

FCC TASKFORCE

Webinar

July 10th, 2025 | 11-12:30pm PT

Leveraging Human Connection: Caring with Intention



Mary Coughlin
MS, NNP-NCC-E (she/her)

Trauma Informed Professional™ | Caritas Coach®
President & Founder, Caring Essentials Collaborative
NICU Grandparent



Jessi Barnes
MSN, RN, RNC-NIC, NPD-BC, C-ELBW (she/her)

Neonatal Outreach Coordinator, Atlanta Perinatal Region
Emory University School of Medicine, Dept of Pediatrics
NICU Clinical Nurse Educator, Grady Memorial Hospital
NICU Parent

Join us for this interactive session!

- Evaluate current practices and identify opportunities to strengthen family-clinician partnerships and promote clinician self-care
- Identify at least two concrete approaches to enhance relational safety in daily clinical interactions
- Consider how caring with intention shapes clinical practice, one's sense of purpose, and the well-being of babies and families

Follow Us!



YouTube



LinkedIn



Bluesky



Facebook



Instagram



X

Sponsored by



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

This Webinar is Dedicated to Aurelia



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org

This Webinar is Dedicated to Avery



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org

Webinar Etiquette

Thank you for helping us make FCC Taskforce Webinars a safe & brave space for all!

By participating, you are agreeing to the following guidelines:

1. Please mute your microphone when you aren't speaking
2. Please turn off your camera if multitasking
3. All questions & comments spoken and written in the chat should be respectful, non-discriminatory, and non-judgmental

Topics discussed may illicit strong emotions and feelings. Please reach out to us if you need support.



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org

All-In Meeting

- Break down the hierarchy
- Integrate patient-families
- Prioritize funds to support patient-families
- Intentionally elevate the voices of women, diverse groups, and individuals with rare or unique experiences
- Make it relevant and personal
- Provide support to disabled individuals during in-person meetings
- Invest in building relationships
- Support and include breastfeeding mothers/parents
- Demonstrate the impact, progress, and opportunities
- Capitalize on the expertise in the room
- Remain receptive and responsive to constructive criticism



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org

Industry Sponsor



PROTECT, HEAL AND
NURTURE IN THE PURSUIT
OF A HEALTHIER WORLD



1905 **YEARS** 2025
LEADING IN PEDIATRIC NUTRITION

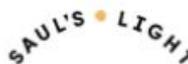


FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org



Organizational Partners



FCC Taskforce Core Leadership Team

Co-Chairs

Program Manager



Malathi Balasundaram, MD

Clinical Professor,
Stanford School of Medicine
Attending Neonatologist &
FCC Committee Chair,
El Camino Health, CA



Keira Sorrells

Founder & Executive
Director,
NICU Parent Network
Trauma-Informed
Professional



Colby Day, MD

Associate Professor of Pediatrics
& Medical Director,
Golisano Children's Hospital NICU
University of Rochester
Medical Center



Morgan Kowalski

Family Partner



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org

Executive Council of Family Partners



Fabiana Bacchini



Lelis Bauzá Vernon



Latoya Blueford



Sahra Cahoon



Jennifer Canvasser



Nishan Degnarain, MPA



Amy Finn



Molly Fraust-Wylie



Marybeth Fry



Yamille Jackson, PhD



Erika Goyer



Mia Malcolm



Necole McRae



Erika Mendence



Katrina Moline



Kimberly Novod



Betsy Pilon



Elizabeth Simonton



Alex Zavala

Executive Council of Healthcare Partners



Daphna Barbeau, MD



Jessi Barnes, MSN, RN,
RNC-NIC, NPD-BC, C-ELBW



Marsha Campbell-Yeo,
RN, BN, NNP-BC, PhD, FAAN



Robert Cicco, MD



Mary Coughlin,
MS, NNP, NCC-E



Jessica Daigle, MD



Jessica Fry, MD



Christy Gliniak,
PhD, OTR/L, CNT, CPXP, NTMTC



Mitchell Goldstein, MD



Luann Jones,
DNP, APRN, NNP-BC, NE-BC



Henry Lee, MD



Lily Lou, MD, FAAP



Kerri Machut, MD



Nicole Nyberg,
MSN, APRN, NNP-BC



Dharshi Sivakumar, MD



Vincent Smith, MD, MPH



Kimberly Stobbe, LCSW



Bob White, MD



Emily Whitesel, MD

Welcome Marsha & Kim!



Marsha Campbell-Yeo,
RN, BN, NNP-BC, PhD, FAAN
Neonatal Nurse Practitioner & Professor,
School of Nursing, Faculty of Health and IWK Health
Scientific Lead, MOMLINC Lab



Kimberly Stobbe, LCSW
OB & MFM Social Worker,
Northwestern Medicine Huntley
Vice President,
National Association of Perinatal Social Workers



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org

Family-Centered Care Around the Globe!

The FCC Taskforce began in February 2022 with just 50 members.

Over the last three years, our membership has increased to:

- more than **2,400** members
- **49/50** U.S. States & Puerto Rico
- **8/10** Canadian Provinces
- **70** Countries!!!



Advocacy Committee

Co-Chairs

Kerri Machut, MD

*Attending Neonatologist,
Lurie Children's Hospital
Associate Professor*

*Feinberg School of Medicine at
Northwestern University*

Nicole Nyberg, MSN, APRN, NNP-BC

*Neonatal Nurse Practitioner,
Cone Health*

Founder,

*Empowering NICU Parents &
Empowering NICU Parents Podcast*



Presence Study Toolkit

The spark:

The negative impact of restrictive parental presence policies in NICUs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dilemma

- Hospitals restricted parental access, leaving babies without a parent or a support person, even during extreme illness or death.
- Significant variations existed in parental access policies, even in the same city.
- Parents reported higher negative health outcomes during the visit.

The response:

Co-created best evidence practice recommendations regarding parental in NICUs during pandemics caused by respiratory pathogens such as COVID-19

How we got there:

Consensus Panel: Ad-hoc group of individuals with expertise related to the project.

Values, preferences, and evidence guided our recommendations

1. Gathered input into a national survey, parent caregivers, healthcare providers, and NICU.
2. Identified 50 potential recommendations.
3. Conducted two rounds of Delphi surveys. Participants (n=20) rated and ranked each item on importance.
4. Round 1: Rated 50 items on a scale of 1-5.
5. Round 2: Rated the top 20 items of Round 1.
6. Presented rapid evidence synthesis of the top 20 items to the panel.
7. Consensus Panel: Each item has a Strength of Consensus recommendation, based on strength of evidence.
8. Award panel members. Do you agree with this item as a national recommendation?

Consensus recommendations based 80% of the panel agreement



Consensus practice recommendations regarding parental presence in NICUs during pandemics caused by respiratory pathogens such as COVID-19

- Parents/Caregivers should have:
- 1. Status for parent/caregiver(s) as essential caregivers
 - 2. Unrestricted access to provide skin-to-skin contact for their infant in the NICU
 - 3. Unrestricted access to breastfeed and to receive breastfeeding supports (latching help, transportation, pumping, education, encouragement, and lactation support) for their infant in the NICU
 - 4. Unrestricted access to mental health and psychosocial support services while their infant is admitted to the NICU
 - 5. Unrestricted access to attend medical rounds while their infant is admitted to the NICU
 - 6. Inclusion in co-decisioning/decision-making for parent-relevant NICU policies (e.g., infection control, medical staffing, housing/NICU cleanliness and advocates)
 - 7. Unrestricted access to provide feeding touch for their infant in the NICU
 - 8. Unrestricted access to provide holding touch for their infant in the NICU
 - 9. Unrestricted, in-person access to attend medical rounds while their infant is admitted to the NICU. Virtual care services may be preferred. Contact on the local context or if parent health or preference warrants it.
 - 10. Unrestricted, in-person access to attend medical rounds and psychosocial support services while their infant is admitted to the NICU. Virtual care services may be preferred, based on the local context of parent/caregiver preference warrants it.
 - 11. Unrestricted access for two parent/caregivers to be present while their infant is admitted to the NICU
 - 12. Unrestricted access to fractional allocated space to visit/attend to their infant is admitted to the NICU
 - 13. Unrestricted access to use communication devices that are on hospital devices for remote communication and support (text/pictures, video, phone, etc.) while their infant is in the NICU (with "heat off")

Call to Action: Consensus practice recommendations regarding parental presence in NICUs during pandemics caused by respiratory pathogens such as COVID-19. Consensus recommendations should be implemented to support the health and well-being of infants and their parents, ensure equitable care, and optimize future infection control efforts.



Generously Supported by



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE
www.fcctaskforce.org

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging Committee

Co-Chairs



**Jessi Barnes, MSN, RN, RNC-NIC,
NPD-BC, C-ELBW**

*Neonatal Outreach Coordinator,
Atlanta Perinatal Region*

Emory University School of Medicine,
Department of Pediatrics
NICU Clinical Nurse Educator
Grady Memorial Hospital



Mia Malcolm, BS, CDFT

*Community Outreach & Programs Care Manager,
Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation*
*Senior Research Coordinator,
Washington University School of Medicine*
*Clinical Research Coordinator,
Stanford University School of Medicine*

Work in Progress:

- Executive Council Demographics Survey
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging Position Paper
- Nonverbal Messaging in the NICU



Marketing & Communications Committee

Co-Chairs



Daphna Barbeau, MD
*Attending Neonatologist,
Director, Neurodevelopment &
Palliative Care,
HCA University Hospital
Director,
High Risk Infant Follow Up Clinic*



Alex Zavala, Family Partner
*Founder,
The NICU Dad &
The NICU Dad Podcast
PFAC Chair,
Dell Ascension NICU Network
Family Leader,
Vermont Oxford Network*



YouTube



LinkedIn



Bluesky



Facebook



Instagram



X

How You Can Help:

- **Follow us!** Even if you're not active on social media, giving The FCC Taskforce a follow boosts engagement and drives traffic to our profiles!
- **Tag us!** Tagging us makes it faster and easier to share and repost your content.



Newsletter Committee

Co-Chairs

Bob Cicco, MD

*Retired Neonatologist,
Pittsburgh, PA
Former Associate Director,
West Penn Hospital NICU*

Morgan Kowalski, Family Partner

*Program Manager,
Family-Centered Care Taskforce
Quality Improvement Family Partner,
Golisano Children's Hospital NICU
University of Rochester Medical Center*

Contributors:

Jessi Barnes, MSN, RN, RNC-NIC, NPD-BC, C-ELBW

Jess Daigle, MD, FAAP

Mary Coughlin, MS, NNP, NCC-E

Laura Hedli, MS

Mia Malcolm, BS, CDFT, Pharm-D

All Issues



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE
www.fcctaskforce.org

July Poll

Help us support NICUs seeking to improve parental engagement by **sharing your unit's experience with use of technology to supplement family communication.**



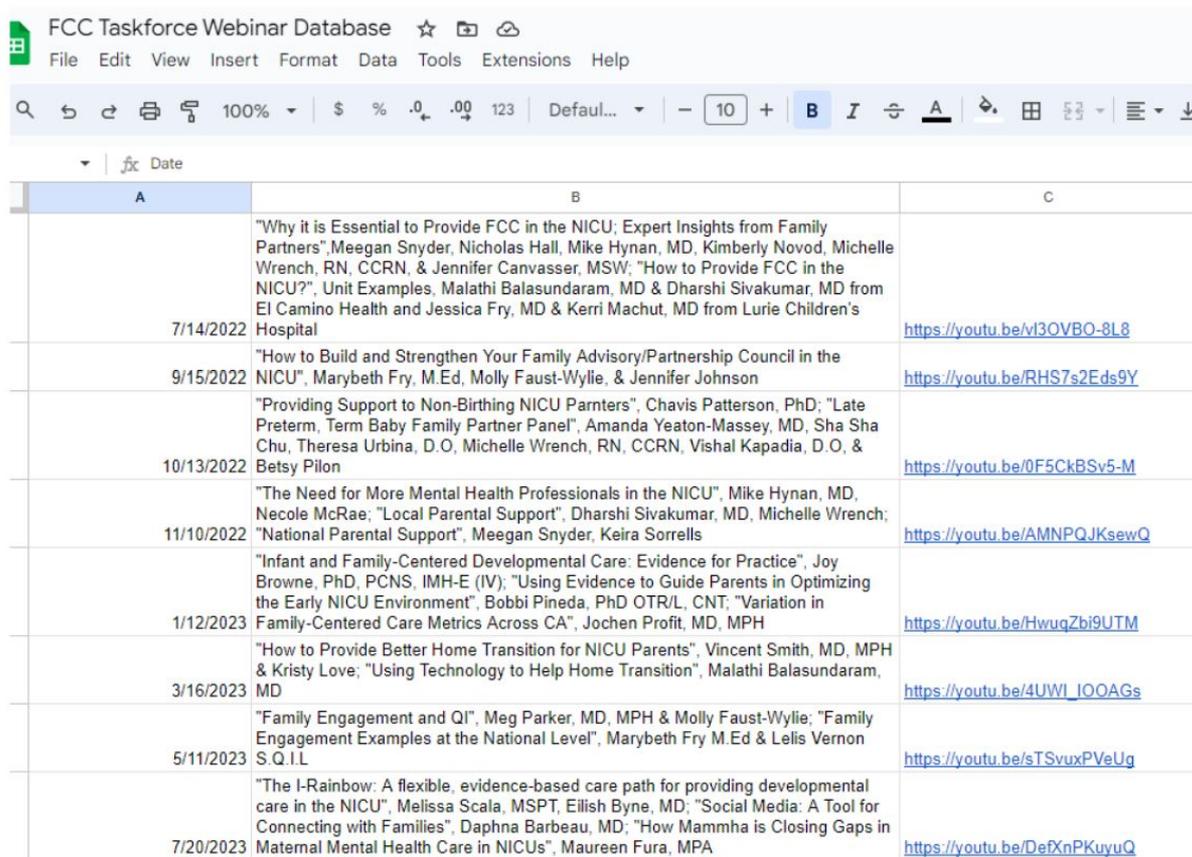
**All poll responses
can be found here!**



**FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE**

www.fcctaskforce.org

Database of Webinar Recordings & Topics



A	B	C
7/14/2022	"Why it is Essential to Provide FCC in the NICU; Expert Insights from Family Partners", Meegan Snyder, Nicholas Hall, Mike Hynan, MD, Kimberly Novod, Michelle Wrench, RN, CCRN, & Jennifer Convasser, MSW; "How to Provide FCC in the NICU?", Unit Examples, Malathi Balasundaram, MD & Dharshi Sivakumar, MD from El Camino Health and Jessica Fry, MD & Kerri Machut, MD from Lurie Children's Hospital	https://youtu.be/vI3OVBO-8L8
9/15/2022	"How to Build and Strengthen Your Family Advisory/Partnership Council in the NICU", Marybeth Fry, M.Ed, Molly Faust-Wylie, & Jennifer Johnson	https://youtu.be/RHS7s2Eds9Y
10/13/2022	"Providing Support to Non-Birthing NICU Parnters", Chavis Patterson, PhD; "Late Preterm, Term Baby Family Partner Panel", Amanda Yeaton-Massey, MD, Sha Sha Chu, Theresa Urbina, D.O, Michelle Wrench, RN, CCRN, Vishal Kapadia, D.O, & Betsy Pilon	https://youtu.be/0F5CkBSv5-M
11/10/2022	"The Need for More Mental Health Professionals in the NICU", Mike Hynan, MD, Necole McRae; "Local Parental Support", Dharshi Sivakumar, MD, Michelle Wrench; "National Parental Support", Meegan Snyder, Keira Sorrells	https://youtu.be/AMNPQJKsewQ
1/12/2023	"Infant and Family-Centered Developmental Care: Evidence for Practice", Joy Browne, PhD, PCNS, IMH-E (IV); "Using Evidence to Guide Parents in Optimizing the Early NICU Environment", Bobbi Pineda, PhD OTR/L, CNT; "Variation in Family-Centered Care Metrics Across CA", Jochen Proffit, MD, MPH	https://youtu.be/HwuqZbi9UTM
3/16/2023	"How to Provide Better Home Transition for NICU Parents", Vincent Smith, MD, MPH & Kristy Love; "Using Technology to Help Home Transition", Malathi Balasundaram, MD	https://youtu.be/4UWI_JOOAGs
5/11/2023	"Family Engagement and QI", Meg Parker, MD, MPH & Molly Faust-Wylie; "Family Engagement Examples at the National Level", Marybeth Fry M.Ed & Lelis Vernon S.Q.I.L	https://youtu.be/sTSvuxPVeUg
7/20/2023	"The I-Rainbow: A flexible, evidence-based care path for providing developmental care in the NICU", Melissa Scala, MSPT, Eilish Byne, MD; "Social Media: A Tool for Connecting with Families", Daphna Barbeau, MD; "How Mamma is Closing Gaps in Maternal Mental Health Care in NICUs", Maureen Fura, MPA	https://youtu.be/DefXnPKuyUQ



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

NICU FCC Measures Survey Update

- 96 centers have completed our REDCap Survey as of 2/25
- 59 centers have agreed to an interview with our Research Team (22 declined)
- 36 interviews have been scheduled with 28 completed

Research Team:

Malathi Balasundaram, MD

Colby Day, MD

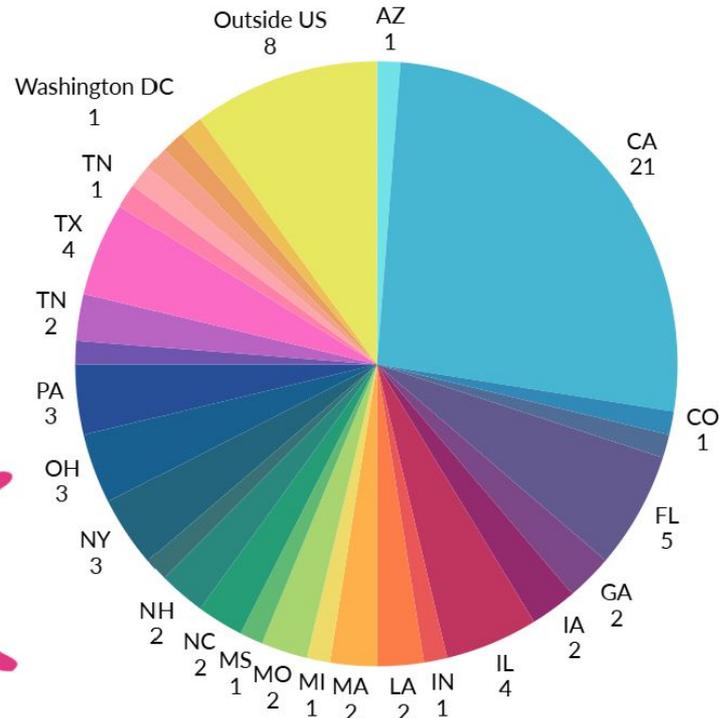
Henry Lee, MD

Morgan Kowalski

Mia Malcolm, BS, CDFT

Keira Sorrells

July 31ST
DEADLINE
FOR PARTICIPATION



FAMILY-CENTERED CARE
TASKFORCE

www.fcctaskforce.org



Save the Date!
**Join us for the 39th Annual
Gravens Conference**

“Sensitive Issues in Sensational Times”

June 16th, 17th, and 18th, 2026

at University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana

*New date & location, same great
topics, workshops, abstracts, and
networking for those who work in
Newborn Intensive Care Units.*

Come learn with us!

Pictured: Baby Kole with his Dad



**Abstracts Due
February 15th, 2026**

To learn more and register,
visit our website:

