

Community Health Worker Advisory Committee - Meeting

August 17, 2020 - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Draft Minutes

Advisory Committee Members

Fay L. Alexander
Lilian Amaya
Rosario A. Campos
La Kerry B. Dawson
Griselda C. Funn
Kathleen Gilligan

Robin N. Hollar
Jude L. James
Rebecca L. Jones
Rachael Parran
Yanna Rachinskaya
Tiffany Scott
Samantha Sailsman

Maryland Department of Health Staff

Cheryl De Pinto
Deborah Donohue

Tina Backe
Pamela Tenemaza

Meeting Opening

The meeting was held via google hangout and called to order by Tina Backe at 1:02 p.m.

Welcome & Roll Call/Introductions

Tina Backe and Cheryl De Pinto provided welcome and greeting to the Advisory Committee members. Each Committee member introduced themselves. Rachael Parran provided a short self-introduction as the newest member of the Advisory Committee. A certificate and recognition of Fran Phillip's dedication and support of the CHW program was presented. Fran Phillips provided farewell remarks.

Opening Remarks

Cheryl De Pinto provided opening remarks including a recognition for Fran Phillips.

Meeting Minute Approval

A motion was made by LaKerry Dawson and seconded by Rosario Campos to approve the revised minutes of the May 18, 2020 meeting. The Committee members approved the minutes by general consensus without objection as drafted at 1:14 PM.

CHW Certification Program Update

Tina Backe provided information and updates on CHW certifications based on experience and the CHW certification application processes. As of August 17, 2020, 645 CHWs have been certified in Maryland.

The deadline suspension for CHWs to apply for certification based on experience is in effect until 30 days after the state of emergency ends in Maryland. This deadline suspension has provided the opportunity for additional CHWs to apply for certification based on experience.

Certification applications based on the completion of an accredited CHW Training Program opened on the Maryland OneStop portal on April 1, 2020. CHWs can apply for certification at any time based on the completion of an accredited CHW training program.

The Department is seeking input from the Advisory Committee on the timeline for CHWs to apply for certification based on the completion of an accredited CHW certification training program.

CHW Certification Renewal Update

Tina Backe provided an update on the Maryland OneStop CHW Certificate Renewal webpage. The Maryland OneStop application portal includes a function to upload a professional development tracking sheet or directly enter the professional development activities information that is required for recertification. Draft recertification applications can be started at any time, but should be submitted 30 days before the certificate expiration date.

CHW Certification Training Program Accreditation Update

Tina Backe provided an update on the MDH accredited CHW training programs, the CHW training program application review committee, the training program application due dates and a sample CHW training program certificate.

Four CHW certification training programs have been accredited by the Department. A fifth CHW certification training program is under review by the Review Committee.

The Department is requesting recommendations from the CHW workgroup on how to reach the CHW training programs and requesting that workgroup members assist in outreach to potentially eligible training programs.

Maryland Rural Health Association Conference – CHW Panel

Tina Backe provided an update and overview of the upcoming Maryland Rural Health Association Conference presentation, “Community Health Workers: Increasing in Strength and Capacity.” The panel presentation is scheduled for October 19, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM.

Open Discussion

The Advisory Committee members and members of the public discussed CHW challenges and experiences during the COVID -19 including access to the appropriate PPE and guidance/recommendations on how to interact with clients in the field.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Rosario Campos which was seconded by Fay Alexander, The Committee approved by general consensus without objection to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 16th, 2020