

# SICR



# Annual Report

(Nov 2024-Sep 2025)



A comprehensive evaluation of our impact and strategic achievements

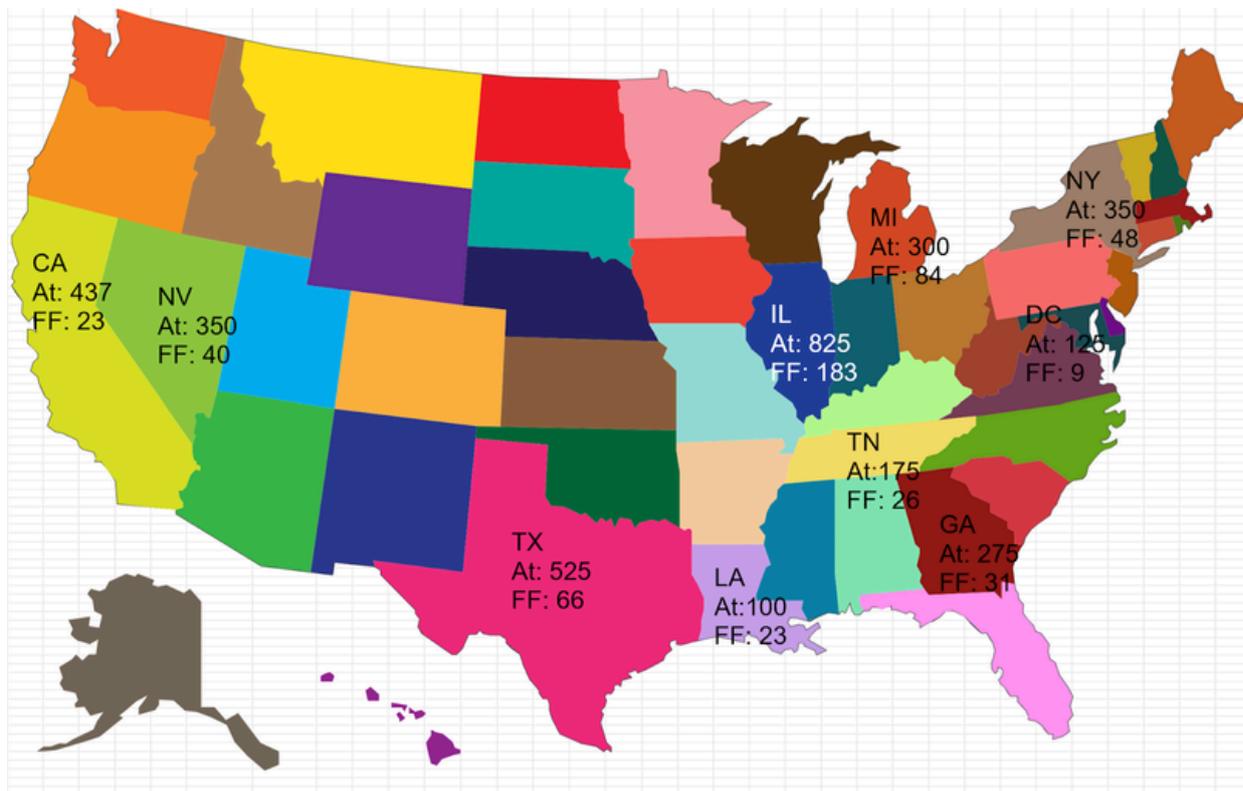
[sikhsinclinicalresearch.org](http://sikhsinclinicalresearch.org)

# Executive Summary

Clinical research is the foundation of medical progress, yet many underrepresented communities remain disconnected from the research ecosystem. From November 2024 through September 2025, Sikhs in Clinical Research (SICR) has led a continuous effort to increase awareness and engagement around clinical research within the Sikh community across the United States. Through on-the-ground outreach and engagement, educational resources, and digital webinars, SICR is working to ensure that people are informed, represented, and empowered to participate in the future of healthcare.



# Geographic Reach



At: Attendance; FF: Feedback Forms

- Between November 2024 and September 2025, SICR conducted outreach across 10 states, including Tennessee, Washington, D.C., Nevada, Georgia, Texas, Louisiana, California, Illinois, New York, and Michigan.
- This expansion reflects SICR's commitment to meeting the community where they are and improving representation.

# Year-by-Year Growth

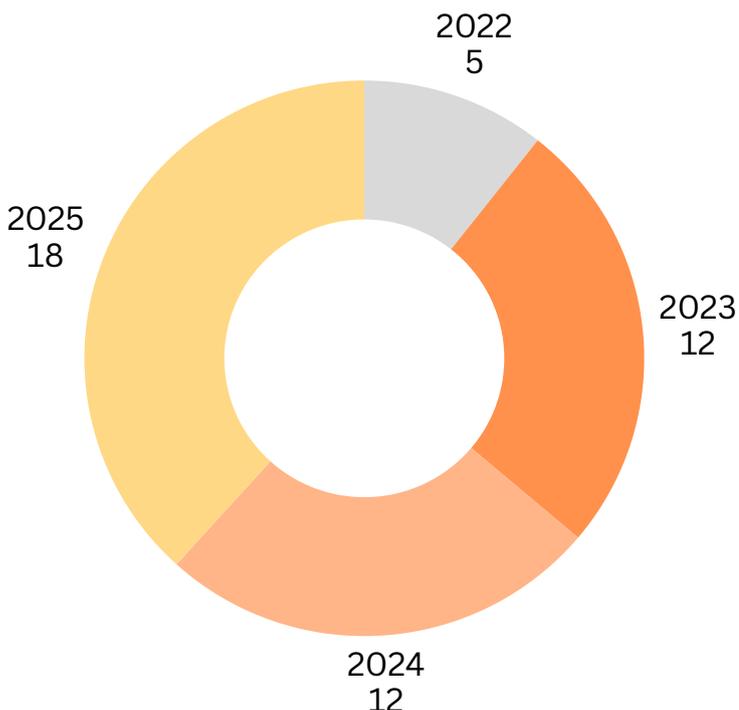


Nov 2024–Sep 2025

Building on the momentum from outreach efforts documented in the SICR Impact Report 2022–2024, significant progress continued through 2024–2025, with measurable successes and growing impact across the community.



Year	Events Held	Attendees Engaged	Pamphlets Distributed
2022-24	25	3,500+	2500+
2024-25	22	3,400+	5000+



## GROWTH



Growth during 2025 was driven by expanded access to disease awareness, health and research literacy, and culturally relevant educational tools, along with initiatives promoting health screenings, basic vital checkups, feedback surveys, and consistent follow-ups to assist community members in finding clinical trials.



# Milestone Summary

(November 2024 – September 2025)

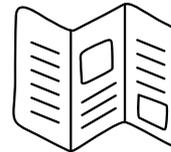
**3,400+**

Community members engaged



**5,000+**

Pamphlets distributed



**22**

Events organized



**2000+**

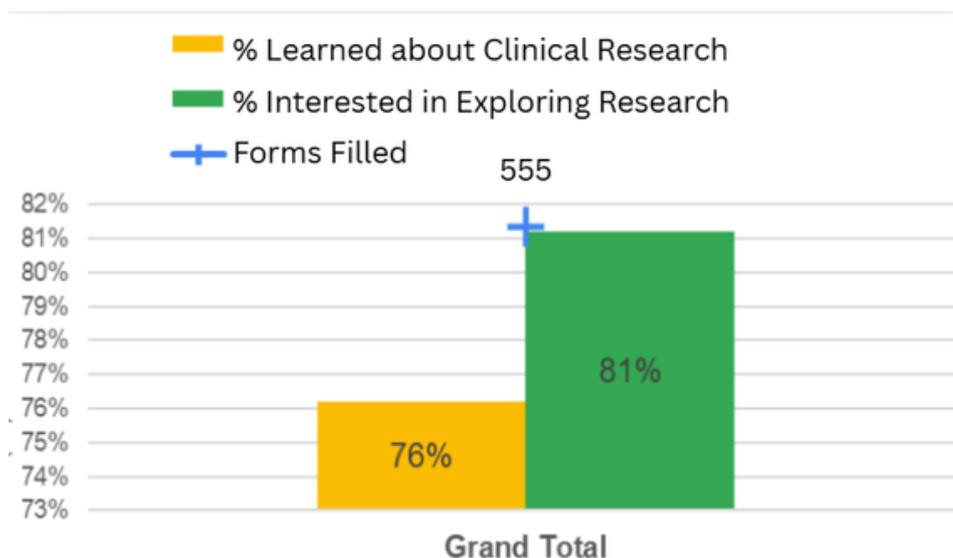
Newsletter sign-ups



- Interactive add-ons such as Q&A sessions, Spin-the-Wheel games, and giveaways (hoodies, shirts, snacks, first-aid kits, keychains, goodie bags) significantly increased engagement and interest during events.

## 555 feedback forms collected

- 76% learned about clinical research for the first time
- 81% expressed interest in learning more



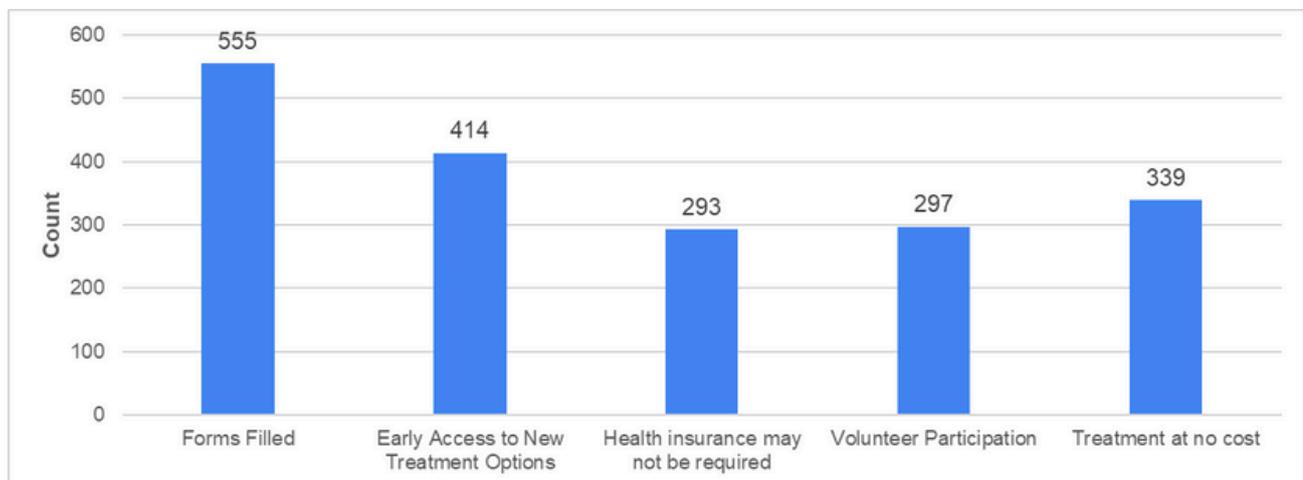


# Impact on Awareness and Engagement

Feedback from 555 participants revealed the following key learning outcomes in the community.

Best thing learned about Clinical Research	% of Participants (n)
Early access to new treatment options	75% (414)
Treatment at no cost	61% (339)
Health insurance might not be required	53% (293)
Voluntary participation	54% (297)

Insight: Access to innovative therapies and affordability are the strongest motivators for the clinical trials participation.





## Learning Preferences & Topics of Interest

### Preferred Learning Formats

**(Results reflect data from recent 340 feedback forms collected across seven states following the implementation of an enhanced evaluation form at last nine events.)**

Format	% of Participants (n)
In-person workshops	57% (193)
Explanatory videos	40% (135)
Interactive websites	36% (124)
Webinars	35% (118)
Animated social media posts	30% (102)

### Topics Participants Want to Learn More About

Topic	% of Participants (n)
Disease Prevention & Management	52% (177)
Understanding the Healthcare System	48% (163)
New Medication Technologies	45% (153)
Navigating Clinical Trials	41% (141)

**A refined feedback tool implemented in the last nine events (340 submissions) revealed:**

- Awareness score doubled — from 3.1 (pre-event) to 6.2 (post-event)
- Overall event satisfaction — 6.5 / 7
- Likelihood to attend future events — 6.4 / 7
- Likelihood to recommend to others — 6.5 / 7

These insights reflect high trust, high learning impact, and strong motivation to stay connected.

# SICR Presentations and Media Highlights



## UC Working Group for Indigenous and AAPIs in Cancer Clinical Trials

SICR Founder Ekta Grewal joined the UC Working Group for Indigenous and AAPI populations, contributing to efforts that strengthen representation and improve access to cancer clinical trials. The group collaborates on culturally tailored strategies, outreach, and translated educational resources to advance inclusion for underrepresented communities.

## Clinical Research Career Insights Webinar – Leadership Spotlight

SICR Founder Ekta Grewal delivered an inspiring webinar in partnership with United Sikh Movement and Sikh Student Association (Orange Coast College, OCC), focused on empowering future generations in clinical research. During the session, she also shared free training links (GCP & IATA), scholarships, and internship opportunities.

## Sikh Awareness Month (April) – Benedictine University

SICR participated in Benedictine University’s Sikh Awareness Month program, engaging students and faculty in conversations about Sikh history, values, and community identity. The event provided a meaningful opportunity to share Sikh faith and heritage while strengthening cultural understanding on campus.





# SICR Presentations and Media Highlights

## Publication Spotlight – Race in STEM

SICR Founder Ekta Grewal’s blog “Driving Inclusion in Clinical Research: Data Insights and Community Impact from Sikh Outreach Events (2022–2024),” was spotlighted by Race in STEM.

## Sikhs In Healthcare - Leadership Meeting

SICR Founder Ekta Grewal met with Gursharan Kaur, Founder of Sikhs in Healthcare, to discuss potential ways to collectively raise awareness of the needs of Sikh patients across healthcare systems in the United States (U.S) and the United Kingdom (U.K).

## SALDEF “Sikhs in Storytelling” Event – Chicago

SICR attended SALDEF’s “Sikhs in Storytelling” event, connecting with Sikh leaders in art, journalism, music, and community work. The team shared SICR’s mission and received warm appreciation for advancing clinical research awareness and importance of representation within the community.

## Parexel Patient Advocacy Group Forum Meeting

Ekta Grewal participated in the Parexel Patient Advocacy Group Forum. At the end of the session, she had the opportunity to highlight SICR’s mission to build trust, reduce cultural and language barriers, and increase participation of the Sikh community in clinical research.

# SICR Presentations and Media Highlights

## ACRP Wisconsin Chapter Event – Medical College of Wisconsin

The SICR team attended the ACRP Wisconsin Chapter event at the Medical College of Wisconsin, engaging with clinical research professionals and ACRP leadership. The SICR team shared children’s books and outreach materials, which were warmly received by ACRP leadership, strengthening future collaboration in more such events.

## ASCO Annual Meeting – Patient Advocacy & Industry Engagement

SICR attended the ASCO Annual Meeting, engaging with hospitals, industry leaders, and advocacy groups while sharing Sikh cultural competency tools and patient education resources in the Patient Advocate Lounge. The team participated in key scientific and AI-focused sessions, asked advocacy-centered questions, and met with industry stakeholders, including MSLs, and networked with amazing people, also marking a milestone as new ASCO members.

## Center for Healthcare Innovation’s (CHI) Diversity, Inclusion & Health Equity Symposium – Chicago

SICR participated in the two-day CHI’s Diversity, Inclusion & Health Equity Symposium that was very much aligned with SICR’s goals and missions in patient education, community engagement, and building community trust. We are thankful to Joshua Travis, Executive Director of CHI, for announcing SICR, its efforts, and educational resources during the Symposium.

### Donations and Volunteer Activities

- Feed My Starving Children: Packed meals for children worldwide, connecting community effort with global impact
- Humanitarian Service Project: Packed food and contributed school supplies for 400+ families in Chicago
- People’s Resource Center: Volunteered to help families pick up groceries, grateful to be a part of the community that cares.

Reflection: Volunteering reinforces SICR’s commitment to community, service, and empowerment beyond clinical research

# Significant Educational Resources



SICR developed and distributed disease awareness pamphlets, as well as culturally and linguistically appropriate materials, supporting accessible, community-centered health education and informed engagement in clinical research.

## Blogs

Written by SICR ambassadors, these blogs highlight disease awareness while emphasizing the importance of Sikh community representation in clinical research:

- Diabetes in the Sikh Community: Understanding the Need for Better Representation in Research
- Cardiovascular Disease in the Sikh Community: Understanding the Need for Better Representation in Research
- Arthritis in the Sikh Community: From “Knee Pain” Conversations to Better Research Representation
- Breast Cancer: A Growing Health Concern

These blogs amplify community voices, address culturally relevant health concerns, and reinforce the need for inclusive research participation.

## Educational Videos

- Disease Awareness Videos (in Punjabi and English)
- Understanding Sikh Faith Videos (for Cultural Competency)
- Understanding Clinical Research Video Series (Bilingual – English & Punjabi)  
*(Available on YouTube and shared at outreach events)*



### Educational Resources:

- Understanding Clinical Research
- Jot and His Friends : Explore Clinical Trials
- Ranbir's Clinical Trial Journey: A Story of Hope and Health

THESE RESOURCES HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED DIGITALLY AND IN-PERSON, HELPING REDUCE LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL BARRIERS WHILE BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST IN CLINICAL RESEARCH.

# Live Engagement and Storytelling Initiatives

## Guest Speaker Series

To date, SICR has hosted over 35+ Guest speakers, including:

- Clinical research professionals
- Academic researchers
- Healthcare workers
- Patient advocates

These sessions provided firsthand insight into clinical research careers, ethics, participation, and innovation.

### SPECIAL SESSION

Hosted panel from the UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

*Mandy K. Budwal and Kamaldeep Ajimal, GCP inspectors, and Kulvinder Bahra and Jass Channa, pharmaceutical assessors focusing on quality and regulatory aspects.*

## Patient Perspectives Series (Launched in 2025)

- Our newest initiative highlights real patient stories, sharing their unique healthcare journeys, the challenges they faced, the choices they made, and the hope they found along the way.
- These powerful narratives help look into other patients' journeys and empower individuals to explore the available opportunities and make the best possible decisions about their health.

## Combined Impact Snapshot (2022–2025)

- **Outreach Events & Attendance:** Approximately 50 community outreach events organized across 15+ U.S. states, reaching 7,000+ attendees
- **Newsletter Growth:** 2,000+ subscribers receiving ongoing updates
- **Educational Materials Distributed:** 7,500+ informational pamphlets, many in Punjabi, supporting accessible, community-centered health education
- **Community Voices & Testimonials:** 50+ video testimonials captured, reflecting community experiences and reinforcing the value of SICR's outreach efforts



# Looking Ahead:

- Expand SICR outreach to more U.S. states
- Partner with the clinical research industry stakeholders
- Amplify Sikh voices and representation in clinical research
- Build trust through culturally competent education and engagement
- Promote equitable, inclusive research for better health outcomes

# Gratitude and Acknowledgment

We extend heartfelt thanks to:

- Our Gurdwara committee members
- The Ambassadors and booth volunteers
- The families who gave feedback and testimonies
- Our guest speakers
- Patients who shared their journeys
- And every individual who stopped by our booth, asked questions, or took a pamphlet

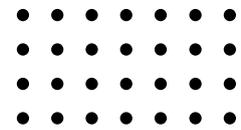
We are thankful to Sanofi for sponsoring our community events.  
(Nov 2024-Sep 2025)

**sanofi**

# Mission



To raise awareness about clinical research as a care and treatment option for better health outcomes and to increase health equity.



## SIKHS IN CLINICAL RESEARCH (SICR)

*Awareness. Empowerment. Inclusion.*



## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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