

Our **Women and Girls Learning Action Networks (LANs)** are an exchange of key information and best practices in the care of women and young women with blood disorders. These Networks bring together healthcare professionals around a specific agenda in order to harness the power of collaboration, spread practical implementation of best practices, and connect participants to national initiatives and resources.

Background



In 2013, the Foundation was contacted by Oregon Health and Science University's (OHSU) Hemophilia/Thrombosis Treatment Center and asked to assist in creating a designated young women's clinic. The Center staff had been seeing an increasing number of young women with heavy menstrual bleeding within their regular hemophilia/thrombosis clinic; now they wanted a designated clinic day for young women and now wanted a designated clinic day for young women. In conjunction with the Board, the Foundation identified the Learning Action Network (LAN) as the mechanism we would use to assist OHSU's Center staff in the establishment and implementation of a quality clinic, hence our Foundation launched the **Women/Girls Bleeding Disorder (WGBD) LAN**. Since then, the WGBD LAN has grown from 7 members to 200+ members from 71 institutions in the US, Canada, and the Netherlands. Building up on the success of the WGBD LAN, the Foundation the Foundation launched a second network, **the Women/Girls Sickle Cell Disease (WGSCD) LAN**, in 2018.

What are the WGBD and WGSCD LANs?

Convened predominantly on a cost-effective Web platform, these **Learning Action Networks** serve as an exchange of key information and best practices in the care of women and girls with blood disorders. Participants of the WGBD LAN are representatives of Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTCs) and other healthcare institutions wishing to improve their care for women and girls with bleeding disorders and wish to either start or enhance a designated women and/or girls' clinic. Participants of the **WGSCD Learning Action Network** are healthcare providers wishing to improve their care for women and girls with sickle cell disease and are especially interested in the unique issues women with sickle cell disease face during pregnancy. All WGBD and WGSCD LAN participants further benefit from input and guidance by our FWGBD cadre of experts – our Board and Medical Advisory Committee members.



Benefits of Membership and Participation

- Clinic calls
- On-site meetings
- Access to Presentations, Tools, and Checklists
- Collaborate on Research Projects
- Educational Forums
- Promote your organization's work and resources

How Do I Become a Member of a LAN?

Participation begins by joining FWGBD as a member and expressing interest in one or more of these networks. To receive more information about the Foundation's LANs and how to become a member, [please e-mail Kerry Funkhouser, Executive Director](#).