



May 2024 Newsletter

Interestingly, patience and pushing forward go well together. Setting a goal and working tirelessly towards it requires cultivating patience along the way. It also requires a dedicated and patient team of people working alongside you. We rarely see the value in our patience, our consistency, or the slog, though. We just fixate on the final product. We don't appreciate the years of work that led us to where we are today.

Maria Shriver
Patience and Determination
Maria Shriver's For a Life Above the Noise
20 April 2024

Dear NFI Community,

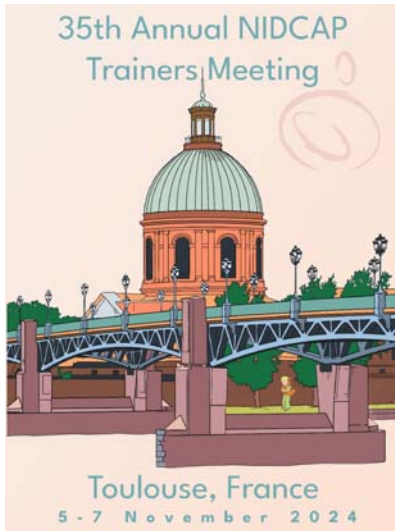
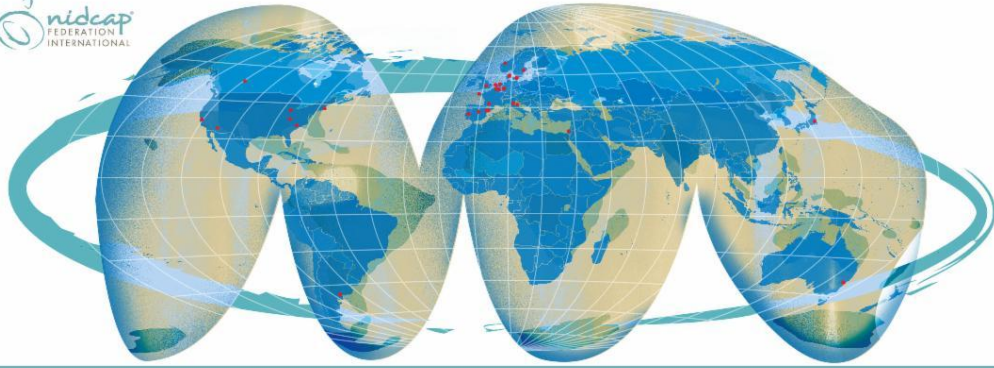
Throughout last month's World NIDCAP Day/Month, we honored NIDCAP and our community and raised awareness of our mission. There was much to celebrate and acknowledge. Looking back to early NICUs and PICUs... and then NIDCAP's influence over the years... care for prematurely born and medically ill infants, and for their families, is changing for the better. And you are an important part of these critical changes.

This month, we are back at the work supporting NIDCAP's model, caregiving approach, training program, research, resources and reach. This work is challenging and rewarding. Our mission is **to change the future for all infants in hospitals and their families**. This is a big aspiration. There are approximately 15 million babies born prematurely each year (WHO). There are 225,000 infants receiving care in Pediatric Intensive Care Settings in the US alone (NIH.gov). And there are changes in healthcare technologies, practices and healthcare teams happening all the time.

Maria Shriver's message about the pairing of patience and goal attainment... and the team that it requires for success... resonate with our NIDCAP and NFI efforts. From the relationship level of supporting and inspiring change at the bedside, to the support and mentorship of healthcare professionals to the growth of an organization... patience is surely required. And surrounding yourself with amazing people (near and far) is too. Lots of activity is underway within the NFI... plans for leadership changes, new Learning Center availability, revised and new NFI materials (including: APiB manual, NIDCAP Nursery Program Manual revision, digitization of the the NIDCAP scan sheet), the 35th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting and more.

Here's to patience and moving forward... and the people who realize these initiatives to bring NIDCAP to ever more families - infants and their families deserve no less.

NFI Updates & News



35th Annual NIDCAP Trainers Meeting

Toulouse, France

4 November to 7 November

Open One-Day Conference
November 7 (8:00-18:30 CET)

NIDCAP: Systems Integration at the Local,
Regional and National Levels

NIDCAP-Related Awareness Day and Kangaroo-a-Thon



Kangaroo Care Day

May 15, 2024

May 15th was chosen because it is the birthday of the son of NFI Member *Yamile Jackson*. Her family's NICU hospital experience inspired Kangaroo Care Day, which has become an international celebration. Yamile wrote: *This date symbolizes the love, resilience, and life-saving benefits that Kangaroo Care represents.*

This year's theme is *Embrace the Magic* for kangaroo care and its "transformative and almost enchanting nature of the practice."

Please see <https://kangaroo.care> for more information

Also... an invitation will be sent shortly

to NIDCAP Training Centers for participation in the 2024 International Kangaroo-A-Thon with the Zaky App to support NIDCAP care and skin to skin holding.

Special NFI Dates - May 16-30

NIDCAP-Related Conference



Skin-to-Skin Contact Day Conference (Portugal)

May 15, 2024

This NFI-endorsed conference will be held in honor of Kangaroo Care Day by Nascer Prematuro, a Portuguese premature parents association and the Portuguese Infant Massage Association (APMI).

NFI Endorsements

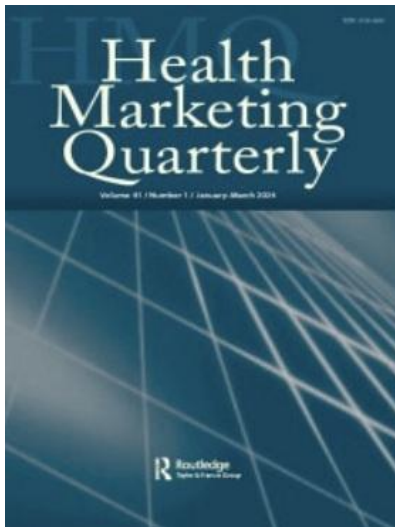
Please share conferences, meetings, and materials for NFI endorsement. Endorsements will be shared with our members and announcements posted on nidcap.org and on our social media channels. Requests may be sent to shareyourstory@nidcap.org.

NIDCAP-Related Resources



New Resource

Nadine Griffiths, Senior NIDCAP Trainer, Training Centre Co-Director, The Australasian NIDCAP Training Centre, shared a new e-Learning High-Risk Infant Feeding module. She wrote that it is designed to provide clinicians working with high-risk infant's (i.e. infants requiring surgery) with current evidence and strategies to support the development of feeding skills. The program has been developed by a range of clinical experts including Speech Pathologists, Lactation Consultants, Nurses, and Neonatologists. All information is framed within an infant and family centred developmentally supportive approach.



New Article

NFI Member, Yamile Jackson, PhD, PE, PMD, has co-authored an article about parent NICU experiences to inform design and implementation processes.

Steven W. Rayburn, Sidney Anderson & Yamile C. Jackson (22 Apr 2024): Healthcare processes for parent participation in neonatal intensive care units: A self-determination theory perspective, *Health Marketing Quarterly*, DOI: 10.1080/07359683.2024.2344926

Article: Healthcare processes for parent participation...

NFI Board of Directors



NFI Board of Directors and Members 2024

The Board of Directors continues to meet monthly via Zoom. The April Board Meeting was postponed due to scheduling conflicts. The full NFI Board of Director and Membership Meeting Minutes (when available) are posted within our website's Membership Section.



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

Warm **NIDCAP** wishes,

Deborah
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NIDCAP Federation International, President,
Member of the Board
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Improving the Futures for Newborns and Their Families.

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