

Plain Community Health Consortium: Forging Partnerships to Advance Access to Health Care for Plain Communities

Kaitlin Justice, MPH¹, Cate Walsh Vockley, CGC², Jane Pilditch, MPA¹, and Mathew J Edick, PhD^{1,3} on behalf of the Plain Community Health Consortium

1 – Michigan Public Health Institute | 2- UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh | 3 – Author of Correspondence

Abstract

The Midwest Genetics Network (MGN) is one of seven HRSA-funded networks across the country working to improve access to genetic services. Nearly half of the country’s Plain population live within or adjacent to the MGN region and over the last 4 years, understanding the needs of Plain communities with respect to accessing genetic services has become a top priority. MGN assembled a working group of public health and medical professionals that work with Plain populations across the region to examine if and how MGN’s work could be of benefit to Plain communities. While the working group uncovered many disparities in care that could be addressed by MGN, a relationship directly with any Plain community was lacking. Therefore it was not feasible to hear directly from the communities, what the needs were and if they were open to MGN helping to meet them. To overcome this barrier, MGN partnered with the Plain Community Health Consortium (PCHC). The Plain Community Health Consortium (PCHC) is an association of clinics that share a similar mission of serving Old Order Amish and Mennonite (Plain) populations that are located throughout North America. PCHC is committed to improving the health of underserved communities through collaborative programs, research, education and resource utilization. This poster highlights how partnership among PCHC clinics, public health organizations, and research/educational institutes provides a strong foundation for a Culturally-Appropriate Medical Home for Plain Families.

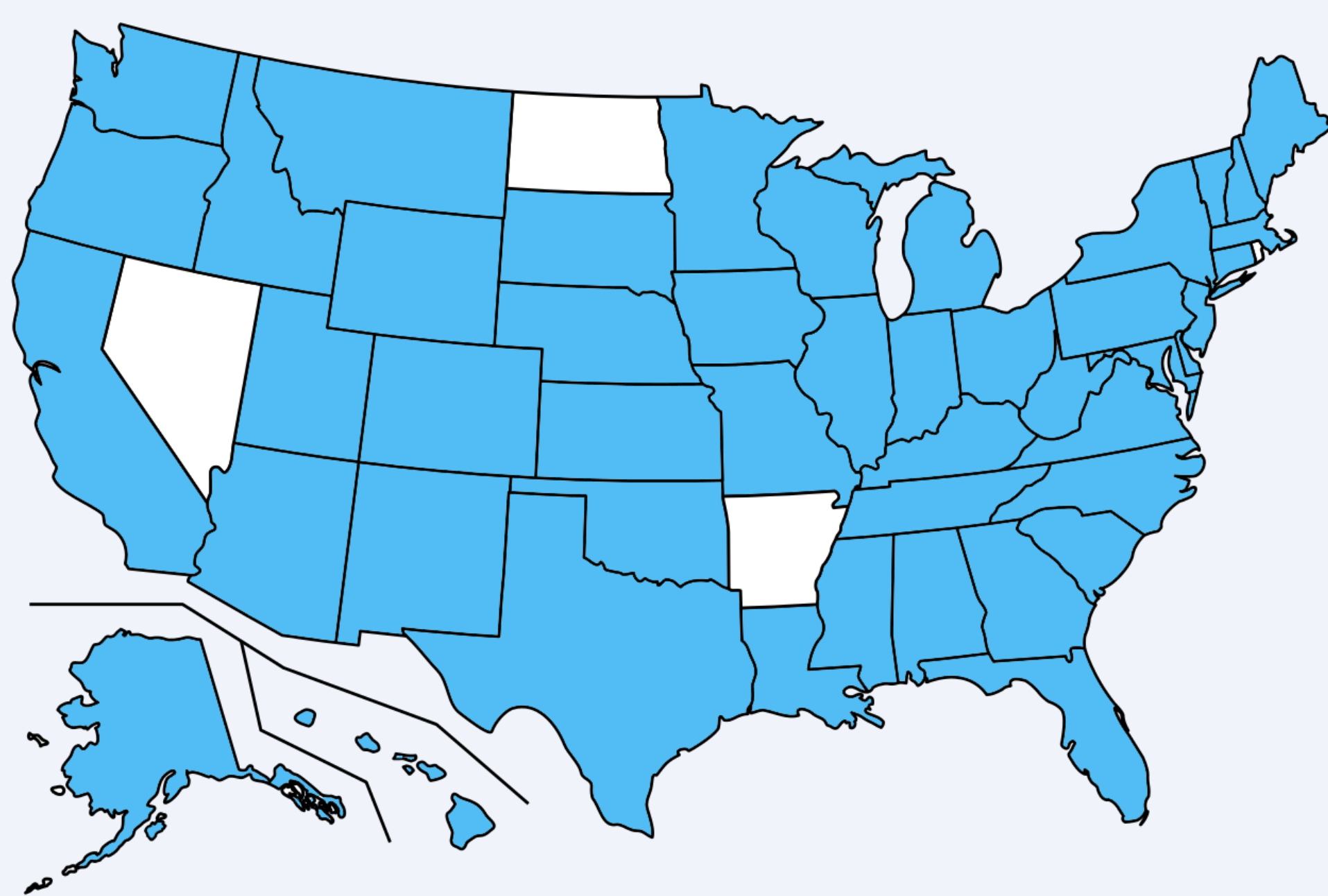
Conclusions and Impact



Access to Healthcare Begins with Access to Those Who Need Healthcare.

The Plain Community Health Consortium is at the core of strong partnerships among clinics, public health organizations, and research/educational institutes. This provides a comprehensive, culturally responsive medical home for Plain families by connecting those with the expertise to the families that need healthcare.

Culturally Appropriate Clinical Care



- Prenatal Care
- Pediatric Care
- Adult Primary Care
- Subspecialty Care
- Referrals for Care and Services

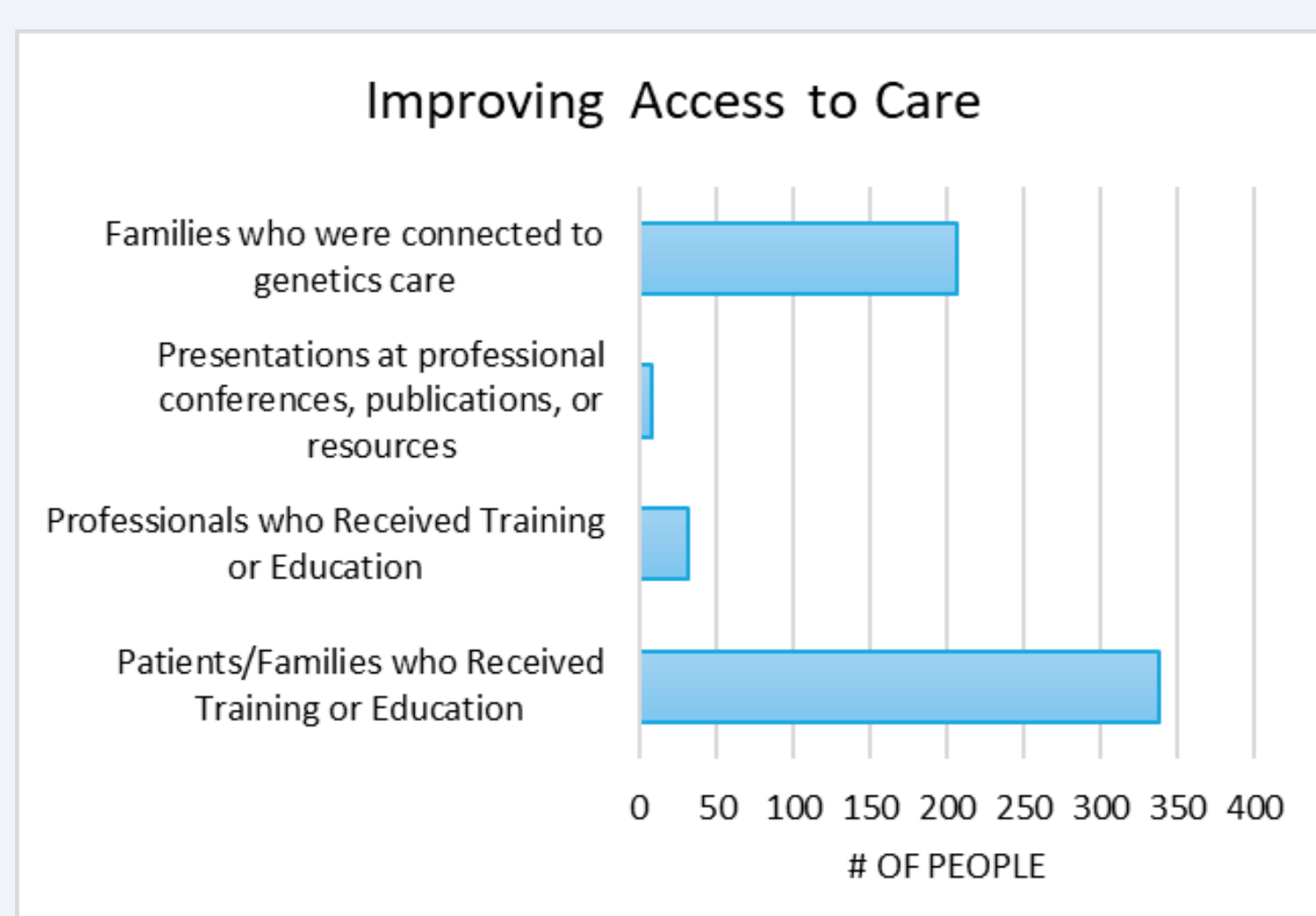
Plain Community Health Consortium (PCHC) Clinics Provide a Culturally Appropriate Medical Home for Plain Families. PCHC is an association of clinics and associated organizations that share a similar mission of serving Amish and Mennonite (Plain) families with comprehensive clinical care and services.

PCHC clinics serve more than 6600 patients annually from at least 47 states and territories in the US (see map) and 5 additional countries around the world.

- Center for Special Children – La Farge Medical Clinic, VMH
206 North Mill St
La Farge, WI 54639
(608) 625-4039
shammond@vmh.org
- The Community Health Clinic
315 Lehman Ave
Topeka IN 46571
(260) 593-0108
info@indianachc.org
- DDC Clinic for Special Needs Children
14567 Madison Rd
Middlefield, OH 44062
(440) 632-1668
info@ddcclinic.org
- New Leaf Center
15988 E. Chestnut St
Mt. Eaton OH 44659
(330) 359-9888
info@newleafclinic.org
- Nemours duPont Pediatrics
Dover Kinder Clinic
201 Towne Centre Drive
Suite 500
Dover, DE 19904
- Central Pennsylvania Clinic – A Medical Home for Special Children and Adults
375 South Kishacoquillas St
PO Box 5806
Belleville, PA 17004
(717) 935-2065
information@centralpaclinic.org
- Clinic for Special Children
535 Bunker Hill Rd
PO Box 128
(717) 687-9407
queries@clinicforspecialchildren.org
- UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh
Plain Community Outreach Program
Clinic: UPMC Specialty Care Center
449 North Hermitage Road
Hermitage, PA 16148
(412) 692-7349
- WeCare Clinic - Medical Care for Special Needs
775 Pembroke Fairview Rd
Pembroke, KY 42266
(270) 962-7383
wecareadmin@wecareforspecialneeds.org
- Michigan Public Health Institute
Center for Strategic Health Partnerships
Okemos, MI 48854
@CshpATWork

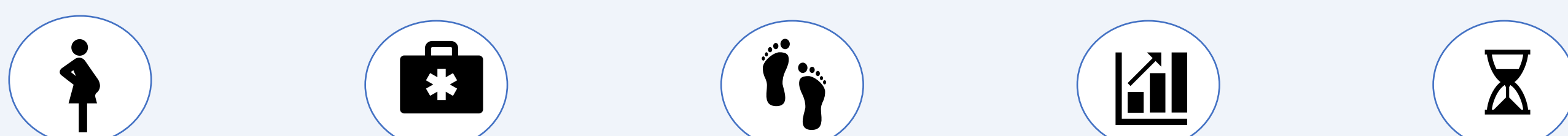
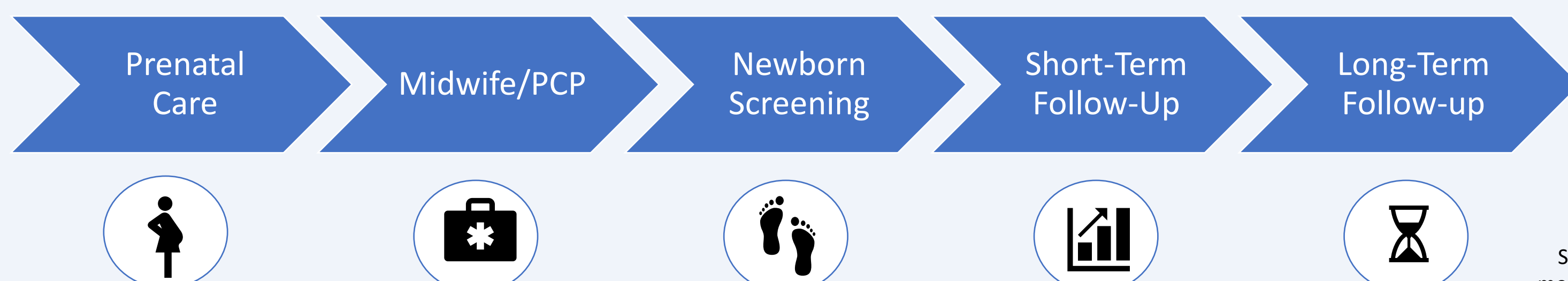


Public Health Solutions

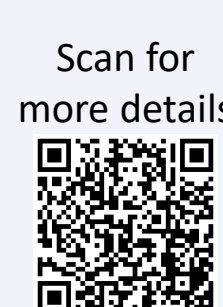


- 5 Clinics Funded
- 100K Dollars Awarded
- 7 Projects Completed

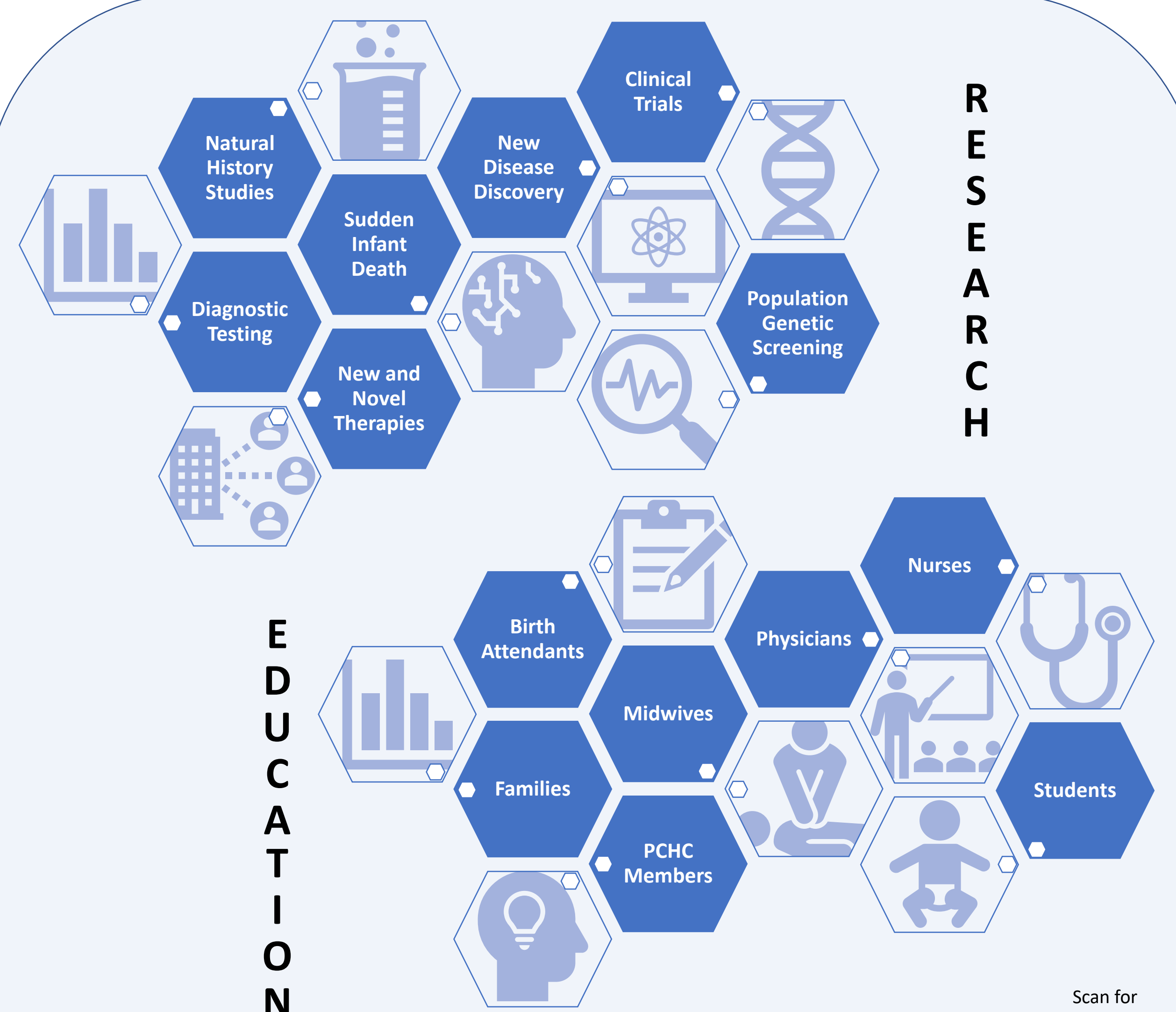
Midwest Genetics Network Innovation Awards Increase Access to Care Through Innovative, Community-Based Projects. Projects included capacity building for telemedicine, direct patient care, the creation of resources and support groups for families, and educational events for both families and physicians. More than 300 Plain families and nearly 40 providers serving Plain communities received training, education, or resources and over 200 Plain families were connected to genetics services because of these projects.



Understanding the Barriers to Long-Term Follow-Up for Newborn Screened Conditions is the First Step in Overcoming Them. Midwest Genetics Network convened stakeholders to explore barriers to newborn screening system access. Many barriers across the NBS services continuum fit into 4 key need areas – education, resources, policy, and payment.



Research and Education



Plain Community Health Consortium is Committed to Advancing Care Through Research and Education. Consortium members have a broad research portfolio and educational reach with an extensive list of collaborators across the country and around the world.

