The Community Health Worker Work Group at CDC: Who we are and What we do

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Mission
To facilitate, support, and advance CHW initiatives that help accomplish public health goals.

Vision
Empowered communities, healthier people

Membership
Comprised of Divisions within the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP) and other representatives throughout CDC
Origins and Goals

Started meeting informally in 2010 with an intent to:

- Understand scope of CHW related funded activities in Center
- Identify opportunities for coordination and collaboration
- Serve as Subject Matter Experts for internal partners and grantees
Initial Activities

- Established list serve to share information and knowledge
- Sub Committees – Communications, Training and Technical Assistance, Evaluation
- Inventory of CHW funded efforts
Support partners through:
• Funding
• Training
• Technical assistance

Conduct evaluations on:
• Financial sustainability
• Health promotion/disease prevention interventions
• CHW integration into healthcare systems

Develop products, such as:
• Training tools
• Health Education Material
• Peer-reviewed publications
CDC (NCCDPHP) funded CHW initiatives

- Divisions supporting CHW interventions: DDT; HDSP; DCH; DPH (PRCs); Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC)
- Funding Mechanisms: (mostly Cooperative Agreements)
- Duration: 1 – 6 years
- Funded entities: State Health Departments, Community Based Organizations, Academic Institutions etc.
- Example Interventions:
  - CHW engagement in diabetes prevention and self management programs
  - CHW engagement in clinic community linkages for hypertension control
  - Patient navigation related to cancer screening and diagnostic testing
  - CHW supported physical activity and nutrition interventions
Examples of CDC supported CHW Interventions

- Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (AMIGAS)
- Prevention Research Centers
- Diabetes of Diabetes Translation– Cooperative Agreements SPHA 1305 and 1422
AMIGAS


- Bilingual educational outreach intervention for promotoras to increase cervical cancer screening among Hispanic women never and rarely screened for cervical cancer

- A proven health education model:
  - Based on Community Preventive Services Task Force recommendations
  - Extensively used behavioral science theory
  - For use by experienced promotoras to deliver health education in their communities
  - Information and skills learned in intervention will help women stay healthy
  - Culturally appropriate and plain language bilingual information
  - Uses naturally occurring social networks to recruit women
  - Randomized controlled trial demonstrated AMIGAS effectiveness and cost effectiveness

- CDC updated intervention to align to new screening guidelines; making materials available on website for free public access; planning to revise intervention for African American women
Prevention Research Centers

• Completed Projects
  – **University of Arizona**: Established an effective CHW program model that links primary care settings with community health services; 12-week program delivered by CHWs that focuses on healthy food choices, physical activity, and chronic disease risk [http://azprc.arizona.edu](http://azprc.arizona.edu/)

  – **San Diego State University**: Offered free volunteer CHW led weekly exercise classes to Latinas in the Everybody Active/Todos Activos program; 442 participants; continued improvements at 12 months [http://youtu.be/i2ygoi6FtzU](http://youtu.be/i2ygoi6FtzU)

• Current Projects (16 of 26 programs are engaging CHWs)
  – **University of Kentucky**: community change agents foster widespread adoption of annual colorectal cancer (CRC) screening with Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT), navigation to colonoscopy for those screening FIT-positive, and intervention program that promotes annual repeat use of FIT [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=3V1GuZh_kSs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=3V1GuZh_kSs)

  – **University of South Carolina**: engage CHWs in intervention that targets environmental, systems, and policy changes in church setting using a “train the trainer” model
Nineteen state health departments are implementing an intervention to engage CHWs in DSME programs. Grantee activities include:

- Increasing stakeholder awareness about CHW role including providers, CBOs employing CHWs, and state and local ADA/AADE
- Increasing DSME program readiness by develop curriculum-based training programs, recruiting CHWs and providing resources for use by CHWs
- Working with partners to develop sustainable state wide model for reimbursement and identify state certification pathways

CHW role in DSME programs includes:

- Participant Outreach and Recruitment
- Health provider referral follow-up
- DSME program delivery support
- DSME program participant support
Work Group Accomplishments

- ‘Project Officer of the Future’ Training on Community Health Worker Topic (Fall 2014)
- NDEP Sponsored CHW Webinar (Spring 2015)
- Idea Lab on CHW Training (2014)
- Publications and Presentations by members
Work Group Priorities

- **Strategic Objectives:**

  - **OUTCOME 1:** CDC programs interact consistently/effectively with state and local grantees in promoting CHW concept and harnessing opportunities for CHWs

  - **OUTCOME 2:** At state/local level, Public Health and other sectors work collaboratively; supportive CHW policy and infrastructure (“fertile ground”) are created
OUTCOME 1: CDC programs interact consistently/effectively with state and local grantees in promoting CHW concept and harnessing opportunities for CHWs

- Strategy/Objective: Training and TA
  Create an inventory of training and TA options that will meet the needs of grantees and POs attempting to introduce CHW initiatives

- Strategy/Objective: Internally share and disseminate information/build and maintain internal website
Implementation of Work Group Strategic Objectives

OUTCOME 2: At state/local level, PH and other sectors work collaboratively; supportive CHW policy and infrastructure (“fertile ground”) are created

- Engage partners (national stakeholders to influence policy and practice in the field)
  (HHS CHW WG; CMMI Learning Collaborative; OMH CHW Work Group; Other forums where critical issues are discussed)
- Identify resources, materials, and best practice approaches
- Identify/address gaps in best practice and research
- Externally share and disseminate information
Some Resources Developed

A Policy Brief on Community Health Workers

http://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/docs/chw_brief.pdf
Community Health Worker (CHW) Toolkit


CDC has compiled evidence-based research that supports the effectiveness of CHWs in the Community Health Worker Toolkit. The toolkit also includes information that state health departments can use to train and further build capacity for CHWs in their communities, as well as helpful resources that CHWs can use within their communities.
Community Health Worker (CHW) Toolkit

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- [Community Preventive Services Task Force CHW Recommendation](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/recommendations.html)
- [Community Health Worker Training Resource for Preventing Heart Disease and Stroke](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html)
- [CHW Technical Assistance Guide for 1305 Grantees](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html) [PDF-515K]
- [A Summary of State Community Health Worker Laws](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html) [PDF-680K]
- [CDC CHW Workgroup Summary](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html) [PDF-274K]
- [Policy Evidence Assessment Report: Community Health Worker Policy Components](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html) [PDF-677K]
- [Policy Evidence Assessment Report: Community Health Worker Policy One Pager](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html) [PDF-231K]
- [Updated CHW Policy brief: "Addressing Chronic Disease through Community Health Workers."](https://www.cdc.gov/CHWTSCF/CHWToolkit.html) [PDF-923K]
Resources (Cont.)

NDEP’s The Road to Health Toolkit (Kit El camino hacia la buena salud)


These resources were developed for community health workers and educators working with African American or Hispanic/Latino populations at risk for type 2 diabetes.
NDEP’s Fotonovela “Do it for them! But for you too. (¡Hazlo por ellos! Pero por ti también.)”


– A bilingual (Spn/Eng) fotonovela featuring dramatic stories of Latinas talking to Latinas about preventing or delaying type 2 diabetes and being healthy for their children and themselves.
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Learn more from the National Diabetes Education Program
Call 1-800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)
TTY 1-(888)-232-6348 or visit www.cdc.gov/info
To order resources, visit www.cdc.gov/diabetes/ndep
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