

Community Health Worker Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Advisory Committee Members Present

Lilian Amaya	Rosario Campos	La Kerry Dawson	Griselda Funn
Kathleen Gilligan	Kimberly Hiner	Jude James	Rebecca Jones
Betty Muwwakkil	Rachel Parran	Yanna Rachinskaya	Samantha Sailsman
Tiffany Scott	Lashelle Stewart	Bradley Tritsch	

Maryland Department of Health Staff

Tina Backe Kimberly Hiner Adrienne Taylor Alphius Sesay Deborah Donohue

Welcome & Roll Call/Introductions

Tina Backe opened the meeting. Each committee member introduced themselves.

Opening Remarks

Kim Hiner presented opening remarks.

State CHW Advisory Committee seat changes

- **Farewell and thank you**
 - Ryan Moran - Maryland Hospital Association seat
 - Camisha Coke - Community-Based Employer of Community Health Workers seat
- **Recognition**
 - Tiffany Scott- Completed term as Vice Chair
 - Fay Alexander- Completed term as Secretary
- **Welcome**
 - Lashelle Stewart - Community-Based Employer of Community Health Workers seat

Call for Applications

New terms for five Advisory Committee seats begin October 1, 2022.

- Community Health Worker (3 seats)
- Registered Nurse with Experience in Community Health (1 seat)
- Public Member Familiar with Services of CHWs (1 seat)

Must apply through the Governor's Appointment Office by December 10, 2021.

August 16, 2021 Meeting Minute Approval

Rosario Campos motioned to approve the minutes, 1:16 pm

Tiffany Scott seconded the motion, 1:17pm

CDC Grant: Community Health Workers for COVID Response and Resilient Communities (CCR)

Presented by Miranda Ouellette, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
Inclusion Coordinator, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control

CCR (2019) Funding Overview

- The project period for year 1 is August 31, 2021, to August 30, 2022.
- MDH applied for and was awarded under Component A, capacity building funds.

CCR Strategy Overview

- Train- CHWs with the knowledge, roles, and skills to support COVID-19 response, management, and prevention.
- Deploy- CHWs to support the COVID-19 response to manage outbreaks and prevent the spread among priority populations and communities.
- Engage- CHWs to help build and strengthen community resilience and improve the overall health of priority populations in communities.

Year 1 Implementation Plans: Train

- Establish the Health Equity and Resilience Ad Hoc workgroup to provide guidance, support, and direction.
- Promote Maryland CHW certification among CHWs in the three target jurisdictions.
- Develop and implement COVID-19, health equity, and social determinants of health specialty trainings in target jurisdictions.
- Develop resilience support for CHWs to reduce professional burnout.

Year 1 Implementation Plans: Deploy

- Engage Maryland Primary Care providers, LHDs, and AHECs employing CHWs to encourage CHWs to be certified in core competencies and specialty trainings.
- Identify organizations in targeted jurisdictions that could benefit from a CHW and link certified CHWs with these organizations.

Year 1 Implementation Plans: Engage

- Identify and establish bidirectional referral mechanisms between CHWs and care settings.
- Inventory current tracking systems for functionality and capability.
- Build a tracking system for certified CHWs to monitor the engagement of CHWs in targeted jurisdictions.
- Implement a referral tracking system with primary care providers, AHECs, and LHDs.

Development of a Health Equity and Resilience Ad Hoc Workgroup

Workgroup Mission

The mission of the Ad Hoc workgroup will be to:

- Identify opportunities for training CHWs in targeted jurisdictions.
- Provide guidance during the specialty training development to inform content and methods.
- Provide guidance during the development of the tracking system to determine indicators of interest, feasibility, and scalability.
- Inform the direction of future work plans and project priorities.

Community Health Worker Representation

- In addition to the proposed representative organizations, the CCR team is seeking at least three (3) CHWs to join the workgroup.

Anticipated Commitment

- The workgroup will meet regularly to discuss upcoming project plans, inform training development, and identify key next steps in program implementation.
- Members will be expected to:
 - Engage in workgroup discussions;
 - Review training materials and plans; and
 - Provide comments/insights, as requested

CHW Certification Update

Certification Update: Sept. 1, 2019 – November 15, 2021

- # total CHW certificates issued: 970
 - Certification based on experience: 887
 - Certification based on training: 83
- # certifications renewed: 71
- #active certifications: 945

CHW Certification Training Program Accreditation Update

Accredited CHW Certification Training Programs

1. Access to Wholistic and Productive Living Inc.
2. Asian American Center of Frederick in partnership with Hagerstown Community College
3. Baltimore City Community College
4. Heritage Care Inc.
5. Howard County General Hospital, Johns Hopkins Medicine
6. Maryland Area Health Education Center Program
7. Mosaic Group, Inc.
8. Washington County Commission on Aging, Inc.
9. Community College of Baltimore County

Accreditation of CHW Certification Training Programs

Accreditation Update: Jan. 1, 2020 – November 15, 2021

- # applications submitted: 14
- # applications in the review process (under review and receiving assistance): 5
- # accreditations: 9

CHW Proposed Amendments

COMAR 10.68.01 and 10.68.02

Proposed amendments were submitted to the MDH for review.

COMAR 10.68.01.07.D(3)(b)(i)

Clarifies that the 20 hours of professional development activities required to renew a CHW certificate are to be earned within the 2 years immediately preceding the date of the renewal.

COMAR 10.68.02.01 - .04

Provide for the accreditation of CHW apprenticeship programs registered with the Maryland Department of Labor.

CHW Grant: CDC-RFA-OT21-2103

National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Public Health Disparities among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities

- 2-year grant awarded to the Department May 26, 2021
- Multiple offices listed

CDC Grant Staff

Welcome to Gabrielle Nichols!

Program Administrator/Grants Manager

CHW Program Goals

- Build, leverage, and expand infrastructure support for COVID-19 prevention and control among populations that are at higher risk and underserved, including racial and ethnic minority populations and rural communities.
- Increase capacity of the CHW workforce through investments in recruitment, training availability, and culturally appropriate services

Key Grant Activities

- Implementation of new CHW training programs
- Scholarships funds for new and currently accredited training entities to recruit/support underserved/resourced CHW candidates from high-risk communities
- Development of CHW specialty training resources
- Development of materials for CHWs on COVID-19 prevention, related services, and co-morbidities

CHW Prevention and Health Promotion Administration (PHPA) Contract: Chronic Disease Management: Curriculum Development

Curricula Development

- Chronic Disease Management: Diabetes
- Chronic Disease Management: Cardiovascular Disease
 - Awarded to JSJ Consulting

Vice-Chair and Secretary Nominations

Vice-Chair

Nomination: Tiffany Scott

Motion: LaKerry Dawson. Second by Rosario Campos

Vote: Unanimous by committee 2:05 pm

Secretary

Nomination: Lashelle Stewart

Motion: LaKerry Dawson. Second by Jude James.

Vote: Unanimous by committee 2:08 pm

Upcoming CHW Advisory Committee Meetings

Quarterly CHW State Advisory Committee meetings, the 3rd Monday from 1 PM – 3 PM, to be held virtually or at MDH:

- February 28, 2022 *Note: This is the 4th Tuesday*
- May 16, 2022
- August 15, 2022
- November 15, 2022 *Note: This is the 2nd Tuesday*

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jude James

Motion seconded by Griselda Funn

Meeting adjourned at 2:24 PM