

**NEGC Update**  
**April 10, 2009**

Hello Friends: It's still cold, and rainy interspersed with the occasional sunny day but like any good New Englander, I find myself over reacting to the full moon, the disappearance of snow and sound of spring peepers. Last week I opened all the windows and got outside to dig in the garden. Later, when my enthusiasm abated some I realized it was 40 degrees outside and the house was not much warmer. So, back inside and back to work! Things have as always been busy here at NEG and I wanted to share a few of the activities with you:

- We're trying a new website feature, a "living, evolving" directory. For those of you who have compiled a print directory, you know as soon as they are updated, they are out of date and it's virtually impossible to get everyone added. So, using the google map function, we are adding sites to build our regional network, making it accessible to clinicians and families looking for a provider. We've added practitioners, consumer groups, genetics clinics and academic medical centers. We need your information! Please email Karen Smith ([karen.smith@unh.edu](mailto:karen.smith@unh.edu)) and she'll add you to the directory, and feel free to forward this email to others who may be interested in being included. While this directory is public generated, it can't be guaranteed to be 100% accurate, but it will be fun to see it unfold.
- As most of you know, we have released our third Innovative grant application request. Letters of intent are due April 15<sup>th</sup>, and full proposals are due June 1<sup>st</sup>. We still need a few reviewers. The review process is done entirely on-line, you don't have to drive to Durham and suffer through any meetings; we have had people review from home. The proposals are generally interesting to read and as volunteer work goes it's pretty painless! If you can spare a few hours to help with this important task, please contact Karen or me and we'll sign you up.
- An administrative update: we submitted our continuation application to HRSA. We are busy applying for stimulus money, and are working on several applications to enhance the work we do here at NEGC and across the region. More on these projects as the applications are finalized and submitted.
- I have been asked to deliver several guest lectures on Public Health and Genetics to students and providers, and for those of you who may not address that audience with great regularity, people are very interested in genetics and what we do! It's exciting to hear the questions and the dialogue sparked by issues such as prenatal testing, newborn screening and consumer directed testing. These are also great locations to promote the NEGC funded "Genetics for Nurse Educators". I left Rivier College in Nashua, New Hampshire with faculty thrilled that such a resource is available to them.
- The coming months are busy for travel. As you know, I recently returned from the Secretary's Advisory Committee meeting, and will be traveling to Dallas for a meeting on Quality tools with the other regional collaborative in early May, and a meeting in June of all the collaborative and the NCC, our national "umbrella". I'll try to get some "notes from the field" out to you all, I received multiple responses from our constituents across the region indicating they enjoyed the detailed summaries of the meetings I sent out on the discussion about SCID at the Secretary's Advisory Committee.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you with your suggestions, ideas, thoughts and plans. Please call or email any of the NEGC staff; you can find more information about our projects, and our contact information at [www.negenetics.org](http://www.negenetics.org).

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