



2025



ANNUAL



REPORT



NEWBORN BRAIN SOCIETY

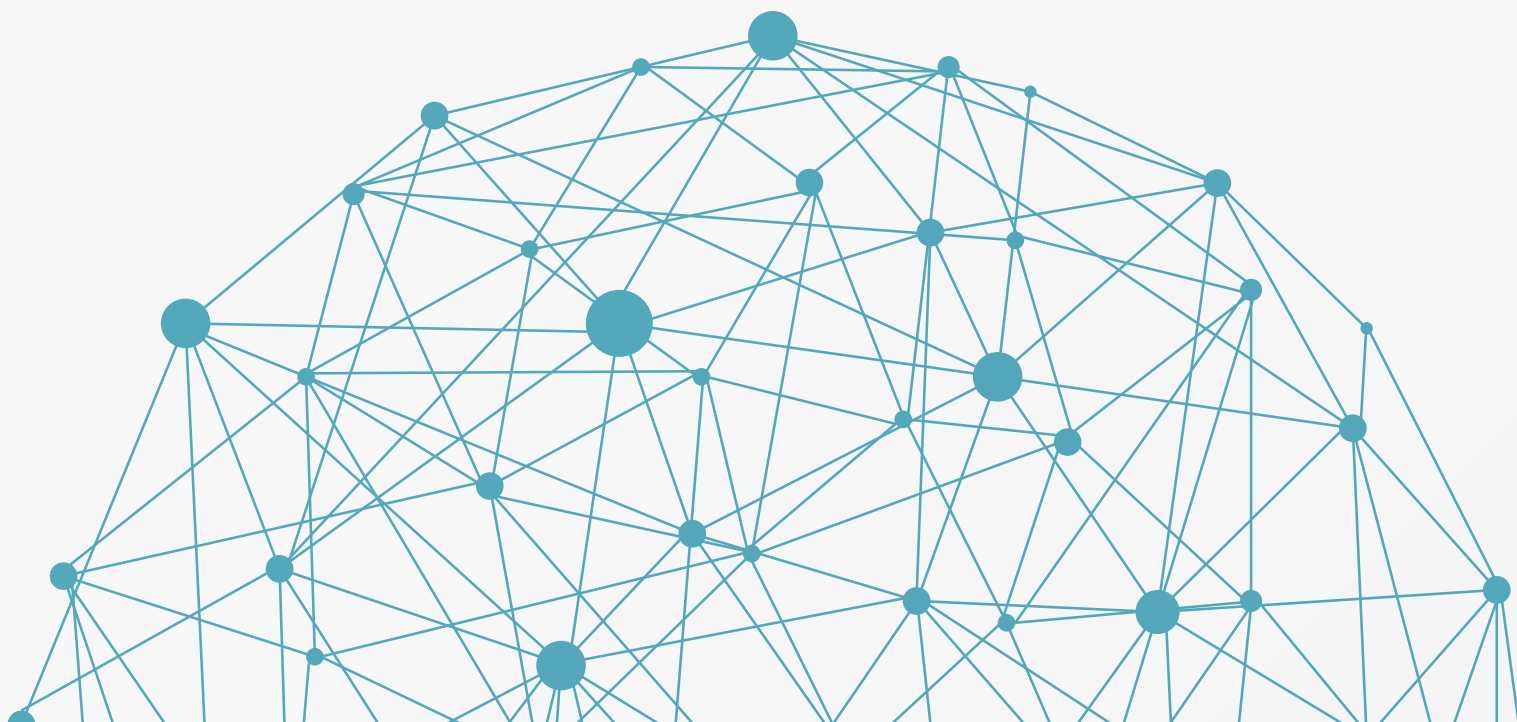


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Strengthening Global Collaboration in Newborn Brain Health

- Welcome to our Annual Report — a reflection of the Newborn Brain Society’s ongoing progress, achievements, and dedication to advancing newborn brain care worldwide.
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- Throughout the year, our focus has centered on fostering collaboration across disciplines and borders. Through coordinated initiatives and collective action, we continue to build a strong global community committed to improving outcomes for newborns with neurological conditions.
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- Our ongoing educational programs, consensus efforts, and collaborations remain central to our mission — advancing the science, practice, and delivery of neonatal neurocritical and neuroprotective care.
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OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate multidisciplinary international collaboration between clinicians, parents, scientists, and others with a focus on newborn brain care.
- To sponsor, host and participate in educational events that will expand the field of neonatal neurocritical and neuroprotective care.
- To develop consensus publications including best practice guidelines and expert opinions in the field of newborn brain care.
- To provide a platform for members to exchange clinical practice guidelines and parent resources related to newborn brain care.
- To support multicenter collaborative activities, quality improvement and research projects related to the field of neonatal neurology and brain development.
- To collaborate with existing relevant societies and organizations in efforts to achieve the above objectives.

Message from the President



Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends of the Newborn Brain Society,

It is with profound honor and a deep sense of responsibility that I write to you for the first time as President of the Newborn Brain Society. As I step into this role, I am humbled by the extraordinary legacy built by our past leadership and inspired by the collective passion that each of you brings to advancing newborn brain health across the globe.

The past year has marked a period of remarkable growth for our Society. With over **1,400 members from more than 84 countries**, we have continued to strengthen our mission of global collaboration, uniting clinicians, researchers, nurses, therapists, parents, and industry partners to push the boundaries of neonatal neurocritical and neuroprotective care.

In 2025, we expanded our educational footprint with more than **44 webinars, 10 new educational modules**, and thousands of participants joining us from all continents. We celebrated the success of the **16th International Newborn Brain Conference** in San Diego, where nearly 500 attendees, onsite and online, came together to learn, exchange ideas, and shape the future of our field. We strengthened collaborations with international societies, supported the launch of the HIE Collaborative, and helped bring educational resources, such as the open access NIRS Atlas, ensuring that equitable knowledge remains at the core of our work.

Our committees have grown stronger, our fellowship program expanded to **12 accredited sites**, and our **Early Career Award** supported promising investigators whose work will influence the scientific and clinical landscape for years to come. Together, these collective achievements reflect the power of a Society committed not only to excellence but to inclusion, compassion, and meaningful impact.

As we look to the future, our vision is anchored in three guiding principles: collaboration, innovation, and global equity. We will continue to build bridges across regions and disciplines, elevate education to new digital horizons, and advocate for every newborn, regardless of geography to have access to the best possible brain care.

Our progress is only possible because of you, your expertise, your dedication, your volunteerism, your belief in our mission. I am deeply grateful to each member, committee chair, fellow, partner, and supporter who contributes to making the Newborn Brain Society a vibrant and transformative global community.

Together, we will continue to pursue a world in which all newborns have access to and receive the optimal brain care through international multidisciplinary collaboration, education, and innovation.

With appreciation and great enthusiasm for the years ahead,

Gabriel F. T. Variane, MD, PhD

President, Newborn Brain Society

Our Leadership

Board of Directors



Gabriel F. T. Variane, MD, PhD
President



Mohamed El-Dib, MD, FAAP
Past-President



Laura R. Ment, MD
Vice President



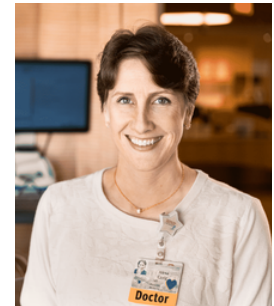
Chris Smyser, MD, MSCI
Secretary



Jennifer Keene, MD, MS, MBA,
Treasurer
Chair, Financial
Committee



Elizabeth Sewell, MD, MPH, Chair,
Communications &
Networking Committee



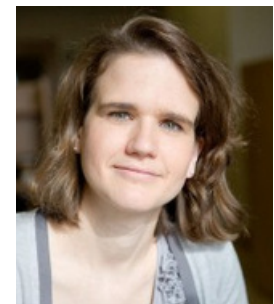
Alexa K. Craig, MD, MS, MSc
Chair, Educational
Committee



Eleanor J. Molloy, MB, BCH, BAO, FRCPI, PhD
Chair, Guidelines &
Publications
Committee



Nicola J. Robertson, MB ChB, PhD
Chair, Membership
Committee



Pia Wintermark, MD
Chair, QI & Research
Committee

Our Leadership

Steering Committee



Terrie Inder, MBChB,
MD
Chair



Steven Miller, MDCM,
MAS, FRCPC



Pierre Gressens, MD,
PhD



Mark S. Scher, MD



Lauren L. Jantzie,
PhD



Hannah C. Glass,
MDCM, MAS



Brigitte Vollmer,
Dr.med, PhD
FRCPCH

Our Leadership

Co-Chairs



Susan Cohen, MD,
Co-Chair, Financial
Committee



Mary Anne Ryan, PhD,
MSc, RGN/RSCN/RM,
Co-Chair,
Communications &
Networking Committee



Michael D. Weiss,
MD, FAAP, Co-Chair,
Educational
Committee



Eric Peebles, MD,
Co-Chair, Guidelines
& Publications
Committee

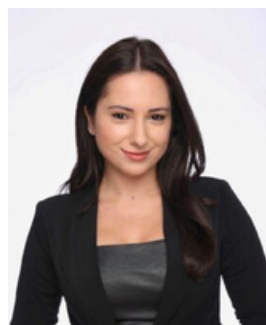


Gina Rencken, B.OT
(UP), M.OT (UFS),
Co-Chair,
Membership
Committee



Christopher M. Elitt,
MD, PhD,
Co-Chair, QI and
Research Committee

Operations Support



Helen Vardanyan, MPA
Director of Operations



Margaret Kirumbuyo,
MD, MGHD, MSc,
Project Coordinator

Our 2026 Committee Members

**Communication and
Networking Committee:**

Chair: Dr. Elizabeth Sewell
Co-Chair: Dr. Mary Anne Ryan
Dr. Ceyda Acun
Kimberlee Allred, RN,NNP-BC
Dr. Topun Austin
Dr. Carmina Erdei
Dr. Tanzeema Hossain
Dr. Sameeia Iqbal
Dr. Gayatri Jape
Dr. Efe Obasohan
Dr. Rawad Obeid
Dr. Cynthia Ortinau
Dr. Kristen Yang
Dr. Santina Zanelli

Educational Committee:

Chair: Dr. Alexa Craig
Co-Chair: Dr. Michael Weiss
Dr. Caroline Ahearne
Dr. Valerie Chock
Dr. Mehmet Cizmeci
Dr. Mansoor Farooqui
Dr. Natalie Hunt
Dr. Simone Huntingford
Dr. Steven Lazar
Dr. Gerda Meijler
Dr. Kirti Naranje
Dr. Jeffrey Russ
Dr. Alexandra Santana Almansa
Diane Wilson, MN, NNP-BC

Financial Committee:

Chair: Dr. Jennifer Keene
Co-Chair: Dr. Susan Cohen
Dr. Abhinav Pal
Dr. Charu Venkatesan

**Guidelines and Publications
Committee:**

Chair: Dr. Eleanor Molloy
Co-Chair: Dr. Eric Peebles
Dr. Kaashif Ahmad
Dr. Laura Armstrong
Dr. James P. Boardman
Dr. Dawn Gano
Dr. Emily Herzberg
Dr. Simone Khalifeh
Dr. Lara Leijser
Dr. Firdose Nakwa
Dr. Nina Natarajan
Dr. Andrea Pardo
Dr. Sarah Schlatterer
Dr. Latha Srinivasan
Dr. Nahla Zaghloul

Membership Committee:

Chair: Dr. Nicola Robertson
Co-Chair: Dr. Gina Rencken
Dr. Jonathan Berken
Dr. Rehema Marando
Dr. Melisa Carrasco McCaul
Dr. Swetha Padiyar
Dr. Om Krishna Pathak
Dr. Sonal Rakshpaul
Dr. Julide Sisman

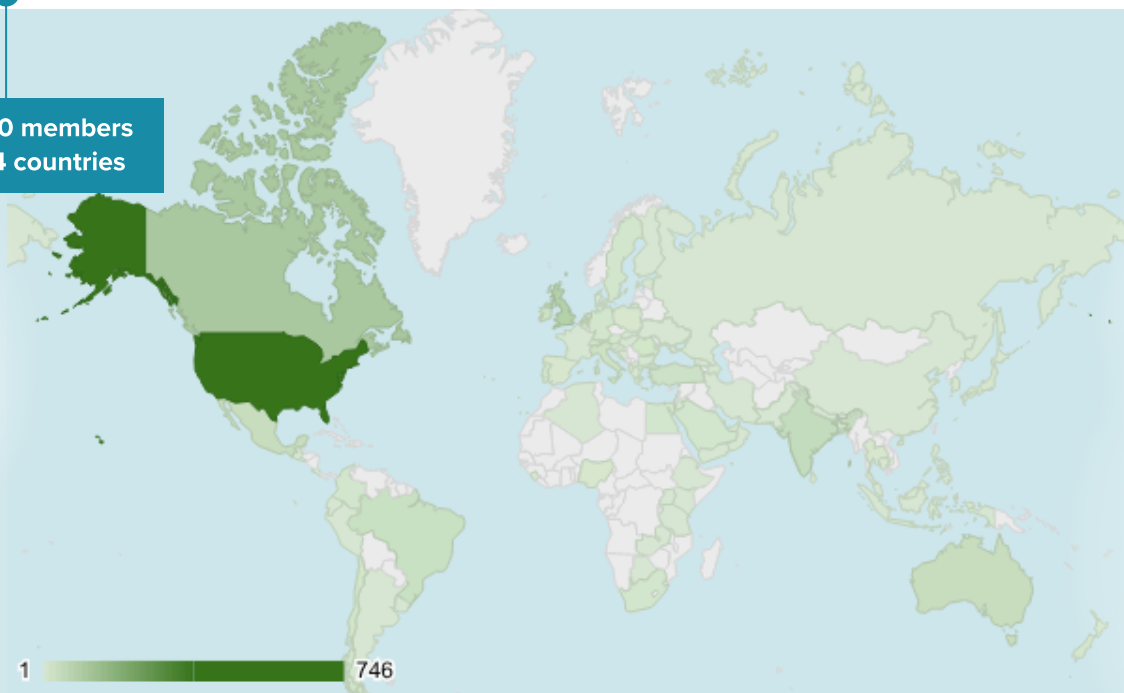
QI and Research Committee:

Chair: Dr. Pia Wintermark
Co-Chair: Dr. Christopher Elitt
Dr. Marie-Coralie Cornet
Dr. Alissa D'Gama
Dr. Tim Hurley
Dr. Atul Malhotra
Dr. Ulrike Mietzsch
Dr. Sarah Mulkey
Dr. Tetyana Nesterenko
Dr. Adam Numis
Dr. Sandesh Shivananda
Dr. Bharati Sinha
Dr. Regina Triplett
Dr. Tommy Wood

Our Members

A Global Network in Action

Over 1,400 members
across 84 countries



With more than 1,400 members across over 84 countries and six continents, the Newborn Brain Society continues to unite a multidisciplinary community committed to advancing neonatal brain care worldwide. This international reach reflects our mission to bring together clinicians, researchers, and advocates dedicated to improving neurological outcomes for newborns through collaboration, education, and innovation.

Membership Categories

- General Physician Member — \$175 annually
- General Non-Physician Member — \$130 annually
- General LMIC Member — \$25 annually
- Junior Member — Free
- Emeritus Member — \$130 annually

Our Multidisciplinary Network Includes

- Physicians
- Researchers and Scientists
- Neonatal and Pediatric Nurses
- Advanced Practice Providers
- Therapists
- Trainees and Students
- Families and Community Members

Benefits of Membership

1 Global Collaboration

NBS promotes global collaboration among members, spanning neurologists, neonatologists, nurses, scientists, parents, and others.

2 Educational Resources

Regardless of location, members gain access to a collection of online educational presentations, articles, modules, textbooks, and more, to amplify their knowledge base in neonatal neurology.

3 Targeted Educational Support

NBS provides targeted educational resources tailored for specific groups, including nurses, early career professionals and trainees, and professionals working in low-and-middle-income countries (LMIC).

4 Streamed Webinars & Sessions

Members can stream weekly educational webinars, from the first sessions in 2020 to the present, including sessions from the International Newborn Brain Conference, presented by global experts and leaders in the field.

5 Discounts & Exclusive Invites

Members are eligible for exclusive discounts on select scientific conferences, courses, and workshops, contributing to ongoing professional development.

6 Grant Opportunities

Members can qualify for grant opportunities, including the Early Career Award, supporting investigators in their research projects.

7 Participation in Committees

General and General LMIC members play an active role in shaping the society's direction by joining standing committees, including Education, Guidelines and Publications, QI and Research, Communication and Networking, Membership, and Finance.

8 Trainee Advantage

Trainees benefit from free membership during their training program, accessing educational materials and collaborating with senior members.

Through education, collaboration, and research, the Newborn Brain Society continued to grow its global impact.

A Year In Review

300+

New Members

\$40,000

Distributed in
Grants

27

New Committee
Members

3

Publications

8000+

Educational Webinar
Attendees

44

Educational
Webinars

10

Educational
Webinar Modules

1

International Newborn
Brain Conference

84

Countries
Represented

3

New Partner
Organizations

12

Neonatal Neurocritical
Care (NNCC)
Fellowship Program
Accredited Sites

6

6 Fellows Enrolled in
the Neonatal
Neurocritical Care
(NNCC) Fellowship
Program

Partnership, Collaboration and Representation

NBS continues to strengthen its global network through new partnerships, renewed collaborations, and active representation across multidisciplinary initiatives. Throughout 2025, the Society expanded its reach by formalizing new organizational relationships, endorsing key educational events, and further developing longstanding alliances that support our mission to advance newborn brain health worldwide.

NBS formalized new collaborative agreements with the **National Federation of Neonatology of Mexico (FNNM)** and the **Mexican Society of Pediatric Neurology (SMNP)**. Both organizations work to strengthen communication, expand the dissemination of neonatal and pediatric neurological knowledge, and advance clinical practice across Mexico. Their missions align with efforts to support professionals dedicated to improving the health and well-being of newborns and their families throughout the region. These partnerships extend the Society's reach within Latin America and reinforce our commitment to engaging with low-and-middle-income country partners to promote equitable access to newborn brain health education.



This year, the Society became an organizational partner of the **Family-Centered Care (FCC) Taskforce**, the first international, multicenter initiative dedicated exclusively to improving the quality of family-centered care in NICUs. The FCC Taskforce supports neonatal units worldwide as they begin or strengthen practices that actively include caregivers as integral members of the clinical team. Family-centered care is a key contributor to improved infant outcomes and family well-being, and this partnership reflects the Society's commitment to advancing care models that honor the essential role of parents and families throughout the NICU journey.



Recent Conferences and Sessions

Supported by Our Endorsement

- 3rd Taif International Neonatology Summit (TINS) | November 2024 | Saudi Arabia
- Prechtl's General Movement Assessment: Basic Course and Advanced Course | April 2025 | Canada
- Neonatal Cranial Ultrasound Course | June 2025 | Canada
- Cambridge Perinatal Group (CPG) Imaging Monitoring and Protecting the Newborn Brain | July 2025 | United Kingdom
- Utrecht Neonatal Stroke Conference | September 2025 | Netherlands

Partnership, Collaboration and Representation

Ongoing Partnerships and Longstanding Representation



PAS Meeting, Program Committee

NBS is an affiliate organization of PAS and is represented by Dr. Alexa Craig and Dr. Sarah Mulkey. The two members are responsible for working on the neuro-specific elements of program and ensuring NBS is represented within committee's multidisciplinary activities.

American Academy of Pediatrics



Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine (SONPM)

Dr. Eleanor Molloy, Chair of the Guidelines and Publications Committee, serves as the current liaison to the SONPM Executive Committee.



Atlas of NIRS in the Newborn

This year, NBS began hosting the *NIRS Atlas* on our website, making this comprehensive resource freely accessible to clinicians around the world. The Atlas offers an approachable, case-based guide to the use of near-infrared spectroscopy in neonatal care—covering topics such as cerebral oxygenation, hemodynamic instability, congenital heart disease, preterm brain vulnerability, and other conditions where brain-focused monitoring can inform timely clinical decisions.

By bringing this resource into open access, NBS is helping support neonatal providers at every level of experience as they integrate NIRS more confidently and effectively into neurocritical care.

HIE Collaborative

Launched in 2025, the NBS HIE Collaborative Initiative is a joint project of the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) and Registry Director Dr. Pia Wintermark, developed in collaboration with the NBS. More than fifty centers around the world have already expressed interest in joining the effort, reflecting a broad desire to strengthen shared knowledge in neonatal brain care.

The initiative centers on a multinational, multicenter retrospective registry focused on neonatal hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy (HIE). Participating sites contribute standardized clinical information on infants treated with therapeutic hypothermia, allowing the project to compare real-world practices across diverse settings. The aim is to clarify how clinicians approach diagnosis, management, and follow-up of HIE, and to create a foundation for more unified, evidence-informed care. NBS supports coordination and communication across the network, while RI-MUHC provides the scientific leadership and governance of the registry.

Education and Research Highlights

Weekly Educational Live Webinars

Our live webinar program offers year-round education for everyone in the newborn brain community, from clinicians and trainees to nurses and allied health professionals.

Led by the Educational Committee and developed in collaboration with other NBS committees and task forces, the webinars offer focused, accessible sessions that support both clinical practice and professional development.

The 2025 lineup included core curriculum sessions and specialized tracks—ranging from nursing education to research, quality improvement, and rare disease discussions—alongside limited offerings such as the *Volpe's Neurology of the Newborn 7th Edition*, *Beyond the NICU* and the *NIRS Consortium* webinars.

NBS is committed to making newborn brain care education accessible to all - which is why all webinars are free to attend and to claim credit. Credit is offered through collaboration with the University of South Florida Health.



NBS members have additional access to NBS webinar library through their member portal.



In 2025, our webinars reached participants from 122 countries. Since 2020, we have hosted over 258 sessions with more than 52,000 attendees worldwide.

Recent NBS Publications

Practice Variations for Therapeutic Hypothermia in Neonates with Hypoxic-ischemic Encephalopathy: An International Survey.

Lee KS, Massaro A, Wintermark P, Soul J, Natarajan G, Dizon MLV, Mietzsch U, Mohammad K, Wu TW, Chandel A, Shenberger J, DiGeronimo R, Peeples ES, Hamrick S, Cardona VQ, Rao R; Children's Hospitals Neonatal Consortium, the Canadian Neonatal Network, and the Newborn Brain Society. *J Pediatr.* 2024 Nov;274:114181. doi: 10.1016/j.jpeds.2024.114181.

Data Collection Variability Across Neonatal Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy Registries.

Peeples ES, Mietzsch U, Molloy E, deVeber G, Mohammad K, Soul JS, Guez-Barber D, Pilon B, Chau V, Bonifacio S, Afifi J, Craig A, Wintermark P; Newborn Brain Society Guidelines and Publications Committee. *J Pediatr.* 2025 Apr;279:114476. doi: 10.1016/j.jpeds.2025.114476.

Early Career Award

The Early Career Award, launched in 2022 by the Quality Improvement and Research Committee, supports NBS members focused on fetal and neonatal brain research, offering a \$10,000 grant to each recipient.

In January 2025, we funded four recipients and are excited to see the impact of their research.

- Benjamin Lear, PhD (New Zealand) - *Origins and biomarkers of mild hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy*
- Ayokunle Olumodeji, MBBS, FWACS, FMCOG (Nigeria) - *Increasing Adoption of Routine Antenatal Magnesium Sulfate Use for Fetal Neuroprotection in Imminent Preterm Deliveries: A Cluster-Randomized Trial in Lagos*
- Thiviya Selvanathan, MD, PhD, FRCPC (Canada) - *Social disparity, thalamic volumes and cognition in adolescents with neonatal HIE*
- Anna Shiraki, MD, PhD (Japan) - *Sleep state-dependent thalamocortical functional connectivity in preterm and term-born infants*



International Newborn Brain Conference



The International Newborn Brain Conference (INBBC) is a leading event in neonatal brain care, uniting experts to share the latest research and advancements. Each year, it fosters collaboration, education, and networking to shape the future of newborn brain health. As a key platform for continuing medical education, INBBC supports multidisciplinary professionals in improving neurological and developmental outcomes for premature and high-risk newborns.

The 16th INBBC was held February 19–21, 2025, in La Jolla, San Diego, CA, USA, in a hybrid format, bringing together nearly 500 attendees from around the world. Proceedings from the conference were published in the *Journal of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine*, sharing the latest findings and clinical insights to improve care for high-risk newborns.

The INBBC thrives through dedicated leadership and specialized committees. The NBS President, as Director, works with the Scientific Committee to guide the conference, while the Program Committee shapes the scientific agenda—selecting speakers, incorporating feedback, and ensuring a cohesive program that highlights the latest in newborn brain care.

Looking ahead, the 17th INBBC is scheduled for February 8–10 in Naples, Italy, offering another opportunity for education, collaboration, and innovation in newborn brain health.

To learn more, visit
www.newbornbrainconference.com

The success of the 16th INBBC was strengthened by the generous support of our industry partners and grant contributors.

2025 Supporters

- CergenX
- Medtronic/Covidien
- Masimo
- Persyst Development
- Natus
- The Neo Light
- Neurobell
- Sun Pharma
- Natus

Widening beyond the conference itself, several partners supported NBS activities throughout the year. Their contributions helped sustain educational programs, outreach initiatives, and community engagement efforts central to our mission.

Learning & Education Annual Partner

- Medtronic

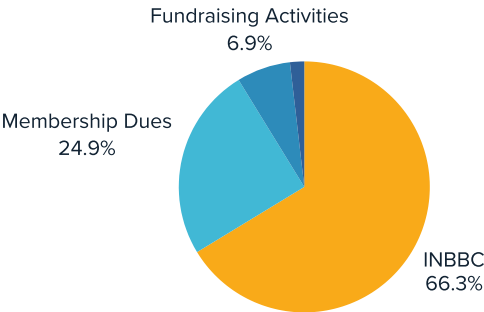
NBS also received support for community-building activities, including the 2025 NBS Meet & Greet Breakfast Supporters

- ReAlta Life Sciences
- Ceribell

Financial Performance

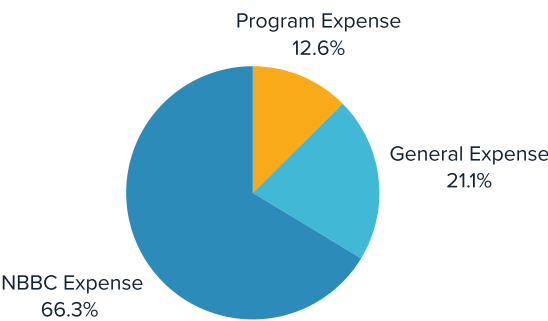
FISCAL YEAR 2025 Funding Summary

INBBC	\$289,588
Membership Dues	\$108,867
Fundraising Activities	\$30,275
Sponsorships	\$8,000
Total Funding	\$436,730

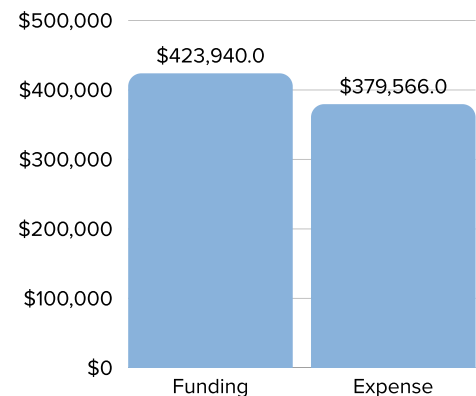


Expense Summary

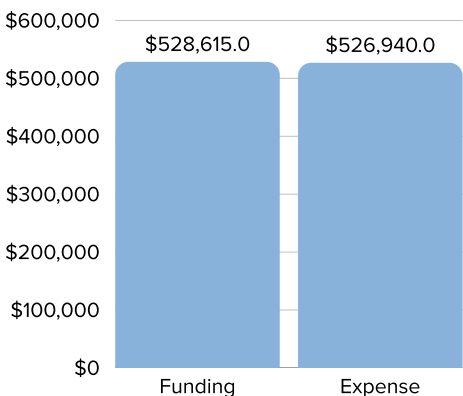
INBBC Expense	\$375,147
General/Administrative Expense	\$119,298
Program Expense	\$71,022
Total Expense	\$565,469



FISCAL YEAR 2024



FISCAL YEAR 2026 - PROJECTED



Support Our Mission

We know that when we come together as a greater community, we can make significant advances in the field of neonatal neurocritical care.

Newborn Brain Society, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation registered with the IRS under EIN 84-2910990.



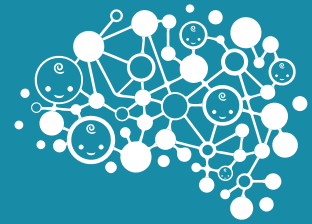
If you'd like to support our mission, you can do so through our [donation page](#).



Building Community and Support Through the NBS Merchandise Store

SHOP: <https://nbs-merch.printful.me/>

Since its launch last year, the Newborn Brain Society's merchandise store has offered a unique way for our community to show their support while advancing our mission. Proceeds from the store contribute directly to our mission and efforts, helping us further neonatal brain care initiatives. By offering branded merchandise, we continue to strengthen connections within our community and provide supporters with a meaningful way to engage with our work and mission.



**NEWBORN BRAIN
SOCIETY**



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