

Community Health Worker Advisory Body

Meeting Summary

January 6, 2022

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Location
January 6, 2022	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Via Zoom

Member Name and Attendance

Community Health Worker Advisory Body Members					
Lee Carezza	X	Milagrosa Seguinot	X	Fernando Morales	X
Mildred Landock	X	Adriana Rojas	X		
Erika Lynch	X	Nilda Paris			
Bianca Noronas		Chris Andresen			
Derricia Parker	X	Liza Estevez	X		
Other Participants Present					
Laura Morris, OHS		Dashni Sathasivam, HES		Melanie Alvarez, ACT	
Leslie Greer, OHS		Cherie Poirer, HEC			
Abby Alter, OHS		Joe Ritter, Rome. Smith & Lutz			
Meghan Tastensen, CHCA		Amy Tibor, OHS			

Meeting Information is located at: <https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/Pages/Community-Health-Worker-Advisory-Body/Meeting-Materials>

	Agenda	Responsible Person(s)
1.	Welcome and Introductions	Leslie Greer
	Call to Order The meeting of the Community Health Worker Advisory Body (CHWAB) was held on Thursday, January 6, 2022, via zoom. Laura Morris chaired the meeting. The meeting convened at 10:03 a.m. Laura Morris administered the roll call.	
2.	Public Comment	Laura Morris
	There was no public comment	
3.	Review and Approve Annual Meeting Schedule	Laura Morris
	The annual meeting schedule was reviewed. There were not enough members for a quorum to approve the annual meeting schedule. Approval tabled until next meeting.	
4.	Meeting Summary Approval for December	Laura Morris
	The December meeting summary was reviewed. Lee Carezza noted in section one, Michele Scott should have an apostrophe. Derricia Parker and Fernando Morales were in attendance but were marked absent due to technical issues. There were not enough members for a quorum to approve the December meeting summary. Approval tabled until next meeting.	
5.	Presentation on CHW Forum Summary	Dashni Sathasivam, HES
	Dashni Sathasivam provided a summary from the CHW Forum which included the demographics of the participants, summary of findings, and forum highlights. The next forum will be focused on Building a CT CHW Coalition being held on January 24, 2022. Dashni will email the link for registration. Laura Morris mentioned something to consider would be possibly having a coalition that resides through either the Association or the CHWAB. If it would require changing the language in the statute for the advisory body, OHS would be willing to do that. The CHWAB is evolving and there is	

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	<p>probably more work the body can do. OHS has begun initiating discussions with the Department of Social Services on having Medicaid reimbursement for Community health workers, Medicaid enrollees, and for others that have commercial plans. Uncertain if this will be done through innovative repayment models. OHS is committed to furthering along the profession of Community Health workers throughout CT.</p> <p>Laura Morris, Milagrosa Seguinot and, Amy Mirizzi of DPH met with Amy Griffin from the Consultation Center to discuss what the New England states are doing for funding their CHW Associations and CHW's salaries through more permanent funding, rather than grant cycling. Discussed having a forum with other states beyond New England.</p>	
6.	Vacancies	Laura Morris
	<p>The chair position is vacant and OHS is looking at appointing someone soon. We also have a vacancy under the six CHW's, The co-chair position remains vacant.</p> <p>Melanie Alvarez was present at the meeting and has an interest in becoming a member of the body. Melanie Alvarez informed the body her interest in community health has been within the HIV realm. She is happy the model the HIV world developed to do Community health work has been adopted by the rest of the world.</p> <p>There were not enough members present for a quorum. The vote has been tabled until the next meeting.</p>	
7.	CHWAB Review Committee Update	Laura Morris
	<p>We currently have three approved training vendors: Health Education Center, Gateway Community College and Southwestern AHEC, Inc. There are no pending applications.</p> <p>The evaluation rubric will be revised to align with the training vendor application to make it easier to review the applications.</p>	
8.	DPH Certification	Milagrosa Seguinot
	<p>Milagrosa Seguinot provided an update in Chris Andresen's absence. As of 11/29/21 the number of certified CHW's was 233.</p>	
9.	Marketing and Outreach Update	Milagrosa Seguinot
	<p>Milagrosa Seguinot reported we are waiting for O'Donnell to schedule a meeting, or an email to approve what they are putting together.</p> <p>Laura Morris added OHS is committed to doing some marketing and outreach on the approved training vendor process. Laura Morris mentioned there are other training vendors throughout the state, and we need to get them to apply. Information about the CHWAB Community health workers also will be a focus. OHS has hired an engagement contractor who will assist in promoting both.</p>	
10.	General Questions	Laura Morris
	None	

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11.	Next Steps	Laura Morris
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ February 3, 2022 • Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review Committee ○ Certification Update ○ Marketing & Outreach ○ Universal Home Visiting and the integration of the Community Health Workers through some of the ARPA funding ○ Funding for the Community Health Workers Association 	
12.	Adjourn	
	The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.	