



To the NFI Membership:

It would be a privilege and honor to be reelected to the NFI Board of Directors for a third term.

To give you a bit of my history, I have been a neonatal nurse since 1988 and a developmental specialist since 2001 at the Children's Hospital University of Illinois (CHUI). I became a NIDCAP Trainer in 2006, with the distinct honor of having Dr. Heidelise Als as my Master Trainer. I retired from my developmental specialist position in 2022 but retain my affiliation at CHUI with a part-time position to support NIDCAP Training and the NICU.

I became involved in NFI work by serving as a co-chair of the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting Program Planning Sub-Committee in 2015 and recently was the local host for the 34th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting last year held in Oak Brook, Illinois. I was elected to the Board in 2018 and took on the office of Secretary shortly thereafter. I have served as co-chair of the Governance Committee since 2019 along with Dalia Silberstein. In 2020 I was granted recognition as a Senior NIDCAP Trainer and joined the Quality Assurance Advisory Council (QAAC) committee. During this time, I have also been involved as a FINE Trainer and as a member of our local Illinois Developmental Care Consortium, activities which have kept me connected with non-NIDCAP trained NICU Professionals who have strong interest in developmental care.

When I ran for election initially, my interest was in developing foundational education and exploring ways of delivering that education to be more accessible. And while I continue to have a strong interest in those activities, my role as Governance Co-Chair has grown as a priority.

The interest in NIDCAP globally is growing. These past two years much discussion and planning within the NFI Board has focused on how to increase our capacity to support a wider network of Trainers and Professionals around the world through reorganizing the NFI structure. The NFI has benefitted from professional consultation, and to be better educated I earned a certificate in non-profit management from my university. I seek another term in hopes of being able to support the NFI's transition to a BOD that can support growth.

I would greatly value and appreciate your support in continuing to serve on the Board of Directors. I will do my best to help accomplish our goals, to live out the NFI mission and to support those frontline professionals who are doing their great work.

Jean Powlesland

