
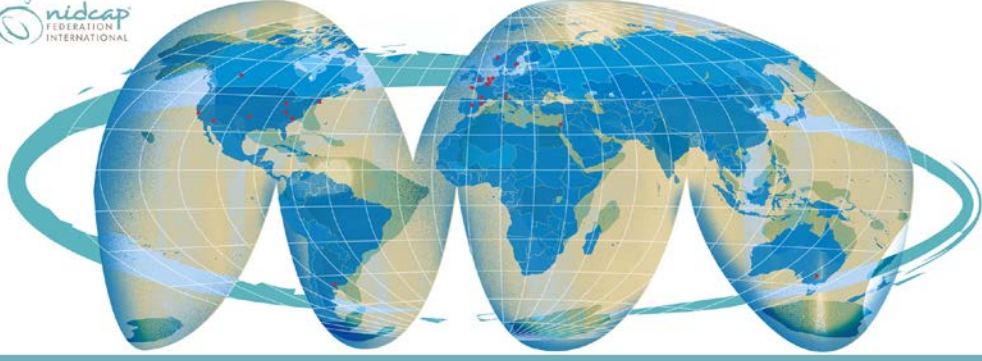


Dear Members of our NFI Community,

To be restful • To be comfortable • To thrive

These are basic goals of NIDCAP’s approach to supporting hospital care for newborns and young infants. The ever-growing body of NIDCAP-related research affirms that NIDCAP is the gold standard of developmentally supportive care. NIDCAP comprehensively spans individualizing each moment in time to creating and supporting system-wide policies and practices. NIDCAP offers the best opportunities for positive experiences and outcomes.

Let’s take *EVERY* opportunity we have to be the **VOICE of NIDCAP**, to translate its philosophies and strategies into practice and to expand its reach. Our power to make a difference for babies and their families lies in our knowledge and our passion to advocate for NIDCAP care... in conversations, in public forums, in writings, in policies and practices and everywhere in-between. How are you using your voice to champion NIDCAP? Please share the ways you are advocating and promoting NIDCAP by [emailing](#), [tweeting](#), [blogging](#), [posting](#), [connecting](#), [following](#), etc.

<h2 style="color: #008080;">NFI Updates & News</h2> <hr style="border: 5px solid #008080; width: 100%;"/> <div style="text-align: center;"><p>NIDCAP TRAINING CENTERS WORLDWIDE</p></div> <hr style="border: 5px solid #008080; width: 100%;"/>	
<h3 style="color: #008080;">NFI Guidance Around the COVID-19 Pandemic</h3>	<p>Mandy Daly, ACII, DLDU and Dorothy Vittner, PhD, RN took the lead to update the NFI’s Position Statement on the coronavirus pandemic. This revised version is below and can be found on our website.</p>

NIDCAP Federation International

Guidance Around the COVID-19 Pandemic

The NIDCAP Federation International (NFI) holds as a primary goal the support of parents as the optimal caregivers of their infant. Parent presence and active collaboration with their hospitalized infant and the health care team, enhances the infant's neurodevelopment.¹

The NFI acknowledges it is critical to continually reflect on the balance of safety and health concerns with known best practices to support optimal outcomes as communities, healthcare systems, hospital professionals, and families with hospitalized infants navigate COVID-19. The substantial benefits of parental participation in the care of their hospitalized infants, including skin-to-skin holding and breastfeeding,²⁻⁶ are increasingly considered to outweigh the potential risks of the transmission of COVID-19.

It is the NFI's position based on the research available, that non-separation of parent-infant dyads and parents' active participation in infant care are essential to mitigate sequelae for hospitalized infants during these critical periods of development.⁷⁻⁹

Board of Directors

NIDCAP Federation International August 17, 2020

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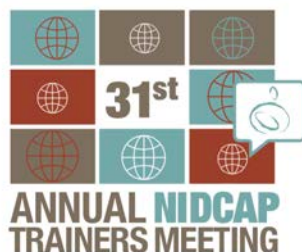


Developmental Observer

The [Developmental Observer, Vol. 13, No. 2](#) is now available on our [website](#) and on [IUScholarWorks](#). The theme of this issue is reflection with contributions, spanning five continents, from: **Gina Ancora, MD, Sandra Lazzari, RN, Natascia Simeone, RN, Kevin O’Regan, Bronagh McAlinden (MPhil, BPhy (Hons), Pani Pantelides, PT, Michiko Doi, BA, The Barcelona NIDCAP Training Center, Ita Litmanovitz, MD, Julia Giesen, SLP.**

Many thanks to Senior Editor **Kaye Spence, AM** and to Associate Editors **Diane Ballweg, APRN, CCNS, Deborah Buehler, PhD, Sandra Kosta, BA, gretchen Lawhon, PhD, RN, FAAN, Maria Lopez Maestro, MD, and Jeffrey R. Alberts, PhD** for bringing this exciting issue to life!

If you are interested in reviewing the guidelines for future Developmental Observer submissions, please see [IUScholarWorks](#). Please contact [Kaye Spence](#) with questions.



Our NIDCAP Trainers Meeting Planning Team is fast at work planning our FIRST ever all virtual annual meeting. Special appreciations for the creativity and care going into making this happen to Co-Chairs **Jean Powlesland, RN, MS** and **Fatima Clemente, MD** and Meeting and Logistics Overseers **Sandra Kosta and Gloria McAnulty, PhD** and to the many committee members.

31st Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting

October 21-23, 2020

[Online registration](#) is now open for invitees.

2020 NFI Annual Membership Meeting

October 22, 2020 (1830-1930 GMT)

All NFI Members are welcome to join. Please watch your email for log in specifics.



NIDCAP Nursery Program

The NIDCAP Nursery Program Steering Committee has had a change in its leadership. Co-chair **Karen Smith, Med, BSN, RNC** served as the committee's co-chair since its inception almost a decade ago. Karen is the lead author on the [Nursery Assessment Manual](#) and continues to serve as a NIDCAP Nursery Program Site Reviewer. Karen has long championed this work in her clinical practice, her NIDCAP training, and her NFI leadership. With tremendous gratitude to Karen as she steps down from co-chairing this committee for her incredibly significant contributions to advance NIDCAP care.

The Steering Committee is delighted to announce that **Dorothy Vittner, PhD, RN** is now serving as Co-Chair with *Deborah Buehler, PhD*. Dorothy brings extensive newborn and infant intensive care experience as a nurse, nurse educator, researcher, and NIDCAP Trainer. Dorothy also serves as the NFI's Vice President and the Chair of the Program Committee. We welcome Dorothy to guide the NIDCAP Nursery Program's next steps.

NFI Board of Directors

When available the full NFI Board of Director Minutes will be posted within our website's [Membership Section](#). The following is a summary of Board discussions from the recent meeting.



Video Conference Call Minutes

August 3, 2020

Highlights

August 3, 2020

1. *Program Committee Chair D. Vittner announced the establishment of the Rimini NIDCAP Training Center in Italy.*
2. *The Quality Assurance Advisory Council began an initiative to provide support and mentorship to NIDCAP Trainers entitled “Training Conversations” for NIDCAP Trainers was held.*
3. *Governance Committee Co-Chair D. Silberstein stated that nominations for the upcoming NFI Board of Director elections have not been received to date.*
4. *The Governance Committee is reviewing issues related to NFI membership. The Board approved changing the name from “Student Member” to “Professional-in-Training” to be consistent with NFI nomenclature. The Board clarified that current NIDCAP trainees could opt to become full NFI members if they wish increased involvement in the organization. Future initiatives may include specific NFI roles and activities for Professionals-in-Training.*
5. *The NIDCAP Trainers Meeting Planning Sub-Committee plans to send out the meeting invitation within the week. The Board of Directors approved the registration fee of \$85.*
6. *The Governance Committee Co-Chairs received Board approval to advance four identified goals to accomplish in NFI FY 2020-2021. The Committee will develop the details of these goals and accompanying action plans.*

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
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