

An Overview of CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Our Center is dedicated to helping people live to the fullest. Much of our work focuses on protecting people who are especially vulnerable to health risks - babies, children, people with blood disorders, and people with disabilities.



Office of the Director

Acting Director
Coleen Boyle, PhD, MsHyg

Deputy Director
Alison Johnson, MPA

Management Officer
Vicki Kipreos, PMP

Associate Director for Program Development
Nancy Cheal, MS, PhD

Associate Director for Communication Science
Kate Galatas, MPH

Associate Director for Policy, Planning, and Evaluation
Camille Harden

Acting Chief, Resource Management Office
James Scales

Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Acting Director
Cynthia Moore, MD, PhD

Deputy Director
Tom Horne, MPA

Branch Chief, Birth Defects Branch
Peggy Honein, PhD, MPH

Branch Chief, Developmental Disabilities Branch
Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp, MD

Branch Chief, Prevention Research Branch
Joe Snizek, MD, MPH

Division of Blood Disorders

Director
Hani Atrash, MD, MPH

Deputy Director
Chris Parker, PhD

Chief, Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch
Althea Grant, PhD

Chief, Laboratory Branch
Craig Hooper, PhD

Chief, Prevention Research Branch
Currently in Recruitment

Division of Human Development and Disability

Director
Gloria Krahn, PhD, MPH

Deputy Director
Don Betts, MPA

Team Leader, Child Development Studies Team
Ruth Perou, PhD

Acting Team Leader, Disability and Health Team
Gloria Krahn PhD, MPH

Team Leader, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHD) Team
John Eichwald, MA





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**Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention**
National Center on Birth Defects
and Developmental Disabilities

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities



The Children's Health Act of 2000, passed by Congress and signed into law by former President Clinton, required the establishment of the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) at CDC. In April 2001, NCBDDD was officially established. Currently, the center includes three divisions - the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, the Division of Human Development and Disability, and the Division of Blood Disorders.

Helping People Live to the Fullest

The mission of the CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) is to promote the health of babies, children and adults and enhance the potential for full, productive living. To achieve its mission, our Center works to:

- ◆ Identify the causes of birth defects and developmental disabilities;
- ◆ Help children to develop and reach their full potential; and
- ◆ Promote health and well-being among people of all ages with disabilities, including blood disorders.

We seek to accomplish these goals through research, partnerships, and prevention and education programs.

Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Currently, about 120,000 babies are born with a birth defect each year. More than 5,000 of these babies die in their first year of life – making birth defects a leading cause of infant death in the United States. About 17% of U.S. children younger than 18 years of age have a developmental disability.

CDC and its partners are working to change these figures. With more information, the causes of these birth defects and developmental disabilities can be identified – and action can be taken to protect our children, and to develop new ways to help women have healthy babies.

Helping Children Reach Their Full Potential

Much of our work focuses on protecting people who are especially vulnerable to health risks – including children. The early years of life (birth to 5 years of age) are critical to a child's cognitive, social, and emotional development. CDC works with partners to develop public health tools and interventions that give all children the opportunity to reach their full potential.

People with Disabilities

Anyone of any age can have a disability. People with disabilities need health care and health programs for the same reasons anyone else does – to stay well, active, and a part of the community. To be healthy, people with disabilities require health care that meets their needs as a whole person, not just as a person with a disability.

Our Center works to ensure that people of all different abilities are able to live their life to the fullest. Our work focuses on promoting the health of people with disabilities, and preventing complications or other health conditions secondary to a person's disability.



Protecting the Health of People with Blood Disorders

Blood disorders are complex conditions that can lead to chronic health problems. We are dedicated to addressing the health issues posed by these disorders on several levels by: finding risk factors for health complications associated with having a blood disorder; enhancing the safety of blood products that are used to treat blood disorders; conducting education campaigns to raise awareness of blood disorders among the general public and health professionals; conducting laboratory studies to evaluate, improve, and standardize methods and procedures for classifying blood disorders; and working with partners to increase the effectiveness of treatments, reduce complications, and protect children and adults who have blood disorders.

From Beginning to End, a Better Life for All

It might be the greatest wish all people have for themselves and their loved ones: a healthy, happy life. Often, when one's mind and body work perfectly, good health is taken for granted. Yet millions of people live every day with some form of disability, facing limitations in daily life activities. This includes infants and children with birth defects, genetic conditions, blood disorders, and developmental disabilities such as intellectual disabilities, autism, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, and vision problems. These children might have challenges as they grow and learn in life, and often face more health problems as they grow older.

The number of people living with birth defects, developmental disabilities, or acquired disabilities is rising and expected to increase over the next decade. With at least 54 million Americans currently experiencing a physical, cognitive, or sensory limitation, these are serious health issues.

NCBDDD Organizational Chart

Three divisions conduct the core mission of the Center.

They are:

- ♦ Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities
- ♦ Division of Blood Disorders
- ♦ Division of Human Development and Disability

Additional technical expertise and assistance for functions that cut across the divisions exist in the following offices and teams:

- ♦ Science and Public Health Team
- ♦ Health Communication Science Team
- ♦ Policy, Planning, and Evaluation Team
- ♦ Resource Management Office
- ♦ Program Development Team

NCBDDD Mission:

To promote the health of babies, children, and adults, and enhance the potential for full and productive living by:

- ♦ Identifying the causes of and preventing birth defects and developmental disabilities.
- ♦ Helping children to develop and reach their full potential.
- ♦ Promoting health and well-being among people of all ages with disabilities.
- ♦ Reducing the negative consequences of bleeding and clotting disorders.



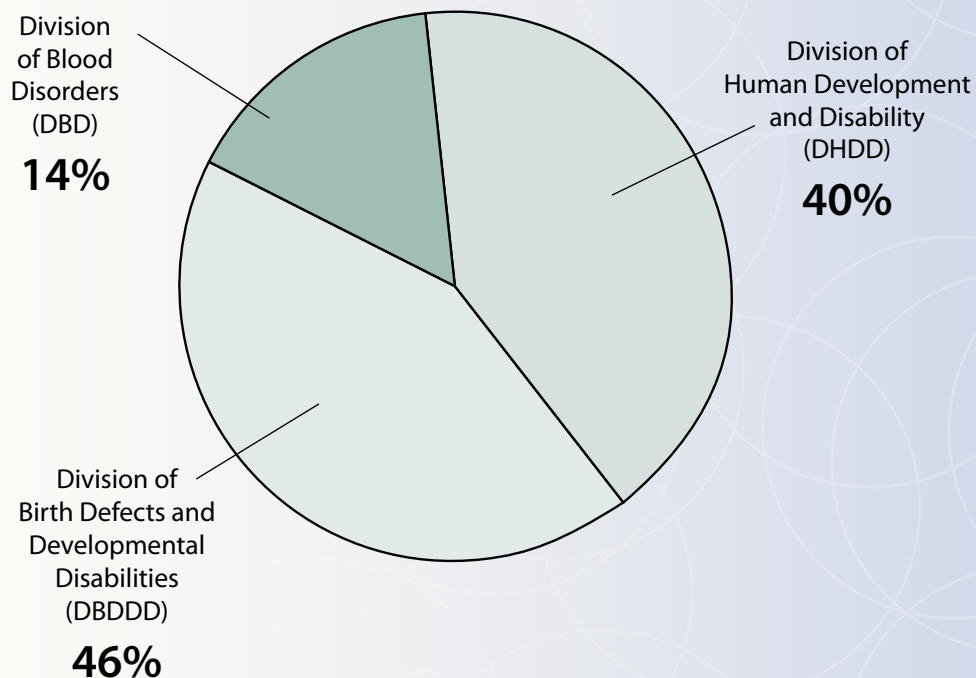
NCBDDD Budget History:

Fiscal Years 2003–2008

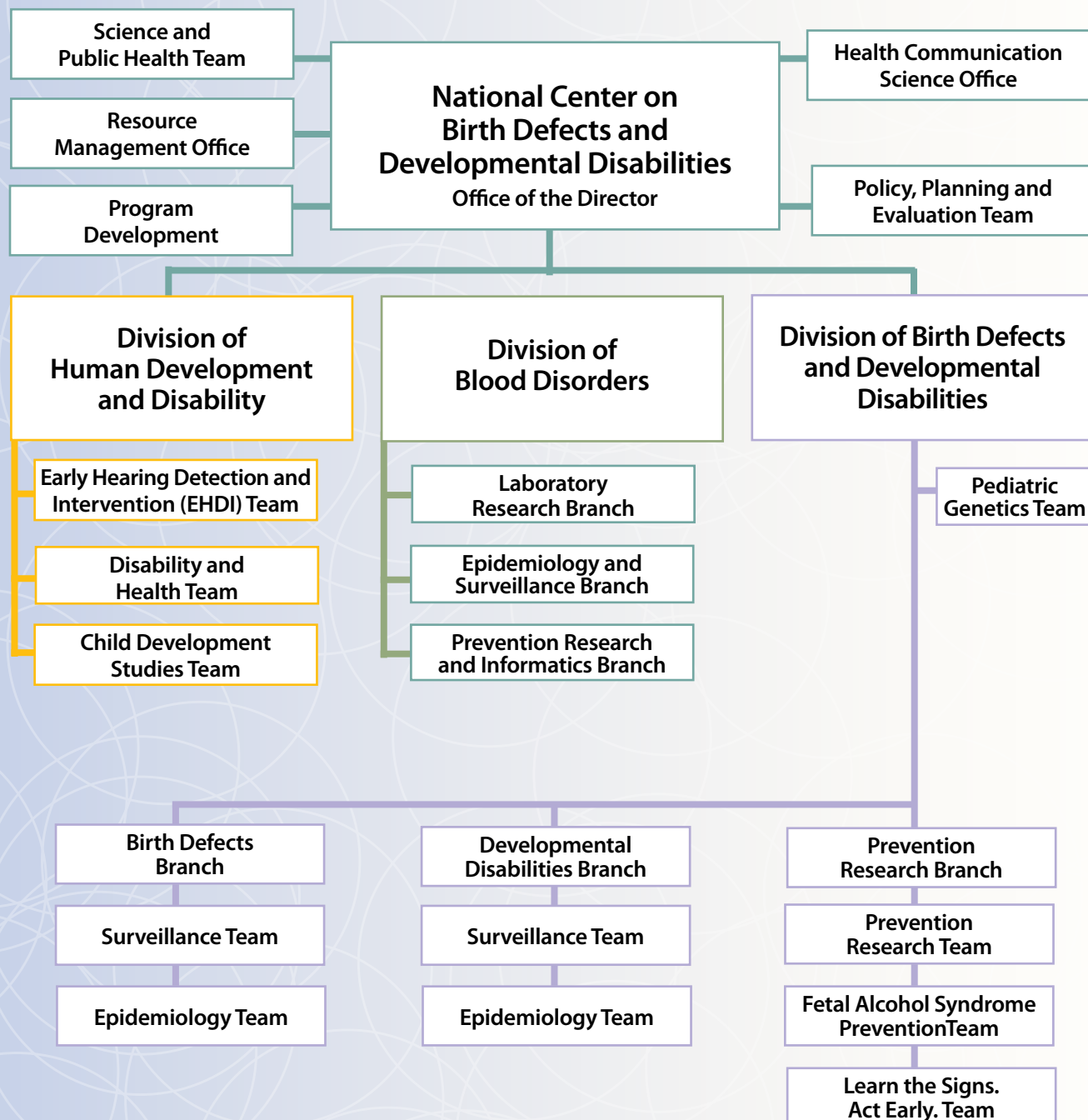


NCBDDD Funding Composite:

(FY 2010)



NCBDDD Organizational Chart



STAFF PROFILES



National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Office of the Director

Acting Director

Coleen Boyle, PhD, MSHyg

Coleen Boyle joined the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in 1988, first as Section Chief and later as Branch Chief and Division Director. In 2001, Dr. Boyle was named the Associate Director for Science and Public Health for CDC's newly created National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD). In October 2004, she was appointed the Director of the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Boyle oversees the scientific and administrative operations of the division. The activities of the division are incorporated in three branches each with two teams.

Before joining CDC in 1984 to work on the Agent Orange studies, Dr. Boyle was a faculty member in epidemiology at the University of Massachusetts, Program in Public Health. As part of the Agent Orange staff, Dr. Boyle served as the principal investigator for the Vietnam Experience mortality studies and as senior epidemiologist for a large, multi-centered cancer case-control study. Her interest and expertise is in the epidemiology and prevention of birth defects and developmental disabilities. She is the recipient of the CDC Charles C. Shepard Award for scientific excellence in 1997 and 2004 and has authored or co-authored more than 70 scientific peer-reviewed publications.

Dr. Boyle received her MSHyg in biostatistics and PhD in epidemiology from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Public Health, and she completed postdoctoral training in epidemiologic methods at Yale University.



Deputy Director

Alison Johnson, MPA

Alison Johnson is the Deputy Director of CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. Before joining NCBDDD in March 2006, she served as Director for the Division of State and Local Readiness in CDC's Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response. Ms. Johnson was formally the Deputy Director of the Immunization Services Division at the National Immunization Program.

Ms. Johnson joined CDC in 1992 as a Presidential Management Intern, working in CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health as a budget analyst. In 1995, she joined the National Immunization Program to assist in the implementation of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program and staffed the National Vaccine Advisory Committee. In January 1999, Ms. Johnson left NIP to become the Deputy Director for the Division of Laboratory Sciences at the National Center for Environmental Health. She was part of the CDC team that provided a response to the Anthrax attacks in 2001 and spent 6 months in CDC's Washington, DC, office during the smallpox vaccination program in 2002.

Ms. Johnson received her MPA from Eastern Kentucky University and has a BS in Finance from West Virginia University.



Office of the Director

Management Officer

Vicki Kipreos, PMP

Victoria (Vicki) Kipreos is the Management Official at the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), CDC. Prior to joining NCBDDD in early 2008, she served as Deputy Director for CDC's Information Technology Services Office (ITSO). In this position, she served as principal advisor to the ITSO Director in issues concerning IT infrastructure, organizational business efficiencies, innovation activities, goals management, financial management, and planning activities.



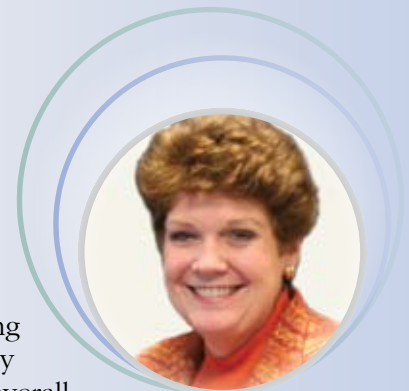
Ms. Kipreos joined CDC in 2002 as a Lead IT Specialist with the National Center on Public Health Informatics. She served as project manager for multiple bioterrorism preparedness projects and responses. She was responsible for budget formulation, staffing, personnel reporting, governmental reporting and capital planning activities. In 2005, she became the Senior Program Activities Lead for ITSO. Prior to joining CDC, Ms. Kipreos worked in the private sector in IT consulting and management.

Ms. Kipreos has a BBA in Management Information Systems from the University of Georgia. She holds a certification as a Project Management Professional (PMP) and has a Masters Certificate in Project Management.

Associate Director for Program Development

Nancy Cheal, PS, PhD

Prior to coming to NCBDDD, Nancy Cheal, M.S., Ph.D. served as the Organizational Effectiveness Officer for the Coordinating Center for Health Promotion (CCHP). In that role she worked closely with CCHP officers and staff to ensure that there is consistency and adequate support across major functional areas. Her responsibilities included identifying and analyzing issues and their impact on public health policies, sharing in the responsibility of planning, evaluating and managing programs in CCHP, and establishing overall guidelines and policies for the conduct of studies and analyses.



Prior to working in CCHP, Dr. Cheal served as CDC's Associate Director for Evaluation in the Office of the Director, Program Planning and Evaluation. While there, she was responsible for CDC's evaluation activities, implementation and management of CDC's performance measurement work, and oversight of the agency's data collection efforts as CDC's Reports Clearance Officer.

She began her CDC career in 1990 as a Health Education Specialist in the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, and she also has served as CDC's Alternate Evaluation Officer. She has held various nursing positions with West Paces Ferry Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital, the United States Army, the Department of Defense, and Bexar County Hospital.

Dr. Cheal received a doctorate in education and a master's degree in education from Georgia State University. She earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center.

Office of the Director

Associate Director for Science

Esther Sumartojo, PhD, MSc

Esther Sumartojo joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 1989, and the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in September 2003. Her responsibilities as Associate Director for Science are to advise the center director and center leadership on matters of science and science policy; to direct and oversee adherence to federal and CDC science regulations and policies; to maintain a team with expertise in statistics, health economics, public health informatics, and science administration to support center scientists; to represent the center on science-related committees and workgroups at CDC and nationally or internationally; and to engage in research activities in the center.



Dr. Sumartojo has more than 20 years experience in behavioral research, intervention research, and program evaluation. Before joining CDC, she was a Director of Evaluation with the Houston Independent School District. After joining CDC, Dr. Sumartojo conducted behavioral research on patient adherence to TB medications and provider approaches to TB treatment, and initiated a program of behavioral research in the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination. In 1996, she joined the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention to lead the Behavioral Intervention Research Team, where she initiated and led a variety of research projects related to HIV prevention in high-risk populations. From 2001 to 2003, she served as Deputy Associate Director for Science in the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention. Her publications have addressed evaluation, patient adherence, HIV prevention, and structural factors associated with HIV prevention. She is currently working with colleagues in the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities to expand a program of research on the prevention of congenital cytomegalovirus.

Dr. Sumartojo completed a BA at Case Western Reserve University in 1967 and undergraduate courses in psychology at the University of Adelaide in Adelaide, South Australia from 1972 to 1975. She earned a PhD in Social Psychology from Peabody College, Vanderbilt University in 1983, and an MSc in Communicable Disease Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1995 through a long-term training award from CDC.

Office of the Director

Associate Director for Communication Science

Kate Galatas, MPH

Kate Galatas is the Associate Director of Communication Science. Ms. Galatas has served in various capacities within NCBDDD since her arrival in March 2004 as the Center's deputy communications officer, including playing an important role in the early planning and development in the audience research and program planning for CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early." campaign and serving as the lead for external partner relations.

Previously, Ms. Galatas spent three years as a communication specialist in the CDC's Epidemiology Program Office, Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics conducting marketing and communications planning, program evaluation, and product development and launch. She has experience in state public health, having served four years as the communications director of Louisiana's Office of Public Health. During that time, she served on the executive board of the National Public Health Information Coalition. Before obtaining her masters in public health Ms. Galatas worked for almost five years in commercial advertising and public relations.

Ms. Galatas received her MPH degree from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and a BA in journalism from Louisiana State University.



Associate Director for Policy, Planning, & Evaluation

Camille Harden

Camille Harden is the Associate Director for Policy, Planning and Evaluation for the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Harden conducts legislative activities, such as analysis and tracking; coordinates and facilitates strategic planning activities within the center; and develops budget formulation strategies for federal reviews such as the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Program Assessment and Rating Tool and the center's annual budget submissions. She also promotes NCBDDD activities by overseeing the coordination of partnership activities and working with the agency's Office of the Director, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and other federal agencies to accomplish the center's mission.

Ms. Harden has extensive experience in both public health and public policy. She began her CDC career in 1993 as a Public Health Advisor in the Division of STD Prevention, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP) in West Palm Beach, FL. In 1998, Ms. Harden joined NCHSTP's Office of the Director, where she served in various roles including CDC liaison to major universities for the Graduate Certificate Program, Human Subjects Assurance Liaison, and a Program Analyst for policy. In 2001, she moved to the Office of Policy Planning and Evaluation (OPPE), where she served as the CDC/ATSDR lead for performance information. In this role, she coordinated, analyzed, and implemented performance and budget-related activities, including the Government Performance and Results Act and the Program Assessment Rating Tool. Ms. Harden also worked with HHS and OMB staff to establish policies and procedures for linking budget to performance.

In 2004, Ms. Harden joined CDC's Office of the Executive Secretariat (OES) as a policy liaison to HHS. She worked to provide enhanced program and policy information to HHS staff; better facilitate communication between CDC and HHS staff on policy-related matters; and improve timeliness and responsiveness for correspondence to both HHS and CDC. In 2005, she served as the Acting Associate Director for Policy at NCHSTP and as the Director for the Division of Issues Management and the Executive Secretariat, formerly known as the OES. In March 2006, Ms. Harden joined the NCBDDD staff. She is a graduate of Emory University and has received numerous awards for her outstanding achievements.



Office of the Director

Acting Chief, Resource Management Office

James Scales, Sr.

James Scales has over 20 years of progressive work experience, in the United States and overseas (Stuttgart, Germany and Seoul, Korea) to include leadership and management; staff development; program-project management; administrative/program analysis; Federal contract management; budget development and execution; and training development.

Currently, Mr. Scales, Sr. serves as acting Chief of the Resource Management Office (RMO), NCBDDD, since September 2009 - a role that allowed him to collaborate closely with programs as well as work hand-in-hand with the FMO budget team. He has a staff of 17 employee staff, including two team leads, reporting to him.

Prior to his current position with NCBDDD, James Scales was manager of one of the Service Offices in the Strategic Business Unit (SBU), CCID, responsible for a team of 52 FTEs and 15 contract staff. Prior to this he was also an eight-year CDC contractor. His career also included serving as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army and later working in private industry as a project officer and as a division vice president for ISPA (Information Systems Planning and Analysis), where he led the IT and business services area.



Division of Human Development and Disability

Director

Gloria Krahn, PhD, MPH

Gloria Krahn, PhD, MPH, is Director, Division of Human Development and Disability (DHDD), National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Dr. Krahn received her Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Manitoba, and her M.P.H. from the University of California, Berkley. She was Professor of Pediatrics, and Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Oregon Health & Science University prior to joining CDC in 2008. She has practiced as a clinical developmental psychologist and taught clinical psychology. Her early work in child development was followed by an interest in childhood and adult disability. Dr. Krahn is widely regarded as a national and international expert in the fields of human development and disability, and in disability public health. Her publications and lectures have bridged the fields of child development, childhood-onset disability, and health promotion among adults with disabilities. Dr. Krahn is the author of numerous publications related to disability and child development, and she is the co-editor of the first major textbook on Disability and Health.

Dr. Krahn has served in a variety of leadership roles within the fields of child development and disability. She has developed strong collaborative relationships with other universities, with state health departments, and disability organizations. She serves as Governing Council representative in the American Public Health Association (APHA), former Chair of the Disability Section of APHA, former President of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), and has served on Institute of Medicine and Interagency Committee on Disability Research committees.



Senior Medical Advisor

Mark Swanson, MD, MPH

Mark Swanson is the Senior Medical Advisor for the Division of Human Development and Disability. Prior to that position, he was Team Leader for the Disability and Health Team.

He joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2005.

Dr. Swanson has 25 years experience in program development, clinical services, research and training in community and university settings. He was the first Director of Partners for Inclusive Communities, Arkansas' University Center on Disabilities, and oversaw its growth for the last 15 years. He developed and maintained three interdisciplinary outreach clinics for children with disabilities across Arkansas, and served as principal investigator on three CDC grants, including Arkansas Autism Surveillance, Spina Bifida in Arkansas Children, and Secondary Conditions/Health and Disability.

A graduate of Princeton University, University of Colorado School of Medicine and University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Dr. Swanson is board-certified in pediatrics and developmental pediatrics.



Division of Human Development and Disability

Team Leader, Child Development Studies Team

Ruth Perou, PhD

Ruth Perou is the Child Development Studies Team Leader within NCBDDD's Division of Human Development and Disability. Currently, she is working on child development issues within the public health context, which include promoting optimal health, development, and well-being for all children and youth. She is working on implementing CDC's public health research agendas on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and Tourette's syndrome. She is the Project Director for Legacy for Children™, CDC's national research initiative to promote optimal child development outcomes for at-risk children. Additionally, she is heading the NCBDDD initiative on developmental screening, an effort to promote child health and well-being by recognizing the importance of early identification and early intervention for children with or at-risk for developmental delays, developmental disabilities, and childhood disorders. Dr. Perou serves on several federal and national committees addressing child development and children's mental health issues.

Dr. Perou received her PhD in Applied Developmental Psychology from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. Before joining the CDC, Dr. Perou served as Assistant Project Director, Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System, Mailman Center for Child Development, Department of Pediatrics at the University of Miami. She was involved in multiple research studies dealing with exceptional students. These included developing screening tests for the early detection of mild mental retardation and learning disabilities and developing methodologies to better identify culturally/linguistically different gifted children.



Team Leader, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Team

John Eichwald, MA

John Eichwald is presently the Team Leader for the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program within CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD). He oversees various EHDI activities including collaboration with federal, national, and state agencies and organizations in assisting states and territories to develop and implement newborn hearing screening programs.

Mr. Eichwald has more than 25 years experience as a pediatric clinical audiologist in public health, education, and the private sector. Before joining CDC, he held several positions within the Utah Department of Health, including Clinical Administrator for the Bureau of Children with Special Health Care Needs. During his Utah tenure, he focused on various aspects of public health informatics, including data management and analysis, telehealth, and database integration. In his last Utah position as the CHARM Program Manager, Mr. Eichwald coordinated the department's child health data integration effort to create an electronic health profile for every child in Utah.

Mr. Eichwald obtained his BA from the University of Montana in 1974 and his MA in Audiology from the University of Utah in 1978. He has published in peer-reviewed journals and made numerous presentations concerned primarily with the early identification of hearing loss in newborns and of the population of children with special health care needs.



Division of Blood Disorders

Director

Hani Atrash, MD, MPH

Hani Atrash joined CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in 2001. As Associate Director for Program Development, his work entails coordinating the center's global health, women's health, minority health, and professional workforce development activities. During the past 3 years, Dr. Atrash has spearheaded the center's preconception health and health care initiative.



Dr. Atrash has 27 years experience in research, surveillance, and public health program, policy, and practice. After completing his training in Obstetrics and Gynecology (1976–1979) and his Epidemic Intelligence Service training (1979–1981), he served as State Epidemiologist and Public Health Consultant of the Bahrain Ministry of Health. In 1985, he joined CDC's Division of Reproductive Health where, as Chief of the Pregnancy and Infant Health Branch, he led the CDC activities on Safe Motherhood, the Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Program, and research and surveillance activities on preterm delivery and maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. Dr. Atrash established CDC's maternal mortality surveillance system, the CDC/ACOG Maternal Mortality Study Group, the Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference, and the national Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Awards. Dr. Atrash has authored/coauthored more than 135 articles and book chapters.

Dr. Atrash completed his medical education and residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the American University of Beirut; he completed his Preventive Medicine Residency at CDC (1985–1986) and received his Masters degree in Public Health from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health (1985).

Chief, Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch

Althea Grant, PhD

Althea Grant is the Branch Chief of the Epidemiology and Surveillance Team within the Division of Blood Disorders. Dr. Grant joined NCBDDD in 2007 as the Team Leader of this team. Her team focuses on the design and implementation of monitoring systems, as well as the design and conduct of epidemiologic and genetic research, to identify causes, risk factors, and complications of blood disorders in affected populations.

Dr. Grant joined CDC in 2002 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer assigned to the HIV unit within the Women's Health and Fertility Branch of the Division of Reproductive Health. In 2004, she joined the Maternal and Infant Health Branch within the Division of Reproductive Health as an epidemiologist. There, her research focused on the role of biological and environmental risk factors for maternal and infant health outcomes. While in the Division of Reproductive Health, she designed and implemented the first U.S. population-based study examining the genetic markers associated with very preterm birth. In addition to supporting the current research and surveillance activities within the Division of Blood Disorders, Dr. Grant also fosters the development of a research and surveillance agenda that focuses on the risks posed by bleeding and clotting disorders on reproductive health outcomes.



Dr. Grant received her BS in Biochemistry and Nutrition from Rutgers University in 1993 and a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Emory University in 1998. She went on to postdoctoral training in Cell Biology at Yale University and Infectious Diseases at CDC.

Division of Blood Disorders

Chief, Laboratory Branch

Craig Hooper, PhD

Craig Hooper is the Branch Chief of Laboratory Team in the Division of Blood Disorders, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Hooper joined CDC in 1988 to work in the Division of Host Factors/Center for Infectious Diseases conducting public health research in applied oncology with emphasis on molecular biology, cytokines, growth factors, and cell biology. His research in these areas has evolved into translational research into hemostasis with emphasis on describing the molecular and inflammatory characteristics of thrombosis.

His laboratory work has centered on conducting public health research, translational research, and technology development and adaptation. He is the author or co-author of more than 100 papers and book chapters.

Dr. Hooper received his BA in Anthropology from Wake Forest University in 1978 and a PhD in Pathology from Ohio State University in 1985. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Immunology at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.



Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Acting Director

Cynthia Moore, MD, PhD

Cynthia A. Moore, M.D., Ph.D. is a pediatrician and clinical geneticist who serves as the Associate Director of Science for the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the CDC. Dr. Moore completed her M.D. and pediatrics residency at the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences and her Ph.D. and clinical fellowship in medical genetics at Indiana University School of Medicine. Much of her 19-year career at CDC has been in the area of birth defects and genetic disease epidemiology and her activities have focused on mechanisms of morphogenesis, classification of birth defects and genetic syndromes, prevention strategies for exposure to teratogens, and genetic and environmental risk factors for birth defects. Dr. Moore continues to practice clinical genetics on a part-time basis at Emory University School of Medicine where she is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Human Genetics.



Branch Chief, Birth Defects Branch

Margaret Honein, PhD, MPH

Margaret (Peggy) Honein, is an epidemiologist in the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Honein began serving as the Chief for the Birth Defects Branch in October 2006. The mission of the Birth Defects Branch is to improve infant and child health by preventing or reducing the adverse consequences of birth defects and related outcomes by 1) identifying causes using epidemiologic and genetic research tools, and 2) evaluating the effects of alteration of risk factors using intervention studies.

Dr. Honein joined CDC in 1997 as an EIS officer based in CDC's birth defects group. She is a recipient of the Langmuir Prize for work conducted in EIS (2000), the Louise Martin Award for a young investigator (2002), the Arthur S. Flemming Award for excellence in government service (2003), and the Charles C. Shepard award for scientific excellence (2004). Her research interests include the role of smoking in birth defects, the impact of folic acid fortification on neural tube defects, the prevention of isotretinoin embryopathy, and medication use during pregnancy. She served as the lead epidemiologist on the National Birth Defects Prevention Study, a large multisite case-control study of environmental and genetic risk factors for birth defects from 2001 through 2006.

Dr. Honein received her BS in Biology from the University of California, Riverside in 1986; her MPH from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1992; and her PhD in Epidemiology from UCLA in 1995. She completed her doctoral dissertation research on HIV among tuberculosis patients in the East African country Djibouti.



Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Branch Chief, Developmental Disabilities Branch

Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp, MD

Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp, medical epidemiologist and practicing developmental pediatrician, serves as Chief of the Developmental Disabilities Branch. Her duties entail overseeing both the administrative and scientific operations of the Surveillance and Epidemiology Teams which are housed within the branch.

Dr. Yeargin-Allsopp joined CDC in 1981 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer and completed a Preventive Medicine Residency in 1984. Since coming to CDC, she has designed and implemented the first U.S. population-based study of developmental disabilities in school-age children in an urban area. It has served as the basis for an ongoing CDC developmental disabilities surveillance system, which identifies children with cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, hearing loss, vision impairment, and autism.

Dr. Yeargin-Allsopp is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Emory University School of Medicine; she was one of the original members of the State of Georgia Interagency Coordinating Council for Early Intervention Services (for children from birth- 2 years) and is the medical director of the Clayton Early Intervention Program in metropolitan Atlanta. She is also a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the National Alliance for Autism Research/Autism Speaks and a member of the Board of Directors for the Marcus Institute, a program in Atlanta that provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities. She was the CDC liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Children with Disabilities and is a member of the AAP Autism Expert Panel. She is on the Editorial Board of the new journal *Developmental Epidemiology* and has published extensively on the epidemiology of developmental disabilities.

Dr. Yeargin-Allsopp received her BA in biology from Sweet Briar College in 1968 and her MD from Emory University in 1972. She completed an internship and residency in Pediatrics at Montefiore Hospital, Bronx, New York. She was on the faculty of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine from 1975 to 1981 and completed a fellowship in Developmental Pediatrics at the Rose F. Kennedy Center of Yeshiva University, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is board-certified in Pediatrics and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities.



Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Branch Chief, Prevention Research Team

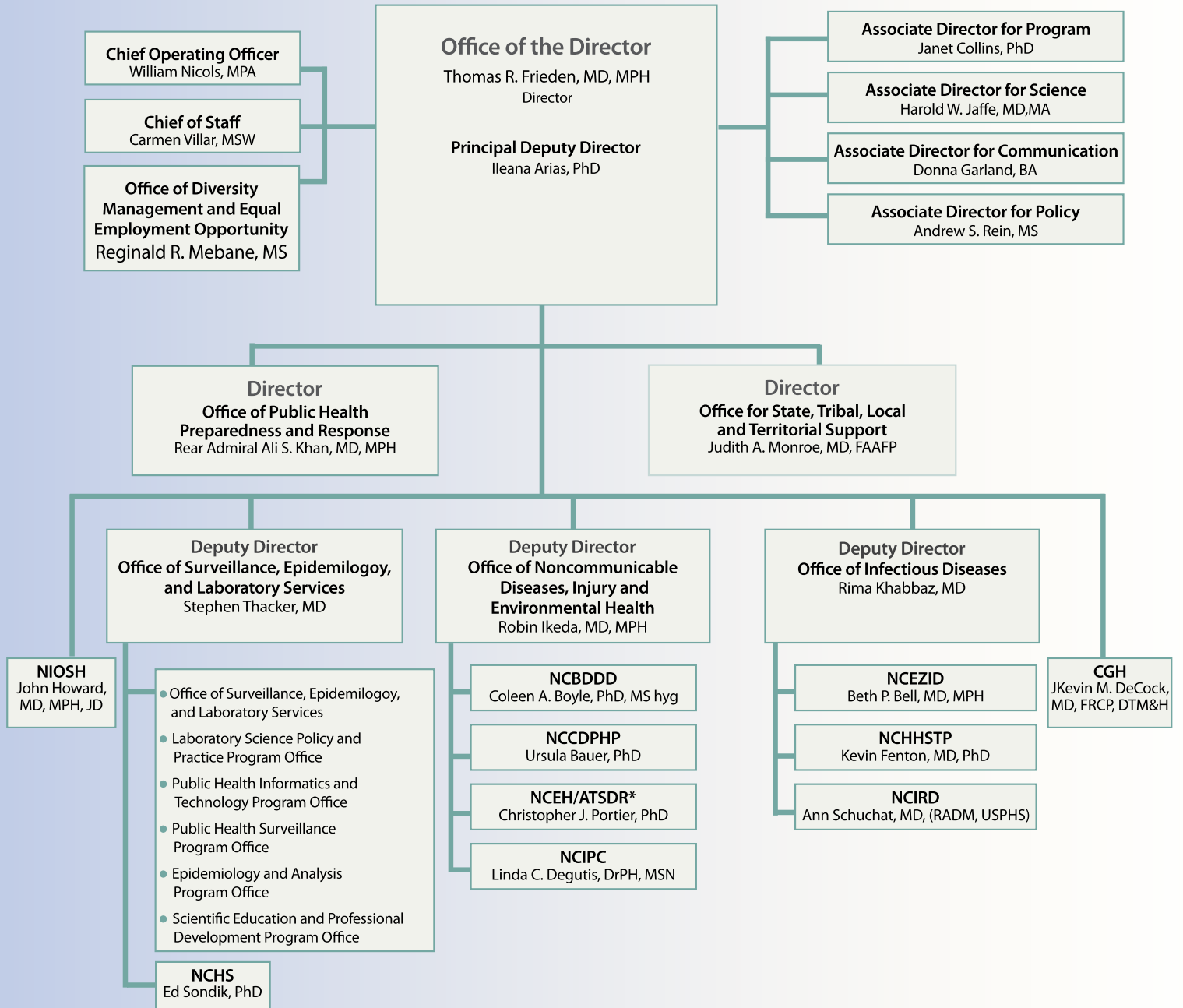
Joe Sniezek, MD, MPH

Joe Sniezek joined the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) as the Associate Director for Public Health Practice in October 2008. Previously, Dr. Sniezek has worked in several Centers at CDC, including the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control addressing injury surveillance and working with states to develop injury control and surveillance programs, especially related to traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries. Dr. Sniezek served as the Chief of the Arthritis Program in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion from 1999 through 2007, where he managed a multi-disciplinary team, working to develop and implement public health approaches to improve the quality of life among persons affected by arthritis. From May 2007 through September 2008, Dr. Sniezek worked in the Office of Well-being Science and Program, working with a CDC workgroup to better define and measure well-being for public health purposes. In addition, he served two years as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer at the CDC.

Dr. Sniezek received his BA from Culver Stockton College and his medical and public health degrees from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he also trained in preventive medicine.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Office of Noncommunicable Diseases, Injury, and Environmental Health

In January 2010, the Office of Noncommunicable Diseases, Injury and Environmental Health (ONDIEH) was officially created as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's organizational improvement process to better support the agency's priorities and allow the agency to operate more efficiently.

ONDIEH provides the overall strategic direction and leadership for the prevention of noncommunicable diseases, injury, disabilities, and environmental health hazards. The office works with and supports the CDC director, the national centers, and public health partners to reduce the burden of noncommunicable diseases, injuries, disabilities, and environmental health hazards in the United States and globally.

The goal of ONDIEH is to promote the following:

- ♦ Strengthen noncommunicable diseases, injury prevention, disabilities, and environmental health-related science and program impact.
- ♦ Enhance integration and inclusion of noncommunicable diseases, injuries, disabilities and environmental health across CDC and within the larger public health community.
- ♦ Identify, facilitate, and encourage cross-center and cross-agency collaboration, innovation, and new initiatives related to the prevention of noncommunicable diseases, injury prevention, disabilities, and environmental health.



Deputy Director, ONDIEH and Acting Director, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)

Robin M. Ikeda, MD, MPH

Robin M. Ikeda, MD, MPH, is the Deputy Director for the Office of Noncommunicable Diseases, Injury and Environmental Health and Acting Director for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC). In these positions, she is responsible for providing guidance and leadership to the CDC's scientific and programmatic portfolios. Prior to these appointments, from April 2006 to September 2009, Dr. Ikeda served as NCIPC's Associate Director for Science. From 2003 to 2006, she served as the Associate Director for Science within CDC's Epidemiology Program Office and the Office of Workforce and Career Development. During 1993 – 2006, she held a range of positions within NCIPC, including Team Leader and staff epidemiologist, and worked on a number of injury prevention issues including youth violence, suicide, and motor-vehicle related crashes. She began her career at CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer assigned to the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at the New York State Department of Health.

Dr. Ikeda holds a B.A. from Stanford University, a M.D. from Cornell University Medical College, and a M.P.H.(Epidemiology) from the Emory University Rollins School of Public Health. She is board-certified in both Internal Medicine and Preventive Medicine and holds the rank of Captain in the United States Public Health Service.

