

# Community Health Worker Advisory Body

## Meeting Summary

March 3, 2022

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Location
March 3, 2022	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Via Zoom

### Member Name and Attendance

Community Health Worker Advisory Body Members					
Lee Carena	X	Milagrosa Seguinot	X	Fernando Morales	
Mildred Landock	X	Adriana Rojas	X	Melanie Alvarez	X
Erika Lynch	X	Nilda Paris	X	Laura Morris	X
Bianca Noronas	X	Chris Andresen	X		
Derricia Parker	X	Liza Estevez	X		
Other Participants Present					
Leslie Greer, OHS		Rebekkah Smith, CHNCT		Christina Del Vecchio, CHCACT	
Kelly Sinko, OHS		Jennifer Lane, CRT		Cherie Poirier, HEC	
Hanna Nagy, OHS		Julie Bryant, CRT		Rashawn Hughes, HEC	
Abby Alter, OHS		Meghan Tastensen, CHCACT		Erin Campbell	
Alyssa Marin, Bristol/Burlington Health District		Samantha Grados Ramos, CRT		Maggie Goodwin	
Dawn Fairservis, CRT		Victor Johnson, CRT		Rebecca Smith	
Walt Glomb		Eleanor Powell		Doris Maldonado Mendez	

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

Agenda	Responsible Person(s)
<b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
<b>Call to Order</b> The meeting of the Community Health Worker Advisory Body (CHWAB) was held on Thursday, March 3, 2022, via zoom. Laura Morris chaired the meeting. The meeting convened at 10:03 a.m. Laura Morris announced OHS, Executive Director Vicki Veltri has appointed her as the interim chair until a replacement has been found.	
<b>2. Public Comment</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No public comment</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Review and Approve February Meeting Summary</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A correction was noted for the correction of Shawn Hughes's name change to Rashawn Hughes. A motion was made by Milagrosa Seguinot to approve the February meeting summary and seconded by Lee Carena. <b>Motion carried</b></li> </ul>	
<b>4. Presentation on OHS – Primary Care Roadmap</b>	<b>Kelly Sinko and Hanna Nagy, OHS</b>
Kelly Sinko, Director of Health Innovation, and Hanna Nagy, Lead Planning Analyst, OHS presented on the Primary Care Roadmap. Presentation located <a href="https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/Pages/Consumer-Advisory-Council/Meeting-Materials">https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/Pages/Consumer-Advisory-Council/Meeting-Materials</a>	
<b>5. Membership Vacancies</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The vacancy for Chair remains open.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We also need to fill the vacancy for a health care provider who works directly with Community health workers, left open by Dr. Jean Jacobs. If there is anyone that you know, or if you're interested and you are a healthcare provider who works with Community health workers, please reach out to me if you're interested in joining the committee for either vacancy.</li> <li>APRNs or anyone designated as a licensed provider can serve on the committee.</li> </ul>	
6.	<b>CEU Training Cultural Competency, Systemic Racism or Systemic Oppression, Social Determinants of Health and Suicide Prevention Training</b>	<b>Chris Andresen, DPH</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris Andresen discussed DPH is continuing to sort out the various executive orders and their meaning. The executive order suspended the requirements for licensure renewals and any other requirements listed in the statutes which included CHW certifications. Part of the requirements is continuing education units during the renewal period. CHW's are required to do 30 hours every 3 years.</li> <li>Chris Andresen has been explaining to individuals not to stress too much over this to those who are concerned they may lose their certification or license if something was mixed up with their continuing education requirements, they are still sorting it out. Due to covid-19, it's been crazy and confusing.</li> <li>The executive order suspended the requirements for renewal of licensure and certifications. DPH expects the order will expire soon which will provide more time to complete the continuing education requirements. DPH is in the process of meeting with some attorneys to have a better understanding of what the orders did. DPH will notify people what the timeframe is to ensure all continuing education requirements have been met.</li> <li>At the very least the time frame will be six months or longer. However, this mainly applies to those individuals who recently came upon their three-year renewal or will be renewing soon, you will have extra time to complete your continuing education requirements if you haven't completed them. Any that you've done that are qualified that have been done during this period, still count, but if you couldn't do all of them, you will be afforded extra time to complete.</li> <li>DPH is working on clarifying what the language meant and extending the due date for the every six years training required.</li> <li>CEU Training required by the state: 2 Hours Cultural Competency, Systemic Racism or Systemic Oppression, or 2 Hours Social Determinants of Health, or 2 Hours of training on (1) screening for post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of suicide, depression, and grief, and (2) suicide prevention. The 2 continuing hours required are not in addition to the 30 continuing education required hours.</li> <li>Individuals will be notified via email blast about continuing education and will also provide the information to Milagrosa Seguinot to share with her network.</li> <li>Chris Andresen will provide more information when available.</li> </ul>	
7.	<b>CHW Trainers Requirements Discussion</b>	<b>Milagrosa Seguinot, CHWACT</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milagrosa Seguinot discussed having training requirements for CHW approved vendors. We currently do not have any in CT. Discussed having a specific program the CHWAB can put together and determine the topics for a Train the Trainer program.</li> <li>There are training entities within the state that are not properly training CHWs.</li> <li>Finding it challenging hiring CHWs due to not being well trained or the assessment used to have these individuals' part of the training course was not correct and eventually after they complete the training they cannot fill the position, to the extent that is required because of their own personal challenges. We need to keep this in mind when bringing candidates into</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the training courses.</li> <li>We need to determine why it has been difficult to retain CHWs in the workforce.</li> <li>Gateway College has a training program in place and the Health Education Center is in the process.</li> </ul>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Review Committee Update</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have one vendor in the process of submitting their application. Once the application is fully submitted the Review Committee will convene to review the application.</li> <li>Plan is to do some outreach and engagement to other vendors that may be out there in CT or other states who would like to provide training. We want to make sure they are aware there is a process, and we have an approval process.</li> </ul>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Marketing and Outreach Update</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are in phase II of our marketing and outreach. Laura Morris provided some preliminary information on some of the messaging: Community health worker is, the benefits of a Community health worker, service certification, marketing objective, target audience.</li> <li>These are in draft, and we will be working with the vendor to finalize them.</li> <li>Once these are finalized the vendor will start going out marketing the information through outreach.</li> </ul>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>DPH Update</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We do not have an update</li> </ul>	
<b>11.</b>	<b>General Questions</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
<b>12.</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Next meeting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 7, 2022</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Updates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statutory Changes</li> <li>Research on Sustainability</li> <li>CEU Updates</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>13.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	<b>Laura Morris</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milagrosa Seguinot motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Erika Lynch. The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.</li> </ul>	