



October 2022

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NBDPN Board of Directors

2023 NBDPN National Conference

Planning continues for the 2023 NBDPN National Meeting and the dates have now shifted to be expected sometime in late summer of 2023. The theme for 2023 is "**Connect. Share. Collaborate.**" The theme represents the national meeting as a platform for the NBDPN community to leverage each other's expertise and partner for better birth defects surveillance, research, prevention, and health promotion. As the only national conference for population-based birth defects surveillance programs, this theme underscores the opportunity to experience a sense community, provide inspiration to each other, and to gain knowledge, tools, and skills.

A call for session proposals and poster abstracts will be open before the end of the year and stay open for 2 months. As accepting session proposals is new this year, the National Conference Planning Workgroup plans to work with anyone interested in submitting proposals for breakouts and roundtables. Below are five main topic areas with several examples of priority topics of interest that have been collected from network members:

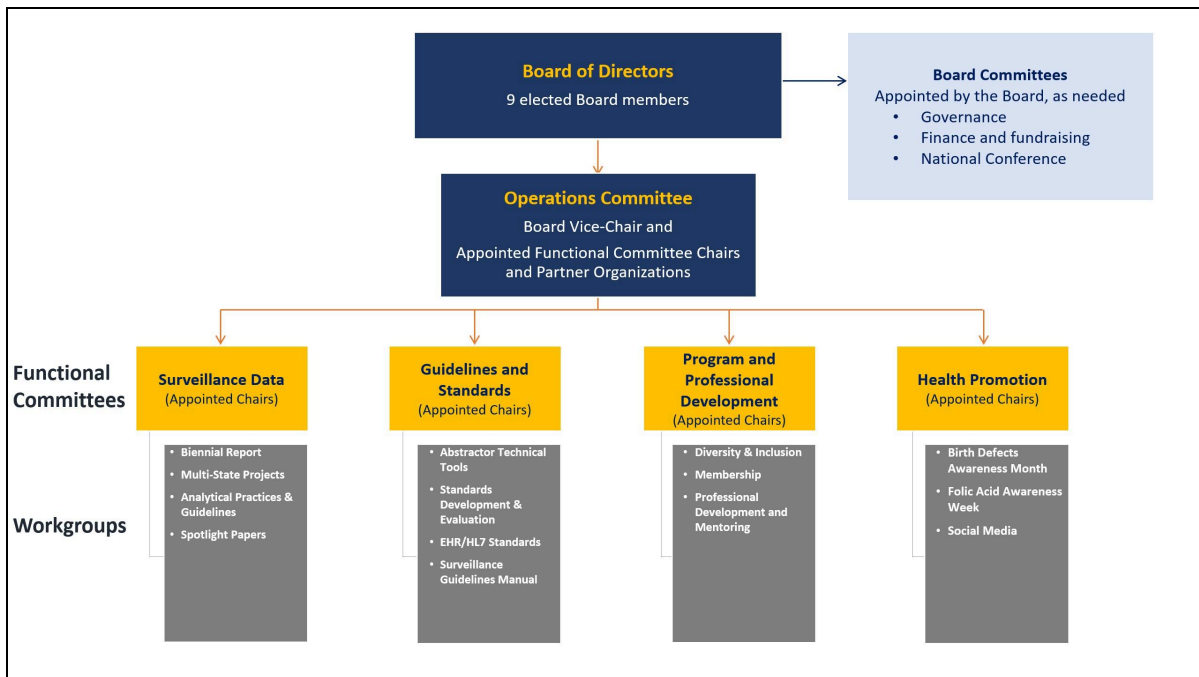
1. **Operations:** CQI, program management, referrals, case ascertainment, data linkages, data modernization/data systems/interoperability
2. **Partnerships and Family Engagement:** program visibility, accountability, collaborations with Title V, Vital Records, Newborn Screening, Infectious Disease
3. **Epi/Data:** BD rates, trends, risk factors, BDSTEPS, stats methods/analyses
4. **Prevention, intervention, and public policy:** Birth Defects Awareness Month activities, Neural Tube Defects prevention/folic acid promotion activities, referrals, lifespan surveillance
5. **Emerging issues/First time submitters:** Infectious diseases, data systems, NBS, new disorders, prenatal diagnosis, new birth defects testing

Stay tuned for more information and a detailed call for proposals coming soon! If you're interested in volunteering or getting involved with the National Conference Planning workgroup, contact Brennan Martin (Brennan.martin@vermont.gov).

2022 Annual Membership Meeting

The NBDPN Board recently held the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting on October 12. If you missed this call or would like to review a specific section again, the recording is available for viewing here: <https://youtu.be/KcsUqrMxnk>

Updated Organization Chart



Important Upcoming Dates

- November 2 - 9 Board Elections
- November New Board Members Announced
- January 2023 Birth Defect Awareness Month
- **Summer 2023** **NBDPN National Conference dates**

Announcements and Updates

Remembering David Law 1952-2022



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of David Law, who was a Past President of NBDPN (2012). Originally from Massachusetts, Dave had been the Director of the Tennessee Birth Defects Registry and later moved on to become the Director of Research at the Tennessee Department of Health. He then became a consultant and focused on analyses of factors affecting health conditions and outcomes; assessing and promoting health, wellness, and fitness; assessing group and individual differences in human performance and educational attainment; and evaluating educational and health-related interventions; grant writing, grant management, and technical report writing. Dave was a kind and warm person who will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Birth Defects Awareness Month 2023

The Birth Defects Awareness Month Workgroup has been hard at work updating the "5 Prevention Tips" and other resources for 2023! More information will be released

in the coming months.

In the meantime, YOU can help ensure we have an updated Resource Map! You can view the Resource Map [here](#).

To submit state or local resources related to birth defects prevention, please fill out this survey: <https://bit.ly/31s6cdH>

Amazon Smile

The AmazonSmile Foundation will contribute 0.5% of purchases made through your AmazonSmile account to the charity of your choice. Go to smile.amazon.com on your web browser and activate the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. Existing Amazon customers can use their same account; those new to Amazon, establish an account. Then select the **National Birth Defect Prevention Network** as your charity. You must make purchases through this AmazonSmile account to generate the contribution. Existing Amazon customers will receive the same features through their AmazonSmile account (ex. Amazon Prime, Wish List, shopping cart, etc.). There is no cost to you or the network.

To choose NBDPN as your "favorite charitable organization," please click the linked AmazonSmile image in the Connections section at the bottom of every newsletter or click the image below. Thank you for your support of our mission in this way!!



CDC Updates

Newborn Hearing Screening Can Improve Reading Skills

Findings from a study funded by CDC's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program were recently published in the journal *Pediatrics*. Read more here: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/features/newborn-hearing-screening.html>

Upcoming Public Health Webinar Series on Blood Disorders – Save the Date

Thalassemia is the most common form of inherited anemia worldwide. It is caused by mutations in globin genes. Join the CDC to learn more about Transfusion-Related Endocrinopathies in Thalassemia on November 10, 2022 from 2:00-3:00pm ET. Register here: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/blooddisorders/webinar-save-the-date.html>

Publications

Follow the link below to a list of articles of potential interest.

[Publications](#)

Connections

The NBDPN Social Media Workgroup develops content for the NBDPN social media feeds Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Most of our posts include information for the maternal and child health population, but most of our followers are YOU. Please bookmark our social media pages and **share** our posts, which cover all topics related to birth defects/anomalies. Connect with your local partners on social media (eg. county health departments, federally qualified health centers, culturally specific community-based organizations, and more) to get the messages out further. Follow and share the NBDPN pages listed below:



NBDPN SOCIAL MEDIA
WORKGKROUP INVITES YOU TO:

SHARE OUR POSTS TO REACH LOCAL COMMUNITIES!

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS ARE YOU,
BUT OUR MESSAGES ARE FOR THE PUBLIC.
HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!



Connect With Us



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