

NBDPN NEWSLETTER



SOAK UP SUCCESS WITH NBDPN

Dear Members,

We've had an incredible summer and as it draws to a close, NBDPN is preparing for a busy and exciting fall. Board elections and nominations are currently underway, and we encourage our members to participate in this important opportunity to help shape the Network's future.

In September, we look forward to holding a webinar focused on the updated case definitions. This session will explore the criteria that define each case, as outlined in the updated NBDPN Guidelines for Conducting Birth Defects Surveillance, and offer practical guidance for applying these definitions consistently.

We are also gearing up for National Folic Acid Awareness Week, September 13–19. We invite you to begin planning now by visiting the FAAW webpage, where you'll find toolkits, ready-to-use social media images and captions, and other resources to support your outreach efforts.

There is much to look forward to in the months ahead. Thank you for your continued involvement, leadership, and commitment to birth defects surveillance and prevention. We are excited about the progress we will make together this fall.

THIS ISSUE

Welcome!

Folic Acid Awareness
Week!

New Committee
Alert!

Nominations/
Elections

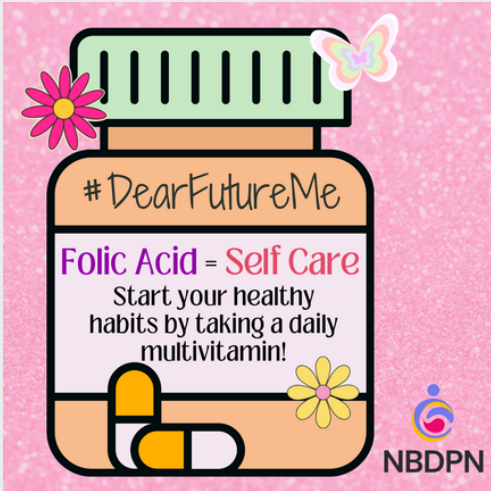
PPD Survey

Stay in the Know

- *Adrian Michalski*



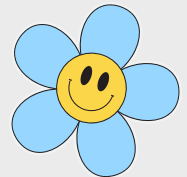
Announcements & Updates



Dear Future Me... thanks for taking folic acid before and during pregnancy—you're da bomb.com!

Folic acid can help prevent up to 70% of serious birth defects of the brain and spine. Because these conditions develop very early in pregnancy, people who may become pregnant should take at least 400 mcg every day. Join NBDPN for Folic Acid Awareness Week and help spread the word—you'll be all that and a bag of chips!

#DearFutureMe



**REGISTER FOR OUR PANEL WEBINAR ON
SEPTEMBER 17TH HERE!**

New Committee Alert!

We are pleased to announce the launch of the NBDPN Clinicians Committee, a new group created to provide advice and information on clinical aspects of birth defects of interest to surveillance programs and NBDPN members in general. The committee's initial membership has been formed by invitation to ensure a focused, effective start. Watch for a new webpage (coming soon) featuring a simple form for submitting questions to the committee. Thank you to Dr. Jan Cragan, Dr. Christopher Cunniff, Dr. Wendy Nemhard, Dr. Sonja Rasmussen, and Dr. Angela Scheuerle for stewarding this committee forward.



Clinicians Committee

Form



Action Items

Call for Nominations & Elections

The 2027 Board of Directors Nominations and Elections process has kicked off! Be on the lookout for an email with details on timelines, how many Board spots we are filling in 2027, and next steps if you haven't seen it already. 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.



Program and Professional Development Survey!

The Program and Professional Development Committee (PPDC) has distributed a membership-wide survey 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.

We appreciate your participation and will help us improve the NBDPN experience.



Survey



Stay in the Know...

MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

August

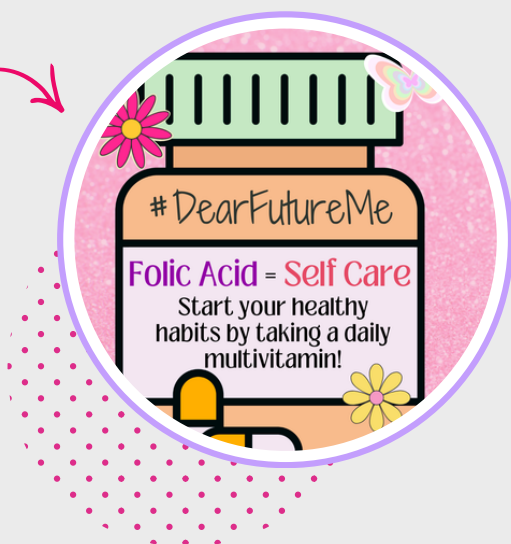
- National Breastfeeding Month
- National Immunization Awareness Month
- Children's Eye and Health Safety Month

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!

