

Community Health Worker Advisory Committee - Meeting
September 24, 2020 - 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. (Google Meet)

Draft Minutes

Advisory Committee Members Present

Fay Alexander	Rosario Campos	Camisha Coke	Lakerry Dawson
Cheryl De Pinto	Griselda Funn	Katie Gilligan	Robin Hollar
Jude James	Bettye Muwwakkil	Rachael Parran	Tiffany Scott
Brad Tritsch			

Maryland Department of Health Staff

Cheryl De Pinto Deborah Donohue Tina Backe Adrienne Taylor

Meeting Opening

The meeting was called to order by Tina Backe at 4:00 p.m.

Welcome & Roll Call/Introductions

Tina Backe and Cheryl De Pinto welcomed and greeted the Advisory Committee members and the public. Each Committee member introduced themselves. Cheryl was acknowledged as the new Chair of the Advisory Committee.

Opening Remarks

Cheryl De Pinto, Chair, thanked the Advisory Committee for meeting today and noted she is excited to be serving in the role as Chair of the Advisory Committee to further the work of CHWs in Maryland.

CHW Certification Program Update

CHW team member, Tina Backe, provided information for the discussion on the **DRAFT** proposed accommodation to the Practicum component of accredited CHW certification training programs during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Consideration for the Advisory Committee:

During the COVID-19 state of emergency is there a recommendation that an accredited CHW certification training program may accept 40 hours of employment as a CHW / another similar position by a currently enrolled student in place of the 40-hour Practicum, if:

- A good faith attempt is made for an unpaid practicum/internship;
- The employment is supervised;
- The employment meets the nine Maryland CHW core competencies;
- The accredited CHW training program provides to the Department a statement ensuring the employment is in alignment with all Practicum requirements of the accredited CHW certification training program as detailed in their application;

- The employer notifies the accredited CHW certification training program that all components of the Practicum as described by the training program in their accreditation application have been completed; and
- The conditions listed above are satisfied before the student receives a document of successful completion from the accredited CHW certification training program.

Comments and Considerations from the Advisory Committee

Cheryl De Pinto provided background information that this accommodation is being considered in the context of the COVID-19 environment.

Comments/Considerations from the Advisory Committee and public:

- Would this be limited to employment or will it include volunteer work? What are the job titles a trainee would be allowed to work as?
 - This is a proposal to be voted on, to accept, amended, and or edited. The student's employment must require proficiency in the nine MD core competencies.
- Is this for CHWs currently in a CHW training program and working as a CHW or related field?
 - Students enrolled in a CHW training program would complete the employment during the time the student was enrolled in the accredited CHW certification training program.
- During COVID-19, there are restrictions on how CHWs can engage in the community. Does the recommendation speak to why the practicum cannot be virtual instead of in person?
 - The Practicum component of an accredited CHW certification training program practicum is defined very specifically by the training program when they apply for accreditation. The employer has to certify all requirements, as described in their application, are met. If a program wants or needs to change its requirements, they would need to submit a separate program modification request.
- How would the training program ensure the employment meets the core competencies? What type of follow up documentation would be required?
 - If the group advises that records are needed to confirm that the employment meets the requirements of the Practicum including the core competencies, then we may need to revise the proposed accommodation. The CHW training program would determine if the nine core competencies are met.

Next Steps:

Additional clarity and detail need to be added to this accommodation. We can call another meeting if the Advisory Committee would like to see the additional detail.

Vote #1 (4:41 PM): Approve this accommodation in principle with these overarching principles.

Motion: Fay Alexander

Second: Tiffany Scott

No objections. The motion is approved by general consensus without objection.

Vote #2 (4:43 PM): The Department will provide additional language to the accommodation including information on documentation associated with the additional language. This additional language will be brought to the Advisory Committee before the accommodation is moved forward in the Department.

Motion: Tiffany Scott

Second: Rosario Campos

No objections. The motion is approved by general consensus without objection.

Second Roll Call: A second roll call was taken at this point to confirm there is a quorum for the votes. Eleven Advisory Committee members are still present which represents a quorum.

Adjournment (4:47 PM)

Motion: Camisha Coke

Second: Rosario Campos

No objections. The motion is approved by general consensus without objection.