



MINUTES

Quality Assurance Advisory Council Video conference Meeting

February 15, 2022

Participants

Present: Dorothy Vittner, Melissa Johnson, Heidelise Als, gretchen Lawhon, Deborah Buehler, Nikk Conneman, Grace Basso, Inga Warren

Absent: J. Powlesland

Minutes: D. Vittner and G. Basso to double check on September 2021 minutes; likely request online approval.

G. Basso graciously agreed to continue as the QAAC Chair for 2022. The Program Committee Chair acknowledges with tremendous appreciation the leadership and efforts G. Basso put forward over the past year in support of the QAAC.

Feedback from QAAC Session at NIDCAP online Trainers Meeting, Oct 20, 2021: Overall very positive feedback was received from participants. Attendees noted time and language challenges; suggestions to improve introductions without taking too much time included using the chat feature, and putting affiliation and NIDCAP role in the name feature. It was clear that there is much interest in doing online training and doing it well; perhaps further consideration and support is indicated on the topic of online training.

N. Conneman noted that he has had success combining an in-person NIDCAP Intro/Demo day, and following up with regular online consultation sessions with professionals engaged in NIDCAP and APIB training.

Grace Basso shared that the Spanish speaking NFI Reflective-Group has invited colleagues, who completed FINE-II training to their online sessions. The QAAC group expressed support for this as an excellent way to reach out to professionals, who have already shown interest in and commitment to developmental care. It was also suggested that these professionals should be invited to join the NFI perhaps as 'Allied NFI Members'.

Goals for Coming Year Include: Developing training resources, especially videos for both NIDCAP and APIB training. Ideally, the QAAC could review tapes and agree on those that would be posted on the website. H. Als noted that some NIDCAP Trainers used the APIB infrequently once they were certified and have expressed strong interest in strengthening their APIB skills. D. Vittner remarked the discussions appeared to center on two topics: 1) Online NIDCAP & APIB Training in general, and 2) the importance of APIB & NIDCAP video recordings in support of the NIDCAP & APIB training processes. gretchen Lawhon noted that there exists excellent software and technology in Japan to make high-quality videos, even in dim light. J. Browne has good resources to share. D. Buehler emphasized the need for high quality model examples of APIB evaluations to be available on the website. The group agreed that an updated version of the APIB manual is overdue and should accompany posting of video recordings of model APIB evaluations.

Other Topics Suggested for Consideration of Priorities included the Following:

- N. Conneman suggested addressing the care of very early born infants (22-24 weeks gestational age) and highlight the particular challenges they pose, such as skin to skin care, humidity, transfer, support in all domains. NIDCAP approaches in other hospital settings such as surgical units, cardiac units; step down units (Level I, Level II nurseries) require updated NFI documents; current NFI documents primarily pertain to premature and high-risk infants cared for in the newborn intensive care nursery..
- Outcomes for former preterm infants, now adults- challenges and strengths. H. Als and N. Conneman shared information about interest groups around this topic.
- NIDCAP & APIB Trainer continuum; how can the QAAC/NFI support Trainers to move along the Trainer continuum? It was noted that there are several active, experienced trainers who would be appropriate to take the next steps, particularly moving from NIDCAP Trainer to Senior NIDCAP Trainer, the stepping stone from which to move forward to Master Trainer.

The Next Meeting will be on Wednesdays March 16, 2022 at 3:30 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Basso

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.