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## Message from Headquarters



As we finally emerge from a cold and harsh winter season, here's to a warm and sunny spring for all!

Despite the cold and the snow, the first quarter of 2015 included important NFID activities, many relating to [new ACIP vaccine recommendations](#) around meningococcal serogroup B and HPV 9-valent vaccines.

In late February, NFID participated in the inaugural meeting of the National HPV Vaccination Roundtable hosted by the American Cancer Society. More than 65 organizations were represented, all focused on increasing HPV vaccination coverage in the US, as a means to reducing the incidence of, and mortality from, HPV-associated cancers.

NFID hosted a complimentary webinar, *The Role of New Serogroup B Vaccines in Preventing Meningitis Outbreaks*, to educate healthcare professionals about the new serogroup B vaccine recommendations. Experts, Carol J. Baker, MD, Lorry G. Rubin, MD, and William Schaffner, MD, discussed the unique challenges of meningococcal disease as well as the new immunization recommendations. For those who missed the webinar, I encourage you to [view the archived version](#) along with a summary of [related questions & answers](#).

Plans for 2015 include a new monthly webinar series, beginning with two activities focused on *C. difficile* infections later this spring. Check the [NFID website](#) for updates and registration information as the webinars are scheduled.

Staff is now very busy getting ready for the [18th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research](#) scheduled for April 13-15, 2015 and the [Annual Awards Dinner](#) on May 5, 2015, both in Bethesda, MD. New this year, the Annual Conference on Vaccine Research includes an exciting closing session on Ebola vaccines in development. There's still time to register and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

I'd also like to offer special congratulations to the 2015 NFID Award recipients, **Samuel L. Katz, MD** (Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement), **F. Marc LaForce, MD** (Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award), and **Richard J. Duma, MD, PhD** (John P. Utz Leadership Award). I hope you'll join me at the annual fundraising dinner to help honor these truly deserving heroes in infectious diseases.

For those unable to attend the dinner, I encourage you to make a donation to NFID, in support of our mission to provide high-quality education to healthcare professionals and the public on the causes, treatment, and prevention of infectious diseases across the lifespan. Visit [www.nfid.org/donate](http://www.nfid.org/donate) today to make your donation.

Thank you all for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you at an NFID event this spring.

Best regards,  
Marla

Marla Dalton, CAE  
Executive Director



It's not too late to register and attend the **18th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research** scheduled for **April 13-15, 2015** in **Bethesda, MD**. Stay up-to-date with the latest vaccine developments and technologies, and network with key players in the vaccine industry.

You won't want to miss:

- **Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance through Vaccines**, Carole A. Heilman, PhD, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH
- **Vaccines against RSV: The Time Has Finally Come**, Barney S. Graham, MD, PhD, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH
- [Updates on Ebola Vaccines in Development](#), featuring leaders from government and industry

[Register now to attend](#)

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## 2015 Awards Dinner: The "Oscars" of Infectious Diseases

Each year, NFID recognizes the efforts and accomplishments of individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to public health through scientific achievement, philanthropy, and/or legislation at the annual awards dinner.

Join us this year as we honor **Samuel L. Katz, MD, F. Marc LaForce, MD, and Richard J. Duma, MD, PhD** at the 2015 Awards Dinner on **May 5, 2015** in **Bethesda, MD**.



As a pediatric resident at Boston Children's Hospital in 1955 during a large polio outbreak, **Samuel L. Katz, MD** had his interest in infectious diseases and viruses piqued. He then transitioned to the lab of Dr. John Enders where he worked on the development of the Edmonston measles virus vaccine. The strain, first licensed in 1963, is still used in vaccines today and has saved millions of lives as one of the greatest public health achievements. Dr. Katz is a deserving recipient of the **2015 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement**.

**F. Marc LaForce, MD** was working at a pharmacy at age 15 where his interest in medicine began and was later reinforced in 1966 during his service in the US Public Health Service at CDC. Throughout his



career, Dr. LaForce worked in international public health and when he met a young man affected by meningitis, he became committed to defeating the disease. In 2001, as founding director of the Meningitis Vaccine Project, Dr. LaForce focused on development of a Group A meningococcus vaccine. The vaccine, MenAfriVac®, was first introduced in 2010 and since then, more than 217 million people in 15 countries have received the vaccine. For his tremendous work, Dr. LaForce will be presented with the **2015 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Award for Humanitarian Achievement**.



NFID will also present the John P. Utz Leadership Award to **Richard J. Duma, MD, PhD** for his continued work with NFID over the past 40 years. Dr. Duma is a co-founder of NFID, having served as the first executive director as well as past-president. He is currently enjoying retirement but continues in his role as director emeritus on the NFID Board of Directors.

Please join us in celebrating the great accomplishments of these three outstanding visionaries and leaders.

[Purchase tickets to attend and support these deserving individuals](#)

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## Nominate the Next "Oscar" Winner



Do you know someone who has made significant and lasting contributions to public health through scientific achievement, philanthropy, and/or legislation? Nominate them for the 2016 [Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award](#) or [Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement](#).

Nominations must be submitted online by no later than **June 30, 2015**.

[View the selection criteria and submit an online nomination](#)

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## Seeking Promising Young Researchers

The deadline to submit an application for the 2015 Joint Research Awards program is **April 9, 2015**. The program, sponsored by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) and the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), supports needed research by promising young researchers.

Available awards include:

- ASP-IDSA Young Investigator Award in Geriatrics which focuses on the geriatric aspects of infectious diseases
- Pfizer Young Investigator Award in Vaccine Development which provides funding for research in vaccine development through clinical or laboratory investigation.

[View application guidelines and apply online](#)

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## 2015 Annual MAD-ID Meeting

NFID is again partnering with Making a Difference in Infectious Diseases (MAD-ID) to provide continuing medical education (CME) for antimicrobial stewardship education at the [2015 Annual MAD-ID Meeting](#), scheduled for **May 7-9, 2015** in Orlando, FL.

[Register](#) by **April 6, 2015** to receive the early registration rate

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## Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic

**Hosted by:** NFID and Suburban Hospital

**Date:** Tuesday, June 2, 2015

**Time:** 6:30-8:00 PM

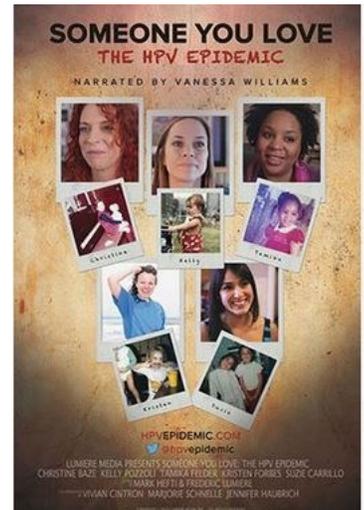
**Location:** Suburban Hospital Auditorium, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814

**Cost:** There is no fee to attend but space is limited and pre-registration is required.

In the US, almost everyone will be infected with Human Papillomavirus (HPV) at some point in their lives and about 14 million people become newly infected each year. *Someone You Love* reveals just how dangerous this virus can be, causing six different types of cancers in both men and women. Following five brave women's stories who are afflicted by HPV and cervical cancer, the film also interviews some of the world's top experts on the most common sexually transmitted infection in humans: HPV.

For additional information and to reserve your complimentary seat, visit [tugg.com/events/13536](http://tugg.com/events/13536)

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## Immunization Community Mourns the Loss of Laura Scott



Laura Scott, executive director of Families Fighting Flu, passed away on March 3, 2015 following a 5 year battle against metastatic breast cancer. Those who were fortunate enough to know her and work with her know what a tremendous loss this is.

With her extensive communication expertise in infectious diseases, Laura co-founded Families Fighting Flu – a national nonprofit organization comprised of advocates whose children have suffered serious medical complications or died from influenza. She was passionate about increasing awareness and educating others about the seriousness of vaccine-preventable diseases and the importance of vaccination.

The family is requesting donations to two organizations near to their hearts: [Metastatic Breast Cancer Network](#) and [Families Fighting Flu](#).

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## Support NFID

Your support helps NFID reach the public and healthcare professionals with up-to-date information about the causes, treatment, and prevention of infectious diseases across the lifespan. NFID is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and all contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Visit [www.nfid.org/donate](http://www.nfid.org/donate) to learn more



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## Upcoming 2015 NFID Events

April 13-15, 2015: [18th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research](#), Bethesda, MD

May 5, 2015: [NFID Awards Dinner](#), Bethesda, MD

May 7-9, 2015: [2015 Annual MAD-ID Meeting](#), Orlando, FL

June 2, 2015: [Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic](#), Bethesda, MD

September 9, 2015: [Annual MLB Flu Awareness Night](#), Nationals Park, Washington, DC

November 13-15, 2015: [Fall 2015 Clinical Vaccinology Course](#), Bethesda, MD

## Connect with NFID



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