## **North Carolina Biotechnology Center**

October 2017

# North Carolina Precision Health Collaborative (NCPHC) Convened by NCBiotech

**Mission**: Accelerate collaborative initiatives that foster research, enable providers, engage industry, and empower citizens to improve health outcomes and optimize resource utilization in North Carolina.

#### Precision Health: The Future of Health and Health Care

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) defines precision medicine as an emerging approach for disease treatment and prevention that takes into account individual variability in genes, environment, and lifestyle. Precision health extends the opportunities provided by the preventive, therapeutic, and diagnostic elements of precision medicine to address disease and population health challenges. Our focus on precision health expands the purview to capture not only technologies - but also the variety and diversity in tools, partners (e.g., public health) and ever-advancing innovations - all of which play critical roles in the full actualization of precision healthcare. In North Carolina, precision health expands on precision medicine to include the use of diagnostic techniques and population data to decipher disease susceptibility in order to deploy appropriate public health interventions. Precision health is the ongoing translation and implementation of precision medicine applications to prevent disease and disease burden in populations, resulting in improved long-term societal health outcomes and optimized resource utilization.

North Carolina possesses the capacity in its research and healthcare institutions, biomedical research and development capabilities, and information technology companies to become a global leader in precision health. To help develop the state's full potential in this important area, NCBiotech and a seminal group of committed partners have established the North Carolina Precision Health Collaborative (NCPHC). By stimulating growth in the precision health sector, the NCPHC and its partners can foster significant new innovations, create new precision health-based companies and jobs that draw investment capital to the state, all while improving the health of North Carolinians.

#### **NC Precision Health Collaborative**



#### **Core Efforts**

NCPHC is designing a pilot project that will screen North Carolina residents for preventable or highly actionable conditions (e.g., hereditary cancers, Lynch Syndrome and Familial Hypercholesterolemia). In addition, we have proposed to the NIH *All of Us* Research Program an initiative designed to educate all health care professionals in North Carolina about the value of and opportunities in precision health (with our primary partner the NC Area Health Education Centers [AHEC]).

### **Key Activities and Resources**

NCBiotech and NCPHC are hosting or partnering on a variety of precision medicine conferences this year, including but not limited to the Precision Medicine World Conference at Duke University and the North Carolina Health and Communications Alliance, Inc. (NCHICA) annual conference. Our website includes a variety of resources to facilitate research and implementation of precision health in the clinical and public health settings to further advance the sector in North Carolina and to improve the lives of citizens in our state (www.ncbiotech.org/Precision-Health).