

NBDPN NEWSLETTER



STARS, STRIPES & STRONG NETWORKS

We are excited to share an important milestone for NBDPN with the release of the first five chapters of the updated Guidelines for Conducting Birth Defects Surveillance. This project has been years in the making and reflects the dedication, expertise, and collaboration of professionals from across our network who have worked tirelessly to ensure these guidelines reflect current best practices and continue to meet the evolving needs of birth defects surveillance programs.

These updated guidelines are more than a reference document. They provide a practical foundation for strengthening surveillance quality, promoting consistency across programs, and supporting the high-quality data that inform research, prevention efforts, and public health action. Whether you are new to birth defects surveillance or have spent decades in the field, I encourage you to explore the newly released chapters on the NBDPN website and consider how these updated recommendations can enhance your work.

The remaining chapters will be released over the coming year, and we look forward to sharing additional updates as this landmark project continues. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, expertise, and dedication to this significant accomplishment. We are proud to share this milestone with our members and look forward to what's ahead.

THIS ISSUE

Welcome!

Updated Guidelines

Guidelines for Expert
Webinar

PPD Survey

Nominations/
Elections

Stay in the Know

- Jason Safemi

Announcements & Updates



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBPAGE FOR MORE
INFO ON OUR UPDATED GUIDELINES!**

NBDPN Birth Defects Surveillance Guidelines for Experts

Join us on August 19thth at 12pm EST, for a webinar geared towards those with historical knowledge of birth defects surveillance and experience in using prior versions of the NBDPN Birth Defects Surveillance Guidelines. The presentation and the Q&A following the presentation will not be recorded. Registration is required.



Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_p1yF-H9OTFC_kG6uwJ8Uog

Action Items



Program and Professional Development Survey!

The Program and Professional Development Committee (PPDC) will be distributing a membership-wide survey next month, August 2026, and your participation is requested! This survey was assembled for the purpose of better understanding member demographics, expectations, experiences, and general thoughts and opinions on network membership. Data collected will be cleaned and reviewed by the PPDC with the intent to identify key areas for focus or improvement going forward as well as bolstering those aspects deemed most important to the membership. The survey is straightforward and succinct with an estimated length of 5-10 minutes, and everyone's participation would be greatly appreciated to help us improve the NBDPN experience.

Call for Nominations & Elections

Coming in August!

The 2027 Board of Directors Nominations and Elections process is kicking off in August! Be on the lookout for an email with details on timelines, how many Board spots we are filling in 2027, and next steps. This is your opportunity to recognize outstanding leaders and help guide the future of NBDPN. We encourage you to consider nominating a fellow member whose contributions have made a difference, or to nominate yourself if you are interested in serving.



Stay in the Know...

MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

August

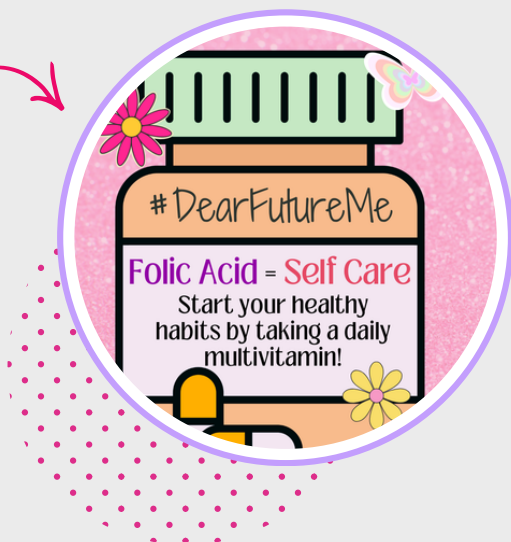
- National Breastfeeding Month
- National Immunization Awareness Month
- Children's Eye and Health Safety Month

September

- National Sickle Cell Awareness Month
- Hydrocephalus Awareness Month
- [Folic Acid Awareness Week \(2nd week\)](#)
- Newborn Screening Awareness Month
- FASD Awareness Month
- FASD Awareness Day (Sept. 9th)
- Infant Mortality Awareness (2nd week)

October

- Spina Bifida Awareness Month
- Down Syndrome Awareness Month
- Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month
- RSV Awareness Month
- Disability Employment Awareness Month
- Healthcare Quality Week
- Medical Ultrasound
- Health Literacy
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month
- ADHD Awareness Month



Please submit any member-related communications or other Network updates such as workgroups accomplishments, announcements, upcoming events, etc. to nbdpninc@nbdpn.org.

Connect with us today!

