



Geraldine Hirsch Fitzgerald, MSN, RN, CPNP, IBCLC, ILCA Liaison to the United Nations NGO Committee on UNICEF

A pediatric nurse practitioner, and an internationally board-certified lactation consultant in private practice, Geraldine Fitzgerald is a national expert in infant and young child feeding in disasters. Educated at Johns Hopkins, the University of Pennsylvania and the Catholic University of America, she has 40 years of experience in pediatrics and has taught at Catholic University of America and the University of Maryland. She is currently a representative to the NGO Committee on UNICEF, collaborating on nutrition and safe infant feeding in disasters.

A member of the Maryland and DC Responds Medical Reserve Corps, she has served as NAPNAP representative to the National Commission on Children and Disasters (NCCD) from 2009-2012, and was active in the pediatric medical care subcommittee. As a founding member and co-chair of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Children in Disasters Special Interest Group, she participated in development of the NAPNAP position statement on Children in Disasters, and has organized pediatric nurse practitioner response to disasters.

She has served as NAPNAP representative to the National Coalition on Children and Disasters, and chaired the Emergencies Task Force of the United States Breastfeeding Committee, (USBC), coordinating the development of a position statement on safe infant feeding in disasters which is used nationally for pediatric disaster training. She has developed training materials for safe infant feeding practices which is directed toward shelter workers.