



NFI Board of Directors Conference Call FY 2026 Wednesday, April 28, 2026

Attending Deborah Buehler, PhD, Livia Nagy Bonnard, Fatima Clemente, MD, Mandy Daly, ACII, DLDU, Gloria McAnulty, PhD, Jennifer Hofherr, MS, OTR/L, Maria Lopez Maestro, MD, Monique Oude Reimer-van Kilsdonk, RN, Jean Powlesland, MS, RN, Juzer Tyebkhan, MBBS, Dorothy Vittner, PhD, RN, FAAN

Quorum Present: Yes

Executive Director of Administration and Finance: Sandra Kosta, BA

Secretary: M. Daly

Our Mission

The NFI improves the future for all infants in hospitals and their families with individualized, developmental, family-centered, research-based NIDCAP care by providing and assuring the quality of NIDCAP education, training and certification for professionals and hospital systems.

Highlights of the Meeting

- NIDCAP Certification: NIDCAP certification was unanimously approved for the Boston Children's Hospital's Acute Cardiac Care Unit and Cardiac Intensive Care Unit within the Benderson Family Heart Center in Boston, Massachusetts USA.
 - Strategic Plan: Review of current 2023-2026 Strategic Plan was made.
 - Committee Reports: Updates from the Program, Advancement and Governance Committees were made.
 - Strategic Plan: NFI's strategic planning process to update a framework for achieving future growth and sustainability objectives.
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Minutes

F. Clemente motioned to accept the video conference call Board of Directors Minutes from March 11, 2026. Monique Oude Reimer-van Kilsdonk seconded the motion.

Upon motion duly made, it was unanimously

Voted: To accept the Minutes from the Board of Directors March 11, 2026 video conference call.

NIDCAP Program Certification

The Boston Children's Hospital's Acute Cardiac Care Unit and Cardiac Intensive Care Unit within the Benderson Family Heart Center applied for NIDCAP Certification. The site review team of N. Conneman, J. Helm, and D. Vittner, and Program Director B. Moyer reviewed their Application (Part II), and attended an in-person site review. D Vittner reported on this review and described the exceptional NIDCAP-integrated healthcare that the site provides. The site review team recommended certification of the two cardiac programs.

J. Tyebkhan motioned to accept the certification of the Boston Children's Hospital cardiac units at the Benderson Heart Center in Boston, Massachusetts USA. M. Lopez Maestro seconded the motion.

Upon motion duly made, it was unanimously

Voted: for Boston Children's Hospital's Acute Cardiac Care Unit and Cardiac Intensive Care Unit within the Benderson Family Heart Center in Boston, Massachusetts USA to receive NIDCAP certification.

D. Vittner reported on the manual revisions that are in progress for the NIDCAP Certification Manual.

Strategic Plan 2023 Update

D. Buehler reviewed and updated the current 2023 NFI Strategic Plan. This document and current Board discussions and plans will inform the new 2027 Strategic Plan.

Program Committee

D. Vittner presented the Program Committee update. J. Tyebkhan recommended that the training continuum be refined and streamlined to better support and incentivize individuals to pursue NIDCAP

qualification, noting that alternative programs in the field may be perceived as more accessible due to reduced complexity and shorter completion timelines. A Board discussion followed, during which members explored potential approaches to optimize NIDCAP training pathways. The discussion also considered how the collective experience and expertise of the Board could be leveraged to enhance the training process while maintaining the integrity and standards of the program.

Advancement Committee

D. Buehler presented the Advancement Committee update. The discussion included the need for the board to explore recruiting an individual with a fundraising skillset.

Governance Committee

J. Powlesland presented the Governance Committee update.

Strategic Planning

D. Buehler and J. Powlesland introduced the NFI's strategic planning process to update a framework for achieving future growth and sustainability objectives.

J. Powlesland led a discussion of perspectives and aspirations for the next iteration of the Strategic Plan. Additionally, Board members who attended the April 8th Strategic Planning call shared their insights. The importance of engaging the broader membership in shaping the future direction of the organization was emphasized. Consideration was also given to expanding the role of NIDCAP/APIB Trainers in contributing to NFI operations, as well as identifying appropriate metrics to support and evaluate NIDCAP implementation.

J. Powlesland presented the Strengths/Challenges (Weaknesses)/Opportunities/Threats (SWOT) analysis concept to the Board. Board Members outlined the organization's internal strengths and challenges, as well as external opportunities and threats.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:30 ET.

Submitted by Secretary,

Mandy Daly

