



NFI Board of Directors Conference Call FY 2026 Wednesday, March 11, 2026

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

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

Trainers Meeting 2026: Considering current geopolitical considerations, the Board considered included hosting a scaled-down in-person meeting, adopting a hybrid format, or moving to a fully online meeting. The contracted hotel will be contacted to determine best course.

NFI Conflict of Interest Form: Jean Powlesland recommended an amended version of the Conflict of Interest (COI) Form, including a designated section for the signee to indicate agreement.

Developmental Observer: Kaye Spence has created a set of *Developmental Observer* guidelines to ensure that integrity is maintained in language translations.

Advancement Committee: The fundraising campaign “25 for 25” (\$25 for 25 years) will be launched after World NIDCAP Day.

Strategic Planning: In April, the Board will engage in strategic planning discussions. Board members are encouraged to engage with NFI colleagues and gather their perspectives and priorities for the future of the NFI for consideration during the planning process.

J Powlesland motioned to accept the February 2026 Minutes. G. McAnulty seconded the motion.

***Upon motion duly made, it was unanimously
Voted: To accept the Feb. 2026 minutes.***

April Board Meeting

An informal April meeting of the Board will take place on April 8th to support Mid-Year Board Meeting plans.

Trainers Meeting 2026

In light of the current geopolitical situation, the NIDCAP Trainers Meeting Planning Committee approached the Board for guidance on whether a decision should be made regarding the format of the upcoming Trainers meeting. Options the Board considered included hosting a scaled-down in-person meeting, adopting a hybrid format, or moving to a fully online meeting.

Action:

J. Hofherr will contact the hotel that had been contracted to hold the meeting. She will determine the potential costs to the NFI should the in-person meeting not proceed, if the conference size were reduced, or if the event were to be restructured as a one-day in-person meeting followed by two days in a hybrid format.

NFI Database

D. Vittner provided a brief update on the development of the NFI Database. A task force will be established to meet with the database development team every two weeks to oversee progress and provide the necessary authorization for ongoing work.

D. Buehler suggested that several of the recently certified NIDCAP Trainers, particularly those representing diverse geographic locations, could be helpful candidates to participate in membership of the taskforce.

Action:

J. Powlesland will circulate a call for expressions of interest for membership of the taskforce.

Conflict Of Interest

J. Powlesland recommended that the Conflict of Interest (COI) Form be amended to include a designated section for the signee to indicate agreement by ticking and signing the form. The revised form will be circulated to the Board for review.

Action: The revised COI form will be distributed to Board members for review, with a view towards its adoption at the next NFI Board Meeting.

Developmental Observer

G. Basso translated the most recent issue of the *Developmental Observer* into Spanish. K. Spence has developed a set of guidelines to ensure that the integrity of the *Developmental Observer* is maintained in translated versions.

The Board noted that it may wish to consider publishing the *Developmental Observer* in additional languages in the future. The estimated cost of translation is \$600 per issue for a Spanish language edition.

M. López Maestro suggested that, rather than producing fully translated editions, individual articles could be made available in PDF format in different languages while maintaining English as the primary version. This approach could potentially reduce the need to incur the additional \$600 per issue for translation into Spanish. Costs and benefits for this approach were discussed.

J. Powlesland asked how usage of the Spanish version could be measured. It was noted that hosting the translated content on a single platform, such as the Indiana site, would allow access metrics to be captured.

Advancement Committee

The fundraising campaign “25 for 25” will be launched after World NIDCAP Day. Conversations with Sponsors are ongoing, and updates will be provided as they become available.

Strategic Planning

In April, the Board will engage in strategic planning discussions. Board members were invited to review previous Strategic Plans in preparation for the Mid-Year Board Meeting. J. Powlesland encouraged Board members to engage with NFI colleagues and gather their perspectives and priorities for the future of the NFI for consideration during the planning process.

D. Buehler suggested that the Board may wish to consider identifying a single overarching theme or guiding word to help shape and direct the future focus of the NFI.

NFI Tagline, Mission Statement

D. Buehler suggested that the Board review the tag line and Mission Statement.

Action: D. Buehler will circulate a document to the Board for comments.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be on April 8th at 13.00 EDT.

Submitted by Secretary,

Mandy Daly

