The Genomics Section/Genetics Program also administers and participates in many local, regional, and national projects. One of our biggest projects is leading and administering the Western States Genetic Services Collaborative (WSGSC).

The WSGSC is one of seven Health Resources and Services Administration funded Regional Genetic Collaboratives across the country. The project seeks to coordinate and increase access to genetic and newborn screening services and education. Our region includes: Alaska, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

Featured activities include:

• Affordable Care Act information
• Newborn screening parent fact sheets
• Genetic and newborn screening resources for families and providers
• Contact information for various programs
• Outreach and telegenetics activities.

For more information, please visit our website at www.westernstatesgenetics.org

State Genetics Coordinator
Sylvia Mann, MS, CGC
(808) 733-9063
sylvia@hawaiigenetics.org

Genetic Counselors
Lila Aiyar, MSc, CGC
Genetic Counselor
(808) 733-8387
lila@hawaiigenetics.org

Jennifer Boomsma, MS, CGC
Genetic Counselor
(808) 733-9047
jennifer@hawaiigenetics.org

Michelle Takemoto MS, CGC
Genetic Counselor
(808) 733-9039
michelle@hawaiigenetics.org

Support Staff
Pauline Mui
(808) 733-9072
pauline@hawaiigenetics.org

www.hawaiigenetics.org

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Last update: October 2016
Gathering and sharing an accurate family medical history is important for your health and the health of your ohana. Family history is important for your health because families have many factors in common such as genes, environment and lifestyle. These factors help give clues to diseases that might run in your family. When you share your family history with your doctors, they can help figure out how your family can stay healthy and reduce your risks for certain diseases running in your family. In fact, the family history you provide to your doctor is one of the best screening tools they have to determine your risks for common and rare diseases.

Tools Available to Help Gather a Family Medical History:

American Medical Association
Questionnaires and forms to help you complete a family history

My Family Health Portrait
familyhistory.hhs.gov
A Web-based family history collection tool from the U.S. Surgeon General

National Society of Genetic Counselors
http://aboutgeneticcounselors.com/FAQs-Resources/Family-History-Resources
Information on collecting family health history