



July 2023

## MSRGN Project Directors' Message

**July is off to a BLAST!**



Hello Mountain State members-

In July, with the leadership of our evaluator, Liza Creel, MSRGN finalized and submitted our Year 6 data to NCC and HRSA. Data checks and validations are currently in progress! Thank you to every single one of you who helped lead projects, participate in webinars, share links to MSRGN resources, connect families to our Genetic Navigators, and so much more. Each activity, connection and attendee's zip code was tabulated into MSRGN's reach and impact on genetics in our region and will be part of the data set that is shared with HRSA for continued grant funding and initiatives.

MSRGN Genetics Summit Planning committee has been meeting to finalize the speakers and agenda for the 2023 Genetics Summit. Please [register here](#) or below and help share the link to the event!

MSRGN state teams kicked off their year 7 meetings with a visit from our facilitator, Nikki, from our Denver activity, who led them in continuing on in the action planning process.

We were sad to see Sam Keith, our project coordinator, move on to another job so soon, but we wish her our best. In the meantime, if you or someone you know would like to apply for our projects coordinator role, the description and application can be found [here](#).

We hope you all are enjoying your summer also!

Thank you for all your involvement and we look forward to wrapping up year 7 with your participation!  
*the MSRGN Management team*

# Speaker Spotlight



Genetic Summit 2023

# Genetics Summit 2023

October 11&12th

This Year's Theme...

## PEAK Performance

Register now for [our October 11-12th, 2023](#)  
MSRGN Genetics Summit: **PEAK** Performance:

### **P- Primary Care and Genetics:**

**Cara L. Coleman, JD, MPH:** *Care Maps: Ascending the Peaks, Navigating Valleys, and Connecting Everything in Between*

### **E- Emotional Perspectives of Genetics:**

**Amanda Gerard, MS, CGC:** *Communicating About a Genetic Diagnosis with Children and Siblings*

### **A- Access to Genetics Care for Underserved Populations:**

**Mei Wa Kwong, JD:** *Telehealth Policy & Genetics Care Post-PHE*

### **K- Karyotypes to Knockouts (Genetic Testing /Research):**

**Eric D. Green, MD, PhD:** *Creating the Fourth Chapter of Human Genomics*



# Featured Speakers



**Cara L. Coleman**  
Consultant & Instructor  
of Medical Education,  
UVA Medicine,  
Bluebird Consulting



**Amanda Gerard MS, CGC**  
Genetic Counselor  
Baylor College  
of Medicine / Texas  
Children's Hospital



**Mei Wa Kwong, JD**  
Executive Director  
Center for Connected  
Health Policy



**Eric D. Green MD, PhD**  
Director  
National Human Genome  
Research Institute,  
National Institutes of  
Health

## MSRGN GENETICS SUMMIT 2023

PEAK PERFORMANCE

**OCTOBER 11-12, 2023**

[Register Now](#)



**Genetic Summit 2023  
Registration**

## OPEN POSITION: Projects Coordinator

Our Projects Coordinator position is open.  
Texas Health Institute is seeking a projects coordinator to provide  
administrative support for the Mountain States Regional Genetics  
Network project.

The projects coordinator must have strong business acumen and  
organizational skills, website management skills, excellent verbal and written  
communication skills, and social media experience is helpful.

**Apply Here**

JOIN US FOR THE TIME 4 GENETICS WEBINAR:

# **THE GENETICS OF PEDIATRIC SEIZURES AND EPILEPSY**



**September 26, 2023**

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



Guest Presenter:

**Amanda G. Sandoval Karamian, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Pediatric  
Neurology & Epilepsy  
University of Utah | Primary  
Children's Hospital

*MSRGN's Time 4 Genetics Initiative is a primary  
care provider genetics education program  
focusing on pediatric genetic topics.*

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

This initiative 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 \$600,000.00 with 0 percent financed with non-governmental 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.



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Mountain States Regional Genetics Network and Projects In Knowledge®. Projects In Knowledge is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

*MSRGN is inviting you to our Time 4 Genetics Webinar:*

## **The Genetics of Pediatric Seizures and Epilepsy**

**September 26, 2023**

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

featuring Guest Presenter:

**Amanda G. Sandoval Karamian, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Pediatric Neurology & Epilepsy

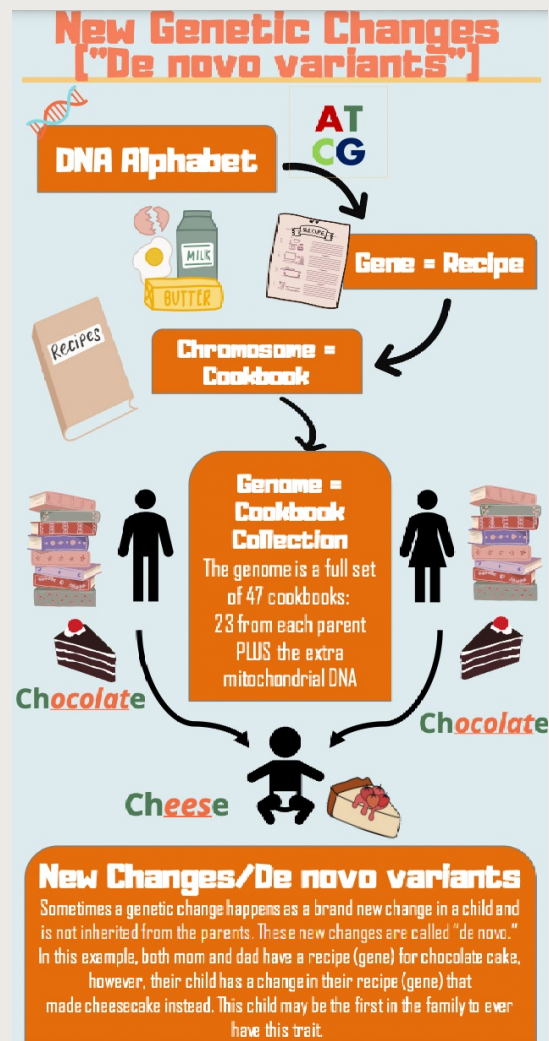
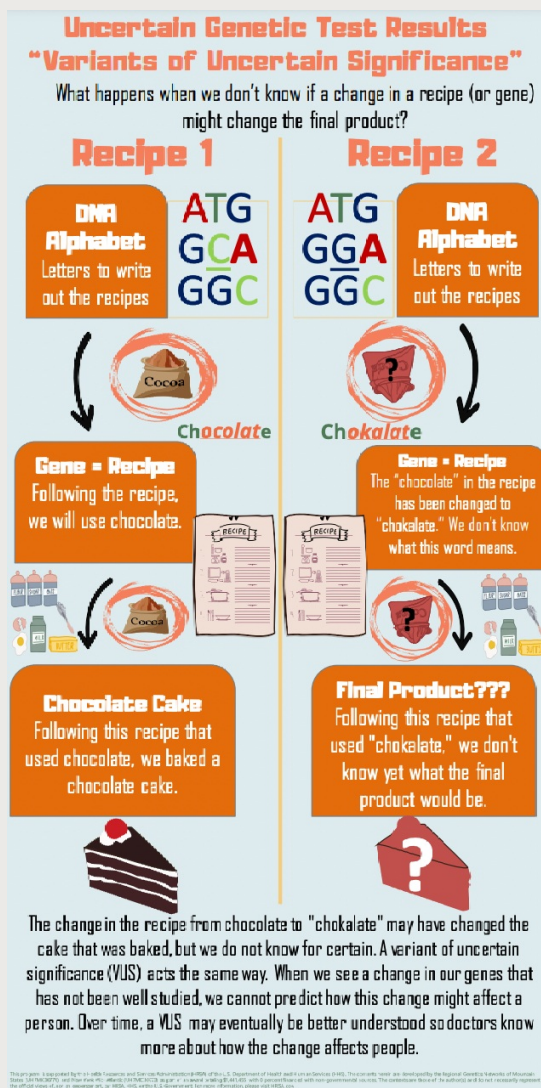


To register please click: [here](#)

Register for  
Webinar

In collaboration with our sister region-  
NYMAC's and MSRGN's  
Genetic Cooking  
Infographics featuring genetic concepts:  
Variants of Uncertain Significance (VUS)  
and De novo

View Infographics Here



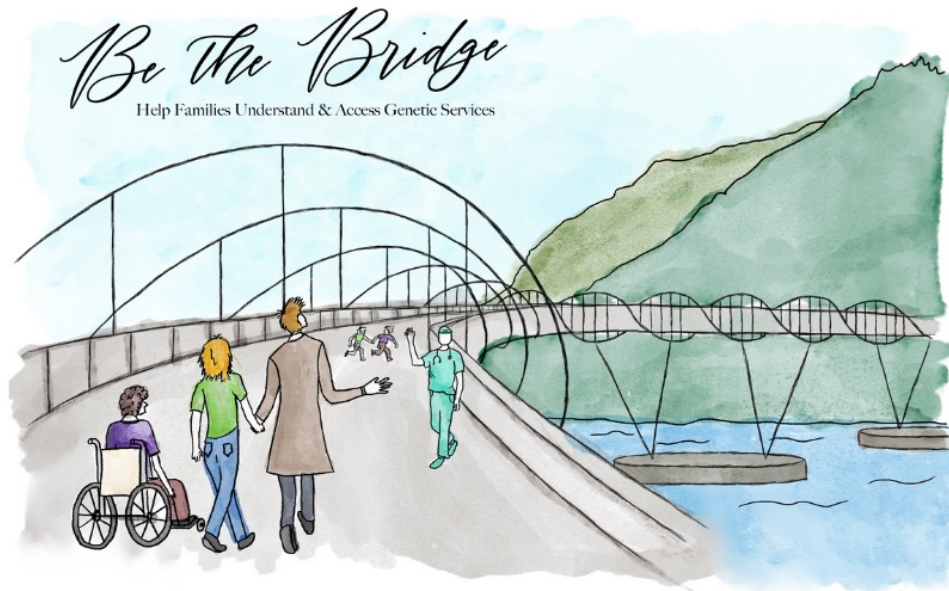
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT... on the topic of VUS...

Last year, MSRGN released a family friendly Variants of Uncertain

Significance (VUS) Video last year.  
You can view the video [here](#) and check out the recording of the August 2022 Genetic Pop-Up on this topic also [here](#).

## State Team Corner

### What's ROCK'n in Texas?



To Access  
Texas Genetic Information &  
Resources  
[www.MountainStatesGenetics.org](http://www.MountainStatesGenetics.org)

Each month we will be highlighting  
a project or resource  
created by one of our state teams that is  
ROCK'n the MSRGN Region.  
This month we are highlighting:

# TEXAS

**The Texas team's Year 6 State Team project included the design, printing and mailing a DNA Bridge post card to 600 primary care providers in Texas.**

**This post card encouraged providers to "Be the Bridge" to Help Families Understand and Access Genetic Services**

The QR code on the back of the postcard linked recipients to resources on the Texas State Team Web Page that they could use to help the families they served in accessing genetics services and genetic resources in

Texas.

To learn more [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.*

### Acknowledgement of Funding

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## The MSRGN Management Team

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- Janet Thomas, MD, Co-Project Director
- Kristi Wees, Projects Manager
- Liza Creel, PhD, Evaluator
- Jamie Stefanski, State Teams Coordinator
- Open Position Projects Coordinator

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

Mountain States Regional Genetics  
Network

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

[View as Webpage](#)

Connect with us



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