



# Community Health Worker Advisory Body (CHWAB)

February 3, 2022

# Purpose of Today's Meeting

# CHW Advisory Body Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome & introductions
2. Public comment
3. Review and Approve 2022 Meeting Schedule
4. Meeting approval for November, December 2021 and January 2022 meetings
5. Presentation by Technical Assistance Collaborative, CT Coordinated Action Networks and Housing Collective – Homelessness, Health and CHWs
6. Vacancies – Approve Melanie Alvarez
7. SB 2 – Added Language on Evidence Based CEU requirements for CHWs
8. Review and Recommendations to revisions of CHWAB Statutory authority
9. Research on CHW & CHW Associations Sustainability
10. Funding Opportunities
11. Review Committee Update
12. Marketing and Outreach Update
13. DPH Update
14. Adjourn

# Introductions

# CHWAB Membership

**CHWAB Chair**  
**Vacant**

**CHWAB Support**  
**Laura Morris**  
**Leslie Greer**

**DPH Appointee**  
**Chris Andreson**

**Community College**  
**Erika Lynch**

**Community Health  
Workers**

**Mildred Landock**  
**Bianca Noroñas**  
**Nilda Paris**  
**Derricia Parker**  
**Liza Estevez**  
**Vacant**

**CHW Association of CT**  
**Milagrosa Seguinot**

**Community-based CHW  
training organization**

**Fernando Morales**

**Healthcare Employer**  
**Adriana Rojas**

**Healthcare Provider**  
**Jean K. Jacob,**  
**PharmD**

**CHW Employing Agency**  
**Lee Careenza**

# Public Comment

# Review and Approve 2022 Meeting Schedule

# Review and Approve 2022 Meeting Schedule

- Thursday, January 6, 2022
- Thursday, February 3, 2022
- Thursday, March 3, 2022
- Thursday, April 7, 2022
- Thursday, May 5, 2022
- Thursday, June 2, 2022
- Thursday, July 7, 2022
- Thursday, August 4, 2022
- Thursday, September 1, 2022
- Thursday, October 6, 2022
- Thursday, November 4, 2022
- Thursday, December 8, 2022



# Review & Approve December and January Minutes of Meetings

# Membership Vacancy

**Presentation By Technical Assistance Collaborative, CT  
Coordinated Access Networks, Housing Collective  
Health and Homeless – Role of CHW**

# Senate Bill 2 – Additional CEU Requirements for CHW Certification

Sec. 8. Subsection (f) of section 20-195ttt of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(f) A certification issued under this section may be renewed every three years. The license shall be renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 19a-88 for a fee of one hundred dollars. Each certified community health worker applying for license renewal shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the commissioner of having completed a minimum of thirty hours of continuing education requirements, including two hours focused on cultural competency, systemic racism or systemic oppression, [and] two hours focused on social determinants of health and on and after January 1, 2022, two hours of training on (1) screening for post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of suicide, depression and grief, and (2) suicide prevention, provided by the Community Health Worker Advisory Body or training or education providers approved by the Community Health Worker Advisory Body. The requirement described in subdivision (2) of this subsection may be satisfied by the completion of the evidence-based youth suicide prevention training program administered pursuant to section 1 of this act.

# Review and Discussion of Changes to CHWAB Statutory Authority

## Expand and Support the CHW Advisory Body's statutory scope to include the following:

- CHW career pathways and pipelines (including high school students, CT Youth Services Bureaus, etc.) within the profession and beyond
- Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program. Originally developed under the State Innovation Model, this would provide on the job training, combined with classroom instruction, ensures a well-qualified job ready employee. Apprenticeships generally range from one to four years and at completion, the Connecticut Department of Labor's Office of Apprenticeship Training provides a portable training credential. A Registered Apprenticeship program can help employers develop a world-class workforce, enhance productivity, profitability and the bottom line. Hundreds of companies are already benefitting their business by taking advantage of training scholarships and Step-Up training subsidies." <http://www.ctdol.state.us>

## **Expand and Support the CHW Advisory Body's statutory scope to include the following:**

- Identifying areas of collaboration with other lay health worker professions (douglas, peer support workers)
- Supporting CHWs through assistance for Certification Fee funding
- Support and implement reimbursement models for CHWs using a value-based payment structure through core practice teams.
- Continue to review and refine core curriculum and CEU requirements and approved training vendor application process.



## **Develop the Community Health Worker Association of Connecticut as an independent organization to provide the following:**

- Develop and implement a sustainability model for the CHWACT beyond CPHA and grant funding
- Provide information to CHWs on the profession, Certification, CEUs and courses available.
- Provide training and capacity building for CHWs, employers, champions and community members.
- Provide networking and professional development opportunities
- Provide policy and advocacy for the profession

# Research on Sustainability of CHWs and CHWACT

## **Researching and Connecting with the New England States and other States on:**

- Sustainability/reimbursement of CHWs
- Sustainability of CHW Associations
- Potential Future Forums

# Funding Opportunities

## Office of Workforce Strategy: CareerConnect - CHW Training Funding for Approved Vendors

During the 2021 legislative session, Governor Lamont and the Connecticut General Assembly passed historic legislation investing in Connecticut's workforce. The Office of Workforce Strategy is helping to bring their vision to life with CareerConneCT.

Awarding grants to innovative workforce development programs that help unemployed people, historically marginalized groups, and students prepare for high-demand, high-quality careers.

CareerConneCT is focused on: Reskilling and Upskilling: Continuous learning and job training are essential. Inclusiveness and Effectiveness: Help propel worker success while advancing social equity. Mutual Success: This win-win program helps students, workers, and Connecticut thrive by uniting employers, workforce development boards, secondary- and post-secondary institutions, and community and economic organizations.

# Community Health Worker and Paraprofessional Training Program: HRSA-22-124 –Forecast Release February 15<sup>th</sup>:

The Community Health Worker and Paraprofessional Training Program (CHWPTP) will expand the public health workforce through the training of new Community Health Workers (CHWs) and paraprofessionals and extend the knowledge and skills of current CHWs and paraprofessionals. The CHWPTP aims to increase access to care, improve public health emergency response, and address the public health needs of underserved communities.

Expected Number of Awards: 80

Funding Amount: \$239,800,000

# Review Committee Update

# DPH Update



# Marketing & Outreach Update

# General Questions

# Looking forward

## Next meeting:

March 3, 2022

## Updates:

**Presentation by OHS – Primary Care Roadmap**

**Report on Research on CHWs & CHW Associations sustainability**

# Contact

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# Adjourn