - To forge new relationships with individual corporations that share in our philosophy and vision for newborn intensive care. Our gift policy has been formulated and we had sponsorship from Dr. Brown's for the Raleigh conference.
 - To form NFI Advisory Councils beginning with a Family Advisory Council as we evaluate the expertise needed to achieve our vision and mission.

Be sure to get to know us better on LinkedIn, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, watch us on YouTube and discover us on Pinterest.

The annual NFI Membership Meeting will be held in Phoenix, AZ on the afternoon of Saturday October 17, 2015 at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort and Spa (actually in Chandler, AZ). You are invited. Please contact Marla Wood, Marla.Wood@DignityHealth.org, if you plan on attending or have questions. The meeting is free for NFI members. Please forward to me any suggestions for agenda items as soon as possible.

Take advantage of your opportunity to review your photographs of developmental care and send them to Deborah Buehler, PhD for inclusion in this year's World Prematurity Day poster.

Clearly from my reflection you can see there is much to celebrate as the NFI strives to be the internationally recognized and available "Voice of the Newborn".

As always, please send any comments to me at premieg@gmail.com. Thank you for being a member of the NFI. With appreciation for all you are doing to support infants, families and staff in newborn intensive care,

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