

## FY14 KEY FACTS

- Over 1500 clinicians, staff and trainees engaged
- 12 active research projects, including intra- and inter-state projects
- Nearly 200 clinicians and clinic staff participated in WREN research projects during FY 2014

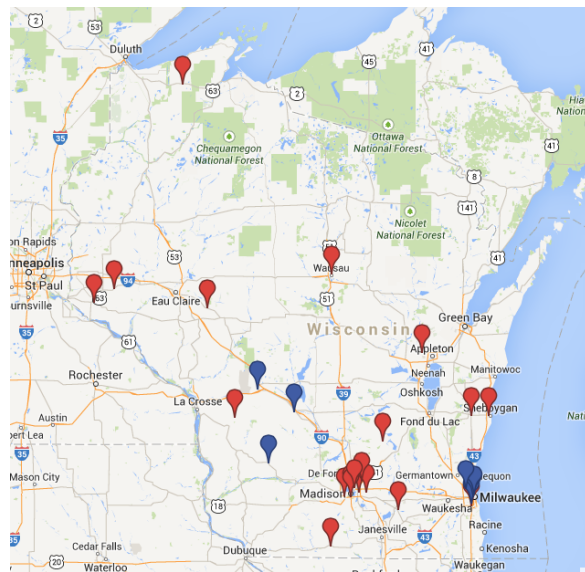
## LEADERSHIP

- **David Hahn, MD, MS**, director
- **Paul Smith, MD**, associate director
- **Melody Bockenfeld, MPH**, program manager (through January 2014)
- **Regina Vidaver, PhD**, program manager (beginning May 2014)

The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN) is a statewide practice-based research network (PBRN) of primary care clinicians and academic researchers. Its mission is to improve health outcomes for the people of Wisconsin through education, and through promoting and conducting primary care research in partnership with clinicians and the communities they serve.

## Highlights

- **Sustainability.** WREN has been in continuous operation since 1987, making it one of the oldest PBRNs in the country.
- **Increased funding.** WREN has continued to attract high-quality, high-caliber projects supported by federal and local funding, including private foundations.
- **Engagement.** WREN now disseminates practical and research information to more than 1500 individuals, including clinicians, researchers and staff across the entire state of Wisconsin and beyond.
- **Statewide research.** During fiscal year 2014, WREN was engaged in 12 clinical and practice improvement research projects. Topics included patient safety, chronic kidney disease, cancer survivorship, influenza surveillance, vulvovaginal atrophy, clinician-patient communication, and diabetes management.
- **National Association.** WREN is a member of two AHRQ-funded Research Centers in Practice-Based Research and Learning consortiums. These consortia accelerate the generation of new knowledge and a community of learning for primary care practices to improve quality, patient safety, and effectiveness of care.
- **Patient outcomes oriented.** WREN participated in two studies that were included in a [meta-analysis](#) of the use of macrolides for the treatment of severe, uncontrolled and/or refractory asthma. This meta-analysis found macrolides were beneficial for improving symptoms and quality of life, as well as improving peak expiratory flow and airway hyper-reactivity. Results such as these contributed to WREN Director, Dr. David Hahn, being profiled in a [front-page article](#) of the Wisconsin State Journal.



**Location of clinics participating in WREN studies during FY14. Blue locators indicate WREN full support clinics (clinics that commit to continuous engagement in WREN studies). Red locators indicate all other participating clinics.**



*From left: David Hahn, MD, MS, WREN Director, Tim Bjelland, DO, Mile Bluff Medical Clinic Director, Amy Irwin, MS, WREN Research Coordinator, Lynn Neve, Director of Operations, and Janell Haske, Patient Care Staff Director, Mile Bluff Medical Clinic. Mile Bluff Medical Clinic is a WREN full support clinic.*



*Erin Leege, MPH, WREN Research Coordinator, receiving the award for best research poster presentation at the 2014 national Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN) Annual Conference.*