



June 2023  
Newsletter

---

Dear NFI Community,

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. This year in the US, the National Alliance on Mental Illness has focused their campaign on *All people, no matter where they are on their mental health journey, are deserving of support, resources, fulfillment and a community that cares.* The NFI honors individuals around the world (of all ages) who are navigating mental health challenges and the families and healthcare professionals who support and nurture them.

This awareness month came to my attention when I was listening to American Journalist and News Anchor, Richard Lui describe his new documentary *Unconditional*. In this very moving film, he has followed three families (including his own) as they navigate caring for family members with mental health issues. In an interview, Richard Lui said:

*The one great thing about caregiving is that it highlights the empathetic parts of ourselves. We all have differences, based on our backgrounds. Socio-economic, regional, race, gender, all of these things. But at the end of the day... (caregiving) erases all of those differences.* Among the most compelling messages that the film conveys are the extraordinary strengths of families and the critical importance of finding joy despite difficulties.

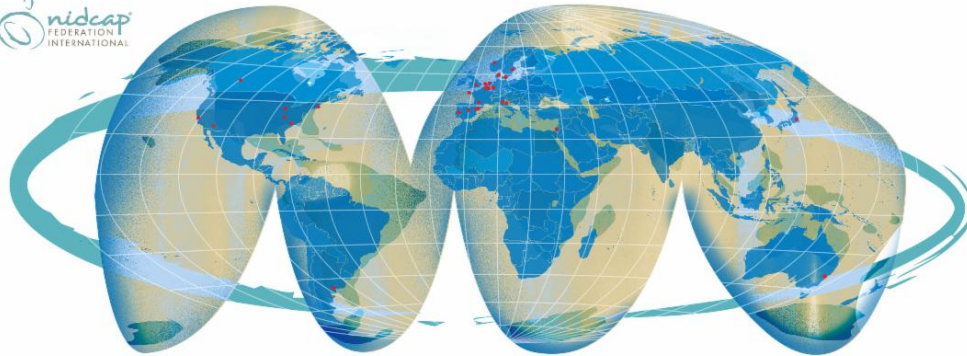
May we feel inspired by the strength of families and find joy, including for our care of healthcare professionals, infants and their families, and ourselves.

---

# NFI Updates & News



NIDCAP TRAINING CENTERS WORLDWIDE



## NFI Openings

### Blog Editor

The NFI Advancement Committee is looking for a **volunteer Blog Editor** who will oversee and manage the NFI's *NIDCAP Blog* for one year. This person will help shape the platform to best serve our NIDCAP community and our greater viewing audience.

### Advancement

The Advancement Committee is looking for **new Committee Members** to help support the NFI's mission, goals, and work. This includes social media, blogs, campaigns, World NIDCAP Day and Month planning and more!

**If you are interested in these openings  
(and we hope you are!),  
please write  
to [advancement@nidcap.org](mailto:advancement@nidcap.org)**



Friday  
October 27  
2023

## SAVE the DATE

### Open One-Day Conference

NIDCAP:

*Supporting and Sustaining Systems Change*

#### OPEN ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

Friday, October 27, 8:00-5:30

#### SPEAKERS

Jeffrey Alberts, PhD  
Joy Browne, PhD  
Nikk Conneman, MD  
Mandy Daly, ACII, DLDU  
Saadieh Masri, RN  
Debra Paul, OTR  
Elizabeth Rogers, MD  
Jacques Sizun, MD  
Keira Sorrells

The last day of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting will be an open one-day conference. The purpose of the conference is to equip the learner with the knowledge to provide high level and evidence-based, developmentally supportive care to hospitalized infants and their families.

Visit our conference page for details:

[nidcap.org/27oct2023](https://nidcap.org/27oct2023)

(Registration opens in June)

**HYATT LODGE**  
2815 Jorie Boulevard  
Oak Brook, Illinois, USA  
Hybrid Meeting  
[thelodge.hyatt.com](https://thelodge.hyatt.com)



[One Day Conference Page](#)



### R3: Research, Read & Review

From the NIDCAP and Science Sub-Committee: the next edition of the periodical dissemination of research with potential interest to our membership was shared. This review provides a quick glance at the study selected, with an emphasis on the relevance to NIDCAP. "You might wish to reflect on its content, to think of its impact on your practice, to use it as material for discussion with colleagues and families, or just as a curious piece of information."

The May 2023 edition was prepared by [Dalia Silberstein, PhD, RN](#), from Israel.

Future submissions for consideration are welcomed. Please contact [Dalia Silberstein, PhD, RN](#): [daliasil1960@gmail.com](mailto:daliasil1960@gmail.com).

With tremendous gratitude to the Subcommittee ([Jeff Alberts, PhD](#), [Nolan Dyck, MD](#), [Ita Litmanovitz, MD](#), [Maria](#)

Maestro, MD Sandra O' Connor, MSc, Dalia Silberstein, PhD, Neerja Thergaonkar, PhD and Dorothy Vittner, RN, PhD, FAAN)

[Read the Latest R3 Release](#)

## Recent NFI Member Activities



Meir Medical Center, Israel

### International Kangaroo Care Awareness Day (May 15)

All around the world, International Kangaroo Care Awareness Day was celebrated on May 15th. This important day was originated by NFI member, *Yamile Jackson, PhD, PE, PMP*. To read her heartwarming story, *Our True Story of Love, Science, and a Transformative Promise*, please see our last issue of the [Developmental Observer \(Volume 16, Number 1\)](#).



Grace Centre for Newborn Care at The Children's Hospital, Australia

Many NICUs that are homes to our NIDCAP Training Centers took part in honoring International Kangaroo Care Awareness Day. The photos on the left are from hospitals where the Israel NIDCAP Training Center and Australasian NIDCAP Training Centre are based.

Please be sure to see this supportive skin to skin holding resource from the Swedish NIDCAP Team of *Stina Klemming, MD* and *Björn Westrup, MD, PhD* on You Tube: [Zero Separation, Neonatal Couplet Care and Immediate Skin to Skin Contact for very preterm infants](#).

## NFI Endorsements

Please share conferences, meetings, and materials for NFI endorsement. Endorsements will be shared with our members and announcements posted on [nidcap.org](http://nidcap.org) and on our social media channels. Requests may be sent to [shareyourstory@nidcap.org](mailto:shareyourstory@nidcap.org).

## NFI Board of Directors



In June, the Board of Directors will meet to hold their annual two-day mid-year meeting. Importantly, a review and the further development of Board and NFI Organization re-structuring will be held. Mary Hiland, PhD, Board Consultant, will offer insight and guidance for the Board's decision-making. Updates of these discussions and subsequent plans will be shared with the NFI Membership as they become available.

### **NFI Board of Directors Meeting**

May 2023

The Board of Directors held their monthly virtual meetings on May 10, 2023. Please find the highlights from the Minutes below and the full NFI Board of Director Minutes within our website's Membership Section.

#### Highlights from the May Meeting

- *Board of Director Minutes for the March and April meetings were approved.*
- *Plans for the NFI Board of Director Mid-Year Meeting in June progressed.*
- *The NFI Town Hall held in March was reviewed and a tentative plan for two Town Halls in 2024 was made.*
- *The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting planning continues; the program is nearly finalized, and the invitation and registration is planned to be sent to invitees next month.*
- *The Board of Directors held an NFI intellectual property discussion.*



Your feedback, questions, comments, NFI updates, and membership news written to me personally and/or to the whole board, are welcome.

Warm **NFI** wishes to all,

Deborah

--

Deborah Buehler, PhD  
**NIDCAP Federation International,**  
**President, Member of the Board**  
Email: [nfipresident@nidcap.org](mailto:nfipresident@nidcap.org)

[Visit our website](#)

**Mentoring** Caregivers. **Changing** Hospitals.  
**Improving** the Futures for Newborns and Their Families.

## Contact Us & Stay Informed



NIDCAP Federation International, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3303  
Woburn, MA 01888



[CONTACT US](#)