



JULY 2020

MSRGN Project Directors' Message



New Projects Manager

Our new grant cycle is in full swing! Please join us in welcoming, Kristi Wees, as she transitions into the role of our new Projects Manager. Kristi has been involved with the network and the collaborative since 2011 when she found

the Mountain States Genetics website during a Google search, trying to find answers for her daughter's health. She picked up the phone and called the then project manager (Liza Creel at the time, now the evaluator of our grant), and the rest is history. Kristi has worn a number of hats from social media coordinator to director of consumer engagement with the network and has spent years helping families advocate medically for their children. You can read more about Kristi [here](#), along with the biographies of the rest of our management team for this grant cycle. Please reach out to Kristi **by email** when and if you have any questions, concerns, ideas, or want to be more involved in the exciting work MSRGN has planned for the next four year.

MSRGN July Highlights:

- MSRGN had our grant kick-off call with our grant officer on **July 9, 2020**. If you

MSRGN's State Team

Overview Document

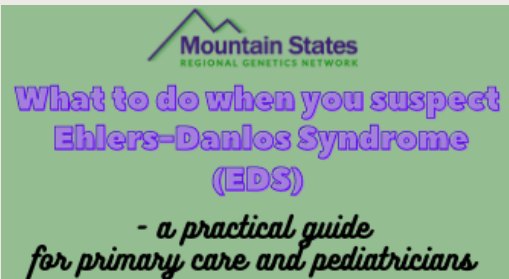
[Read All About Our State Teams](#)

In the 2017-2020 grant cycle, the state team model was implemented in the Mountain States region as part of the infrastructure for improving access to genetics care. Gone are the days of workgroups and committees for MSRGN. Over the last three years, with so many of you helping to refine this model, we have worked to improve the state team approach in our region. We are excited to let you know some of the other regional genetics networks across the country have decided to implement the state team model during this new cycle. **This document** was created and recently updated with state team projects to give an overview of the state teams that are so integral to the work we do in MSRGN.

would like to read the grant abstract for the 2020-2024 grant cycle, you can download it [here](#).

- Our Management team met for a half day zoom call retreat: CAMP MSRGN on **July 29, 2020** to further develop a number of new initiatives for this new grant cycle.
- State Team calls and the Genetic Ambassador calls resumed in July, welcoming many new members and attendees.

[Read State Team Overview Here](#)



NEW Algorithm for: Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS)

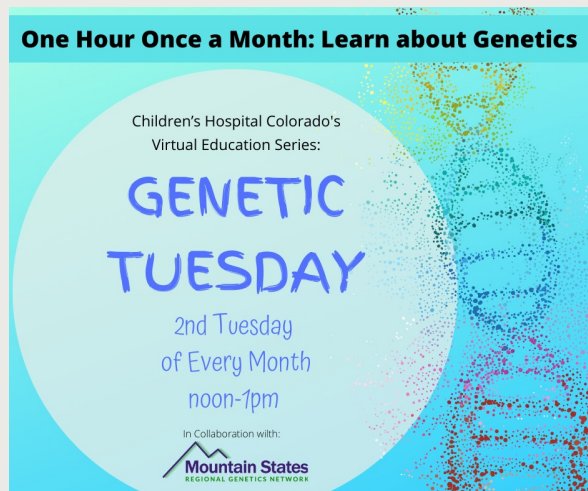
*for Primary Care and
Pediatricians*

As many of you are familiar, MSRGN launched our first Algorithm in 2018 for Developmental Delays. These algorithms are aimed at helping pediatricians and primary care physicians with the preliminary work-up for suspected genetic conditions. In May, with the help of Dr. Abe Elias' (MT) leadership and a wonderful workgroup, MSRGN launched the **second algorithm** for when a provider suspects Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) in a child. Click the button below to read more and share **this link** with your colleagues.

[View EDS
Algorithm Here](#)

Save the Date: Virtual Education Series *August 11, 2020*

Cardiovascular Disease and Genetics



The Colorado Team in conjunction with Children's Hospital of Colorado is hosting Genetic Tuesday from noon-1pm MT on Tuesday August 11, 2020. The topic will be:

Matters of the Heart:

Cardiovascular Disease and Genetics

[For more information and registration, click here.](#)

Would you like to be more involved in this new grant cycle? Please, [Contact Us!](#)

Get Involved!

- ✓ State Teams
- ✓ Genetic Ambassadors
- ✓ New Grant Initiatives (coming soon!)

If you are interested in getting more involved with MSRGN
Contact Kristi Wees, Projects Manager
at kwees@mountainstatesgenetics.org



Acknowledgement of Funding

This publication is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$600,000 with 0 percentage financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.

The MSRGN Management Team

MSRGN staff contact information:

- Kathryn Hassell, MD, Co-Project Director
Kathryn.Hassell@cuanschutz.edu
- Janet Thomas, MD, Co-Project Director
Janet.Thomas@childrenscolorado.org
- Joyce Hooker, Community & Public Health Outreach Coordinator
dnjhooker@msn.com
- Kristi Wees, Consumer Engagement Director & Social Media Coordinator
kwees@mountainstatesgenetics.org
- Liza Creel, PhD, Evaluator
Liza.Creel@louisville.edu

THI staff contact information:

- Ankit Sanghavi, Project Administrator
asanghavi@texashealthinstitute.org
- Sherry Wilkie-Conway, Project Oversight
swilkie@texashealthinstitute.org
- Stephanie Ondrias, Director of Convenings & Education
sondrias@texashealthinstitute.org

Mountain States Regional Genetics Network
512-279-3910

www.MountainStatesGenetics.org

[View as Webpage](#)

Connect with us

