



Community Health Worker Advisory Body Meeting

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

[Zoom Meeting Recording](#)

Attendance (Members)					
Rachel Rusnak (Interim Chair)	R	Liza Estevez	R		
Milagrosa Seguinot	R	Nilda Paris	R		
Erika Lynch	R	Laura Morris, DPH	X		
Mildred Landock	R	Fernando Morales	R		
Adriana Rojas	R	Kim Barry	R		
Derricia Parker	R	Stephen Fran Thung	X		
Supporting Leadership & Other Participants					
Leslie Greer, OHS	R	Alyssa McClain, HES	R	Mary Scully, Khmer	R
Stacy Kamienski, CHCACT	R	Stacey Kamienski, CHCA	R	Dean Jones	R
Lauren Junge-Maughan, Bridgeport Hospital	R	Dianne Jones,	R		
Elizabeth Conklin, DPH	R	Cynthia Jean-Mary, HEC	R		
<p><i>In accordance with FOIA statutes re: meetings held solely by electronic-means (remotely): R=attended remotely, IP=attended in person, X=did not attend</i></p>					

Agenda	Presenter
1) Welcome and Call to Order	Rachel Rusnak, OHS
<p>The regularly scheduled CHWAB meeting was held virtually on Thursday, March 7, 2024. Rachel Rusnak welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.</p>	
2) Public Comment	Rachel Rusnak, OHS
<p>There were no public comments made.</p>	
3) Action: Approval of Minutes: March 7, 2024	Rachel Rusnak, OHS
<p>(Vote) Rachel Rusnak requested a motion to approve the March 7, 2024, minutes. The motion was made (Milagrosa Seguinot) and seconded (Kim Barry). There was no discussion. The minutes were unanimously approved.</p>	
4) Family Bridge Update	Lauren Junge-Maughan, Bridgeport Hospital
<p>Lauren described the Family Bridge program, a Universal Nurse Home Visiting - Community Health worker Pilot currently active in the Greater Bridgeport Region.</p> <p>The Family Bridge is a multi-state agency collaboration between DSS, DCF, OHS, OEC, and DPH. It is administered by Bridgeport Hospital in the Bridgeport region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service is a public health prevention effort, offered regardless of income or eligibility criteria, to all families giving birth and residing in Bridgeport, Milford, Monroe, Shelton, Stratford, Trumbull, Fairfield, and Easton, encompassing care for moms and babies. 	
5) Community Health Worker Association of CT Update	Milagrosa Seguinot, CHW Association
<p>Millie Seguinot provided updates on the CHWACT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> She noted approximately 500 Certified Community Health Workers as of this meeting. The association will celebrate CHWs with an in-person event in the first or second week of April. The CHWACT will host a Board meeting next week. 	

6) Train the Trainer Update	Rachel Rusnak, OHS
<p>Rachel provided background on the need for qualified CHW trainers and why there was a decision to move forward with establishing a curriculum for CHW instructors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sub-group has been meeting and has made some progress on the curriculum. Fernando and Erika were at our last meeting. • Fernando, Erika, Millie, and Rachel are members of the sub-group. • Fernando and Erika provided an update on the elements that have been discussed with a consultant to develop the curriculum, which will consist of 6 modules, which include: CT CHW History, Core Competencies, Planning and Preparation, Subject Matter Expertise, Adult Learning & Popular Education, Cultural Awareness and Humility, Presentation & Facilitation Skills, Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health, Understanding and Integrating Trauma-Informed Care Principles, Teaching Counseling and Motivational Interviewing. • The curriculum will be piloted before final approval and will include pre-and post assessment. • The timeline for piloting the curriculum is tentatively June 2024, and for the curriculum to be set by Fall 2024. 	
7) Training Vendor Update	Leslie Greer, OHS
<p>Leslie Greer shared a new application has been received however we have not received payment. Leslie will schedule a meeting with the Review Committee to discuss this since we've never experienced this. She will send an email to determine availability next week to the group.</p>	
8) DPH Update	TBD
<p>Laura Morris was unable to attend today's meeting. Milagrosa Seguinot announced in her CHW Association report that there were approximately 500 certified CHWs.</p>	
9) Questions/Announcements	Rachel Rusnak
<p>Fernando shared that they've had an NCE from CT Health Foundation, enabling them to pay for certification fees for CHWs – if there is interest in certification, Fernando will send out a flier.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The funds are available until the end of June, up to 40 slots are available. 	
11) Wrap Up and Meeting Adjournment	Rachel Rusnak
<p>The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.</p>	

Next Meeting: The CHWAB will be moving to a quarterly meeting cadence.

Leslie and Rachel will share the dates/invitations with the group.

The proposed schedule will be June/September/December/March

All meeting information and materials are published on the OHS website:

<https://portal.ct.gov/ohs/pages/community-health-worker-advisory-body/meeting-materials>

Meeting presentation:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/ohs/chw-advisory-body/2024-meetings/3-7-24/chwab-march-presentation.pdf>