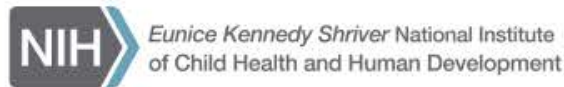


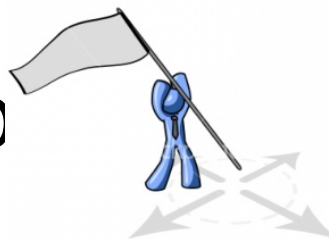
# **NICHD Strategic Plan Responding to Stakeholder Feedback**

Diana W. Bianchi  
Director, NICHD  
June 11, 2019

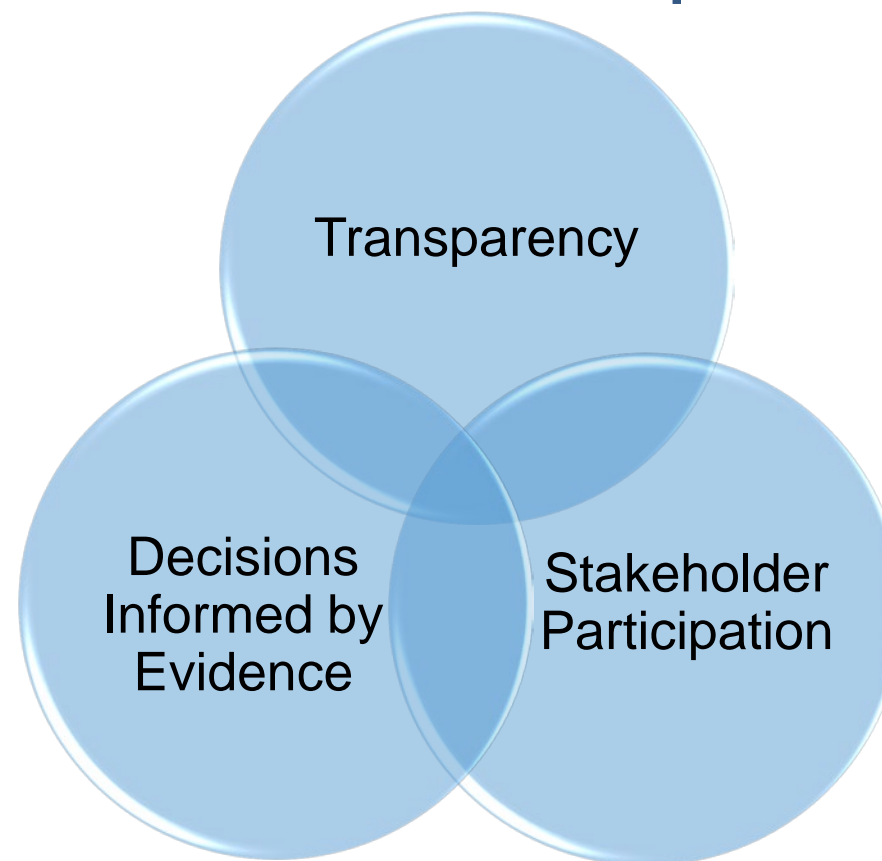


## Goals

- Identify where NICHD lead (priorities)
- Identify where NICHD partner and collaborat
- Inform future investments in research, training, and infrastructure



## Core Principles

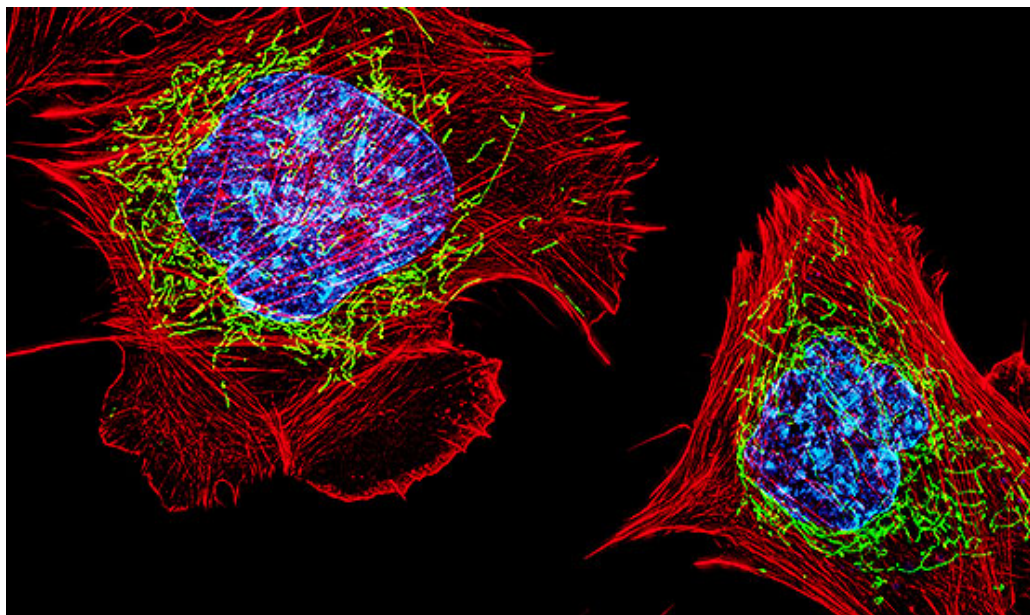




# Request for Information (NOT-HD-18-031)

- 924 total comments
- Many comments touched on multiple themes/scientific areas
- RFI Summary report is now available:  
[https://www.nichd.nih.gov/sites/default/files/2019-06/RFI\\_NICHD\\_SP\\_Response\\_Sum.pdf](https://www.nichd.nih.gov/sites/default/files/2019-06/RFI_NICHD_SP_Response_Sum.pdf)

# Strategic Plan Themes Proposed in the RFI



1. Understanding Early Human Development
2. Setting the Foundation for a Healthy Pregnancy and Lifelong Well-being
3. Promoting Gynecologic, Endocrine, and Reproductive Health
4. Identifying Key Time Periods to Optimize Interventions
5. Ensuring Health During the Transition from Adolescence to Adulthood
6. Ensuring Safe and Effective Therapeutics and Devices

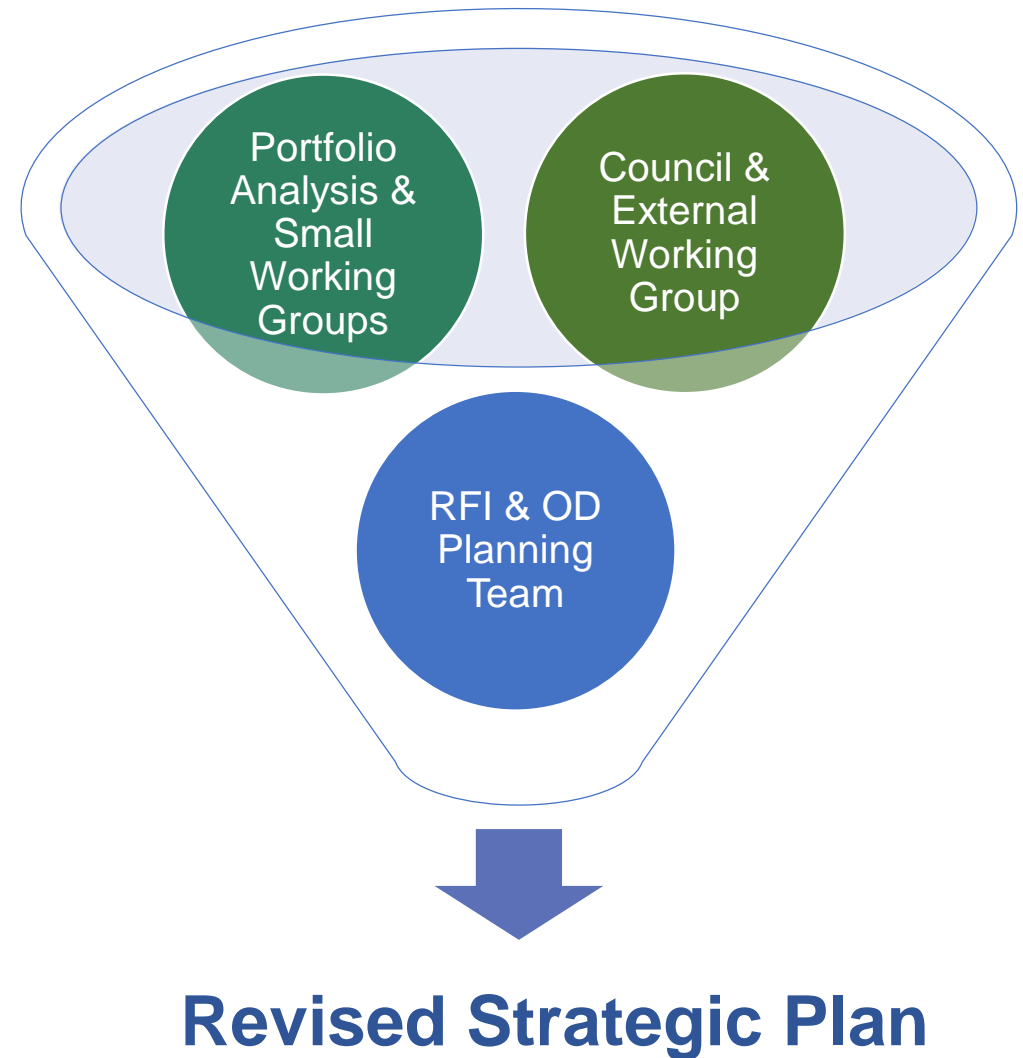
**Under Construction**

## Draft Research Themes



# Where We Are Thanks to Stakeholder Participation

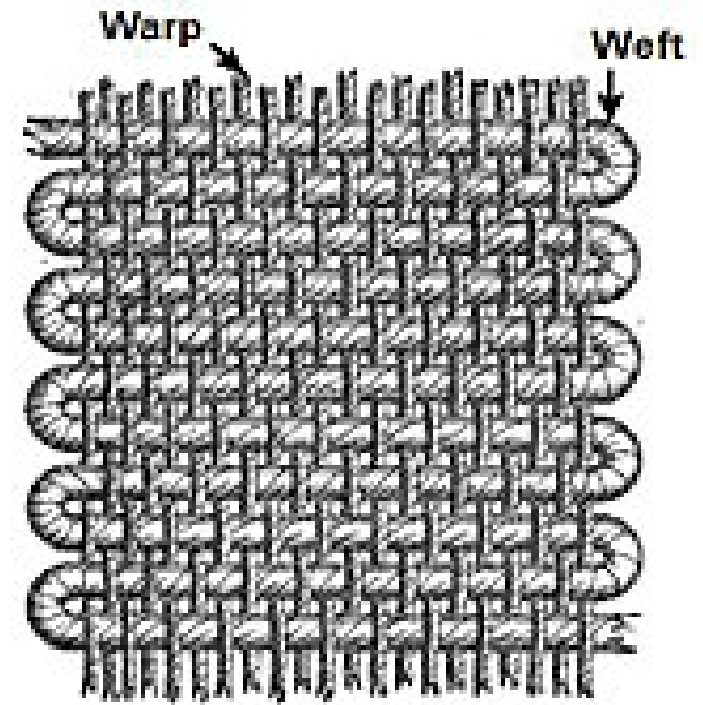
- Revising Strategic Plan themes and priorities
- Revisions will reflect synthesized input from **many** sources
- Final version shared in September 2019
- **THANK YOU** for all of your input!





# Cross-Cutting Themes

- Cross-cutting themes relevant to all research themes and priorities
  - Global health
  - Health disparities
  - Prevention
  - Nutrition
  - Infectious disease
- Final strategic plan document will include an introductory section to explain broad applicability of these cross-cutting themes
  - Cross-cutting themes may not be explicitly stated in each research theme or priority



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## Evolution of the Strategic Plan in Response to Stakeholder Feedback





# Developmental Biology and Animal Models

- Increased emphasis on a variety of model systems to understand typical developmental processes
- Expanded from single cell focus and encompassed broader view of genes and gene regulatory networks







# Neurodevelopment and Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

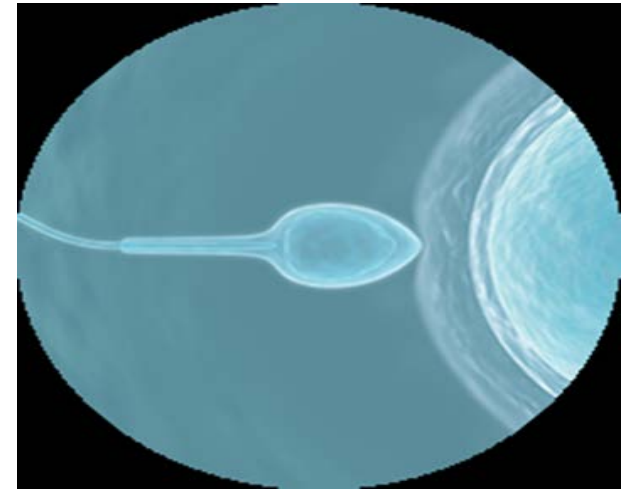
- Included focus on typical and atypical neurodevelopment from the earliest developmental stages
- Incorporated individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the plan, from early human development to transition to adult care and inclusion in development and testing of therapeutics and devices





# Reproductive Health

- Included clearer emphasis on reproductive health as a “window to future health”
- Added investigation of developmental processes that result in abnormalities of the female and male reproductive tracts
- Clarified the need for better characterization and definition of gynecologic and andrologic conditions
- Retained emphasis on fertility and infertility, with a specific role for methods to manage fertility





# Healthy Pregnancies

- Incorporated pre-pregnancy factors
- Re-emphasized the priority on placental biology and placental clinical research
- Inclusion of the “fourth trimester”
- Ensured an emphasis on research to address SUID/SIDS and infant mortality







# Child Development

- Articulated continued support for studying typical and atypical child development
  - Included social and environmental factors in development of the child and adolescent
  - Life stage transitions emphasized for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities
- Provided a stronger emphasis on the impact of and treatments for the exposure to violence, stress, and trauma





# Adolescent Development

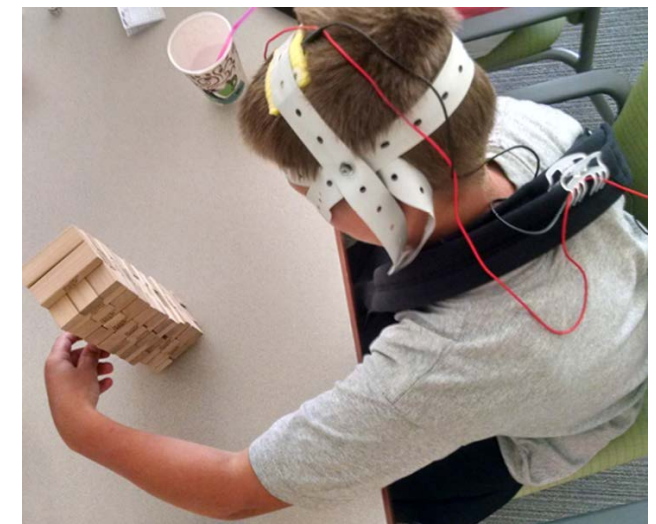
- Clarified areas of emphasis
  - Specific concentration on a better understanding of puberty
  - Incorporated transition of adolescents to the adult health care system, especially those with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities and those with chronic conditions





# Safe and Effective Therapeutics and Devices

- Will continue to focus on development and validation of drugs and devices that affect NICHD's populations
- Conclusions from the federal Task Force on Research Specific to Pregnant Women and Lactating Women (PRGLAC) will influence our research agenda
- Integrated use of clinical trial and use of “real world” data, such as electronic health records and research registries to measure exposures/responses to therapeutics and devices



# NICHD Refreshed Mission and Vision Statements

Diana Bianchi, M.D.  
Catherine Gordon, M.D.  
June 11, 2019





# Current NICHD Mission Statement



**The mission of the NICHD is to ensure that every person is born healthy and wanted, that women suffer no harmful effects from reproductive processes, and that all children have the chance to achieve their full potential for healthy and productive lives, free from disease or disability, and to ensure the health, productivity, independence, and well-being of all people through optimal rehabilitation.**

# Congressional Language (Institute's Purpose)



- The general purpose of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development ... is the **conduct and support of research, training, health information dissemination**, and other programs with respect to **gynecologic health, maternal health, child health, intellectual disabilities, human growth and development**, including prenatal development, population research, and special health problems and requirements of mothers and children. (42 USC 285g)
- Established the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR) within NICHD to support **research and training** concerning the **rehabilitation of individuals with physical disabilities**, and **coordinate activities** across NIH and the Federal government.

# Mission and Vision Statement Working Group



- **Diana Bianchi, M.D.**
  - Director, NICHD
- **Richard Ellenson**
  - Former CEO, Cerebral Palsy Foundation; career in advertising
  - Member, National Advisory Board for Medical Rehabilitation Research
- **Catherine Gordon, M.D.**
  - Adolescent Chief, Boston Children's Hospital
  - Chair of Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
  - Member, National Advisory Council, Child Health and Human Development
- **Lesli Rotenberg**
  - General Manager, Children's Programming, Marketing & Communications, PBS
  - Member, National Advisory Council, Child Health and Human Development
- **Alison Cernich, Ph.D.**
  - Director, National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, NICHD
- **Stephane Philogene, Ph.D.**
  - Director, Office of Science Policy, Reporting, and Program Analysis, NICHD
- **Paul Williams**
  - Director, Office of Communications, NICHD
- **Elizabeth Baden, Ph.D.**
  - Chief of Staff, NICHD; Executive Secretary

# Mission Statement Revision Process



- First established parameters:
  - Comply with Congressional language
  - Contain the words “research” and “training”
  - Unique to NICHD
  - Be concise!
- Process
  - Reviewed mission statements from other organizations
    - NIH Institutes and Centers
    - [Top Nonprofits](#)
  - Each member independently drafted potential mission statements
  - Group discussed draft statements and whittled the list down from 27 possibilities to 2 top candidates
  - Considered several variations on the 2 top choice mission statements before arriving at the proposed language

# Vision Statement Revision Process



- First established parameters:
  - Clear
  - Concise
  - Inspirational
  - Memorable
  - Forward-looking – what do we want to achieve?
  - Unique to NICHD
- Process
  - After selecting the top 2 choices for a mission statement, brainstormed ideas for a vision statement
  - Discussed draft statements, selected words and phrases that resonated, and constructed a new option with group consensus
  - Concise enough to be a tagline, too!

# Working Group Revision Process



- Important considerations that emerged
  - Statement should be broad and not call out individual diseases or topics
  - Inclusive of NICHD's populations
  - Include the full spectrum of NICHD research (without listing everything explicitly)
- Words or phrases that became important
  - “research and training”
  - “understanding human development”
  - “adolescence”
  - “optimizing abilities”



**The *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development leads research and training to understand human development, improve reproductive health, enhance the lives of children and adolescents, and optimize abilities for all.**



# Revised NICHD Vision Statement/Tagline



**Healthy pregnancies. Healthy children.  
Healthy and optimal lives.**

