



# Mountain States

REGIONAL GENETICS NETWORK

August 2022

MSRGN Project Directors' Message

## MSRGN GENETICS SUMMIT 2022

### MOMENTUM IN THE MOUNTAINS

**NOVEMBER 9-10, 2022**



Mountain States  
REGIONAL GENETICS NETWORK

Register Now for the Genetics Summit

The MSRGN Genetics Summit is a virtual summit to educate, engage, and connect families, providers, and public health professionals around contemporary topics in genetics.

Our Theme: **Momentum** in the **MOUNTains**  
will feature 4 topic areas:

**M**

*Medical Diagnosis and Research*

**O**

*Outreach and Resources*

**U**

*Underserved Populations*

**N&T**

*Newborn Screening and Transitions to Adult Medical Services*

MSRGN is pleased to present the [agenda](#)  
for the 2022 Genetics Summit.

We are also excited to announce  
that [registration](#) is now OPEN.

### Featured Speakers:

#### *Momentum in the...*

**M** - Edwin Oh, PhD, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
*Using Genomic Tools to Interrogate Infectious Diseases and Genetic Disorders in Southern Nevada.*

**O** - Laura G. Buckner, M.Ed., LPC, M.O.M., University of Texas at Austin  
*One-Page Descriptions: Communicate Critical Information in Ways People Will Read and Remember*

**U** - Willow Sheehan, DNP, FNP-C, Shodair Children's Hospital  
*Nurse Practitioners in Genetics: Current State and Future Considerations*

**NT** - Jordan Kemere, MD, MS, FACP, Baylor College of Medicine  
*Practical Tips for Healthcare Transition*

# Featured Speakers



**Edwin Oh, PhD**  
University of  
Nevada,  
Las Vegas



**Laura G. Buckner,  
M.Ed., LPC, M.O.M.**  
Texas Center for  
Disability Studies,  
UT Austin



**Willow Sheehan,  
DNP, FNP-C**  
Shodair Children's  
Hospital



**Jordan Kemere, MD,  
MS, FACP**  
Baylor College of  
Medicine

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THE MOUNTAINS**

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2022

MSRGN premieres our first video in the new series:  
Genetics Explained:  
Variants of Uncertain Significance (VUS)



# Variants of Uncertain Significance (VUS)

In the spring of 2021, MSRGN surveyed the genetics providers in our region and asked them what genetics topics they would like to have a video about to enhance their "in clinic" explanations to families and individuals of various genetic concepts they describe frequently.

The most asked for topic was: Variants of Uncertain Significance (VUS) and thus the topic of our first video in our series called Genetics Explained.

We want to thank our genetic ambassadors, genetic navigators and the genetic professionals in the mountain state region who helped in the review and providing suggestions and feedback for edits and improvements.

The video was released on August 17, 2022 at a genetics pop-up! You can watch it [here on YouTube](#) and please share this link far and wide! If there are any genetic clinics or genetic professionals who would like to use this video or put it on your websites, please feel free to do so! Please send us a link or an email to let us know how you are utilizing or sharing this video! We appreciate you all helping us share this video!

Watch and Share the VUS Video  
here!

## Autism Webinar Coming up on September 22!

JOIN US FOR THE TIME 4 GENETICS WEBINAR:

## **AUTISM: WHAT CAN GENETICS TELL US?**



***September 22, 2022***

***(at 11am PT, noon MT, 1pm CT, and 2pm ET)***



Guest Presenter:  
Naomi Meeks, MD  
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics  
Clinical Genetics and Metabolism  
University of CO School of  
Medicine & The Children's  
Hospital Colorado

MSRGN is inviting you to our Time 4 Genetics Webinar:

## **Autism: What Can Genetics Tell Us?**

**September 22, 2022**

**at 11am PT, noon MT, 1pm CT, and 2pm ET**

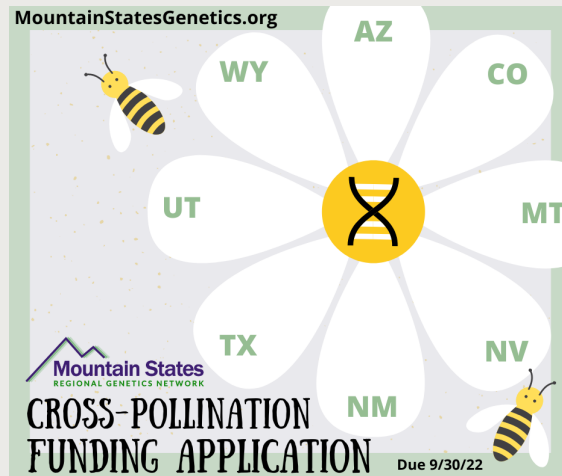
featuring Guest Presenter:  
Naomi Meeks, MD  
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics  
Clinical Genetics and Metabolism  
University of CO School of Medicine & The Children's Hospital Colorado

To register please click: [here](#)

For a clickable and ready to share PDF version  
of this flyer please download: [here](#)

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)

# Application Deadline Extended!



For year 6 of the grant cycle, this NEW funding opportunity is available for ANYONE in the mountain states region (AZ, CO, MT, NV, NM, TX, UT, WY) who has an idea they would like to submit which improves access to genetics services. This funding opportunity will prioritize submissions where individuals from 2 or more of the states in our region are collaborating together on a project... since the focus is cross-pollination in our region!

The application opened July 1, 2022 and can be found [here](#).

**The deadline to submit the application  
HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL**

**October 31, 2022**

You do NOT need to be a state team member to apply, however all individuals in our region (including state team members) are encouraged to apply if you have a project idea to improve access to genetics services in MSRGN.

This funding is separate from state team funding, so please utilize the state team funding application for any state team specific project requests first.

Cross Pollination Funding  
Application

## State Team Accomplishments & Momentum



#### Year 4: 2020-2021

The Utah team led the way in the MSRGN region in customizing the Where is Bear? book with a QR code and printing 2000 English and 2000 Spanish books.

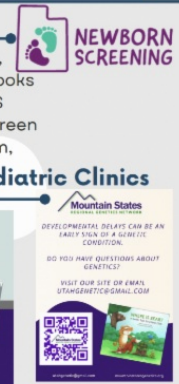


#### Year 5: 2021-2022

The Utah team devised and implemented a creative, sustainable delivery model for the Where is Bear? books they had printed in Year 4. They are utilizing the NBS department and the shipping in place for second screen NBS cards to distribute all items created by the team.

#### Table Tents (E&S) and Magnets for Pediatric Clinics

The Utah team created magnets and table tents in English and Spanish for distribution through the UT NBS department to pediatric clinics across the state.



[www.MountainStatesGenetics.org/Utah](http://www.MountainStatesGenetics.org/Utah)

#### State Team Webpage

The Utah team updated their website in 2022 to feature the Where is Bear? book.

#### Momentum...stay tuned

The Utah team is looking forward to Year 6 to expand it's membership and explore new ideas on reaching underserved families in Utah.

KH

Each month we will be highlighting the projects and accomplishments of our state teams. This month we are highlighting:

## UTAH

Click [here](#) (or on the image above) to take a closer look at the Utah State Team's accomplishments infographic.

This is a graphical summary of some highlights from Years 4 & 5 of this grant cycle and also what momentum the team is building on for year 6! To learn more about the Utah State Team check out their updated team page [here](#).

If you live in the mountain states and are interested in getting involved in the state team in the state where you live, please reach out to our state teams coordinator, [Jamie Stefanski](#) or fill out this form [here](#) and note your interest in the state teams in the "Why are you interested in connecting with MSRGN?" box.



*A no-cost MOC 4/MOC 2/CME opportunity*

*Join our colleagues at Midwest Genetics Network (MGN) for a new Continuing Education Learning Activity on*

**Improving Care for**

# Developmental Disabilities & Dysmorphic Features

This activity is a multi-state virtual learning collaborative to connect clinicians and their clinic staff interested in improving performance, documentation, and follow-up (including referrals and genetic testing) on screening for developmental disabilities and dysmorphic features in pediatric primary care clinics.

This activity can be finished in 4 months and has been approved for **25-Pediatric MOC4 points, 20-Family Medicine Performance Improvement points, 3.25 - Pediatric or Internal Medicine MOC2 credits** and has been approved for a maximum of **3.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™**.

There is no charge for participation in this HRSA-funded project.

**Live Virtual Learning Collaborative Presentations will take place as follows:**

- **9/15/22 from 1:00-1:45 pm EST** - *Developmental Screening at Well Child Visits, 10-35 months* by Miriam Behar, MD
- **10/5/22 from 1:00-1:45 pm EST** - *The Pediatric Genetics Evaluation: What to Expect* by Sara Zoran, MS, CGC & Jessica A. Scott Schwoerer, MD
- **11/3/22 from 1:00-2:00 pm EST** - *Dysmorphology 101: A Introduction to Dysmorphology* by Susan A. Berry, MD
- **12/1/22 from 1:00-1:45 pm EST** - *Introduction to Commonly Recommended Genetic Tests* by Sara Zoran, MS, CGC & Jessica A. Scott Schwoerer, MD

**Register Now:** <https://redcap.link/asdDD2>

Registration opens August 11, 2022 and closes for MOC4/ABFMPI credit on 10/5/22.

Registration will close for CME participation on 12/1/22.

Please visit MGN's website [here](#) for more information.

Please feel free to share information about this learning opportunity with anyone that may be interested in participating in this project!

Direct any questions about this learning opportunity to MGN's new email inbox [educationcshp@mphi.org](mailto:educationcshp@mphi.org).

**Register HERE**

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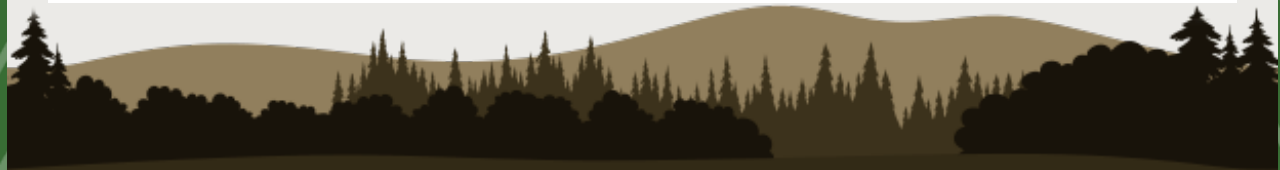
## The MSRGN Management Team

*MSRGN staff contact information: (click on name for email address)*

- Kathryn Hassell, MD, Co-Project Director
- Janet Thomas, MD, Co-Project Director
- Kristi Wees, Projects Manager
- Liza Creel, PhD, Evaluator
- Jamie Stefanski, State Teams Coordinator
- Mekayla Perkins, Projects Coordinator

*THI staff contact information: (click on name for email address)*

- Ankit Sanghavi, Project Administrator
- Sherry Wilkie-Conway, Project Oversight
- Stephanie Ondrias, Director of Convenings & Education



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[View as Webpage](#)

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