



NBDPN

NATIONAL BIRTH DEFECTS
PREVENTION NETWORK

July 2025

20 NBDPN 25 CONFERENCE



CHECK IT OUT

The 2025 NBDPN National Conference was held in Denver, CO (June 28th - July 1st) at the Denver Hilton City Center and was planned in collaboration with the Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention (BDRP).

We're thrilled to share highlights from the recent National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) Conference which was an unforgettable gathering of dedicated professionals committed to improving population-based birth defects surveillance and research across the U.S. It was a fantastic time filled with inspiration, innovation, and collaboration!

The event brought together leading researchers, practitioners, and public health experts for a rich exchange of insights, strategies, and best practices in birth defects surveillance and prevention. Attendees experienced powerful keynote speeches from thought leaders at the forefront of public health and birth defect prevention, an interactive breakout and roundtable sessions, designed to dive deep into emerging trends, state and national initiatives, and practical solutions as well as a sense of community and shared purpose as professionals across disciplines connected and collaborated.

Whether you were new to the field or a seasoned expert, the conference offered tools, data, and connections to advance your work and amplify your impact.

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THE NUMBERS ARE IN

102  registered!

41

states

&

1

territory

Award Winners!

NBDPN 2025 Awards

Awards and Awardees:

2025 GODFREY P. OAKLEY, JR. AWARD -

Dr. Jan Cragan

2025 NBDPN BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARD -

Dr. Wendy Nembhard

2025 RUSSELL S. KIRBY MENTORING AWARD -

Dr. Phillip Lupo

2025 NBDPN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD -

Jane Fornoff (Jodi Snow accepted on Jane's behalf)

2025 NBDPN BUILDING BRIDGES AWARD -

The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP)

2025 MARK A. CANFIELD STATE LEADERSHIP AWARD -

The Tennessee Birth Defects Surveillance System

2025 NBDPN BIRTH DEFECTS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION AWARD - The Texas Birth Defects Registry



Poster Awards!

2025 Poster Awards

First Place:

Gastroschisis-Related Mortality in Oklahoma by Dr. Lindsay Denson (OK)

Runners Up:

Evaluation of Hospital Diagnostic Codes among Non-Liveborn Pregnancy Outcomes in New York State: 2017-2022

Presented by Mr. Adrian Michalski and Dr. Sarah Fisher (NY)

Exploring the Utility of Electronic Case Reporting Data in Birth Defects Surveillance: Lessons Learned from Three Pilot Projects

Presented by Ms. Rebecca D. Howell (TX)



Committee Updates

Health Promotions Committee (HPC)

Chair: Karmen Dippmann (MN)

Workgroups: Social Media Birth Defects Awareness Month (BDAM), Folic Acid Awareness Week (FAAW)

- *Hosted a successful Birth Defects Awareness Month, collaborating with 10+ organizations and jurisdictions to create templates, social media, and crosspromote activities*
- *Focusing on working with partner organizations and jurisdictions to cross-promote activities and awareness materials*
- *Prioritize sending out a quarterly NBDPN Newsletter to all members*
- *Continuously create and post social media for a variety of observances*
- *Began planning Folic Acid Awareness Week 2025*
- *Will be hosting a listening session with Dr. Liz Marnek and Mother to Baby on Wednesday, September 10th at 3pm EST. All members are welcome to attend!*

Committee Updates

Committee Updates (cont.)

Program and Professional Development Committee (PPD)

Workgroups: Mentoring and Professional Development, Membership (Diversity and Inclusion included)

Chairs: Sam Viner-Brown (RI) and Dianna Contreras (AZ)

- *Continue to grow Committee and work group membership*
- *Continue to establish Mentoring networking groups*
- *Program Managers Networking Group (coming soon!)*
- *Plan to conduct survey of all members to identify interests and needs*
- *More webinars!*
- *(we'd love to hear your topic ideas, and we're always looking for speakers and presentations!)*

Surveillance Data Committee (SDC)

Chairs: Adrian Michalski (NY) and Dayana Betancourt (TX)

Workgroups: Biennial Report, Multi-State Projects, Space-Time Monitoring, Prevalence of Rare Disease and Genetic Syndromes, spotlight papers

- *The SDC continues its work facilitating the development of manuscripts and other data products. A few currently in development:*
 - *Access to Specialty Care Clinics Among Cases with Down Syndrome*
 - *Periconceptional Extreme Ambient Heat Exposure and Selected Birth Defects*
 - *Comparison of State-Specific Defect Lists use for Reporting and Coding*
- *The SDC has also been planning for the next data call (2025) and subsequent spotlight papers (2025, 2026). Part of this entails working with the SGSC on the rollout of the new Program Performance Summary Tool which will be incorporated into the next data call and future publications.*
 - *Data Call will be sent after the conference*
- *Members are actively involved in the Guidelines Revision effort*

Surveillance Guidelines and Standards Committee (SGSC)

Chairs: Jodi Snow (IL) and Washa Liu (MA)

Workgroups: Technical Tools, Data Quality and Standards, Surveillance Guidelines Revisions, HL7/EHR



Photo Gallery



connect with us today!

