The Genomics Section/Genetics Program also administers and participates in many local, regional, and national projects. One important project is leading and administering the Western States Regional Genetics Network (WSRGN).

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

Featured activities include:

• Telegenetics training and resources for genetics providers
• Telegenetics resources for families
• Genetic information resources for families and providers
• Supporting minority students to enter genetics professions
• Supporting minority genetics providers
• Connecting families to genetics referrals and information through our family advocacy partners

For more information, please go to: www.westernstatesgenetics.org

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KNOW AND SHARE YOUR FAMILY MEDICAL HISTORY

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 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:

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

National Society of Genetic Counselors
https://www.aboutgeneticcounselors.org/Resources-to-Help-You/Resource-Results/PID/406/mcat/404/evl/0/TagID/11/TagName/Family-History
Information on collecting family health history