



CONNECTICUT  
*Office of Health Strategy*

# Community Health Worker Advisory Body (CHWAB)

April 7, 2022

# Purpose of Today's Meeting

# CHW Advisory Body Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome & introductions
2. Public comment
3. Meeting Summary review and approval for March 2022
4. Membership Vacancy
5. Presentation by
6. Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program for CHWs
7. Review Committee Update
8. Marketing and Outreach Update
9. DPH Update
10. General Questions
11. Adjourn

# Introductions

**Chair**  
**Laura J. Morris, MPH**  
Office of Health Strategy

**Chris Andresen**  
Practitioner & Licensing, DPH

**Lee Carenza**  
**CHW Employing Agency**  
Director of Community Services  
Thames Valley Council for Community  
Action  
Appointment: October 17, 2019

**Vacant**  
Healthcare Provider

**Mildred Landock**  
**Community Health Worker**  
Lead CHW  
YNHH-Project Access  
Appointment: October 17, 2019

**Erika Lynch**  
**Repr of Regional Community College**  
Workforce Development  
Gateway Community College

**Bianca Noroñas**  
**Community Health Worker**  
Hispanic Health Council  
Appointment: October 17, 2019

**Nilda Paris**  
**Community Health Worker**  
Director, CT Center for Patient Safety  
Appointment: October 17, 2019

**Derricka Parker**  
**Community Health Worker**  
Outreach and Enrollment Manager  
StayWell Health Center  
Appointment: October 17, 2019

**Melanie Alvarez**  
**Community Health Worker**  
Director of Community Resources  
Advancing Connecticut Together  
Appointment: February 3, 2022

**Adriana Rojas**  
**Healthcare Employer**  
Project Manager for CHW Pilot Program  
Community Health Center, Inc.  
Appointment: October 25, 2019

**Milagrosa Seguinot**  
Executive Director  
CHW Association of Connecticut  
Appointment: October 17, 2019

**Liza Estevez**  
**Community Health Worker**  
Manager, Patient Navigation  
Yale New Haven Health  
Appointment: November 11, 2021

**Fernando Morales**  
**Community Based CHW Training**  
Southwest AHEC  
Appointment: April 1, 2021

# Public Comment

# Review and Approve March 3, 2022 Meeting Summary

# **Presentation by Marissa Russo, Director of Specialized Residential Services, Mental Health Connecticut**

# Membership Vacancy

# Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program for CHWs

# Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program for CHWs

In 2018/2019, Meredith Ferraro, Fernando Morales, M. Litwin, F. Mahama and Bruce Gould researched and met with CT Department of Labor to discuss getting a CHW Apprenticeship Started in CT

Optimus Healthcare in Bridgeport and SWAHEC began to apply for and developed Standards of Apprenticeship for Community Health Workers

This was conducted under the SIM CHW Initiative

# Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program for CHWs

## CT Department of Labor

### Sec. 31-51d-4. Criteria for apprenticeable occupations

An apprenticeable occupation is a trade or occupation which possess all of the following characteristics:

- a. Is customarily learned in a practical way through a structured systematic program of on the job supervised training;
- b. It is clearly identified and commonly recognized throughout the industry;
- c. It involves manual, mechanical or technical skill and knowledge which requires a minimum of 2,000 hours of on the job work experience; and
- d. It requires a recommended minimum equivalent of 144 hours per year related instruction to supplement the on the job training.

# Benefits of the Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program for CHWs

- Provides supervised structured on the job training with classroom instruction
- As an apprentice, you will learn on-the-job under the supervision of a journeyperson, while working for an approved sponsor (sole employer or joint labor/management organization). You will also attend related instruction classes at an approved training site.
- You will be paid according to a progressive schedule for wage increases over the term of your apprenticeship as listed on your Apprenticeship Agreement.
- Provides employer with well-qualified, job ready employee
- Employer would apply and would need to coordinate CHW Training with an approved training vendor

# Question for the Development and Implementation of Apprenticeship Program for CHWs

1. Should the CHWAB consider researching and pursuing the development and implementation of an Apprenticeship Program for CHWs?
2. Would a CHW Apprenticeship Program be a good fit for high school students/graduating high school students?

# Review Committee Update

# Marketing and Outreach Update

# DPH Update

# OHS Update



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# General Questions

# Looking forward

**Next meeting:**

May 5, 2022

**Updates:**

**Apprenticeship**

**Research Sustainability/Reimbursement of CHWs**

# Contact

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Leslie Greer: [leslie.greer@ct.gov](mailto:leslie.greer@ct.gov)

# Adjourn