



C O N N E C T I C U T  
*Office of Health Strategy*

# Community Health Worker Advisory Committee

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December 18, 2018

# Meeting Agenda

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|---|--------|
| 1. Introductions/Call to Order                              | 5 min  |
| 2. Public Comment   | 10 min |
| 3. Approval of the Minutes                                  | 5 min  |
| 4. Updates: CHW Certification Legislation                   | 10 min |
| 5. Advocacy Strategies to Support Certification Legislation | 30 min |
| 6. Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body    | 30 min |
| 7. Committee Role in Supporting SIM Objectives & Beyond     | 30 min |
| 8. Adjourn  |        |

# Introductions/Call to Order

# Public Comment

10 minutes per comment

# Approval of the Minutes

# Updates: CHW Certification Legislation

# CHW Certification Legislation

## WHO?

- Working with Health Equity Solutions and Hispanic Health Council
  - Identify Champions in Legislature
  - Strategies to market across the state
  - Target audiences
- CHW Association of CT
- CHW Advisory Committee
- Office of Health Strategy

# Advocacy Strategies to Support Certification Legislation



# Advocacy Strategies to Support Certification Legislation

**Advocacy and Education Fact Sheets**: Specifically tailored to groups. I.e., Legislators, CHW/non CHW Employers, CHWs, etc.

**Presentations**: Design 15 minute concise slide decks that will guide and inform the various groups on the following topics:

- 1) About CHW legislation
- 2) Why Legislation is needed
- 3) The benefit of this CHW legislation to payers, employers of CHWs, CHWs themselves, and the residents of Connecticut.

# Advocacy Strategies to Support Certification Legislation (continued)

## Educational Campaigns

Meetings to begin to be secured in December with health care providers, social service and community-based organizations.

Strategies for meetings with legislators

# Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body

# Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body (continued)

**Texas** (The committee is subject to Government Code, Chapter 2110, concerning state agency advisory committees)

- **The DSHS Commissioner:** Appoint all members to the Community Health Worker Advisory Committee. Four seats community health workers currently certified by the department; (2) two public members, which may include consumers of community health work services or individuals with paid or volunteer experience in community healthcare or social services;
- One member from the Higher Education Coordinating Board, or a higher education faculty with teaching experience in community health, public health or adult education and has trained (4) two professionals who work with promotores or community health workers in a community setting, including employers and representatives of non-profit community-based organizations or faith-based organizations.
- **Selection Process:** Applications and two signed and dated letters of recommendation are submitted and reviewed by the CHW Advisory Committee, they are charged with the advising the Executive Commissioner of HHSC Together, they make the decisions whether to approve the applications or not.

# Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body (continued)

**Rhode Island** Certification Board is a private entity that certifies other professions

- The RI Department of Health, represented by the Health Equity Institute and Chronic Disease Offices, and RI Certification Board meet to select members for the Steering Committee (Advisory Board.)
- **Selection Process:** Applications are submitted and reviewed by the above mentioned entities. Together, they make the decisions whether to approve the applications or not.

# Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body (continued)

**Massachusetts:** Certification Board under the DOH, Division of Licensing.

- **Massachusetts Community Health Workers Association (MACHW)** has 4 seats – nominates CHWs
- **Office of Community Health Workers** – nominates other 7 partners
- **Selection Process:**
  - Potential interested parties receive a Nomination.
  - Nominees submit a resume and letter of intent to the Division of Licensure, where reviewed.
  - Qualified applicants sent to the Director of the Bureau, Division of Public Health for review.
  - Sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health for approval
  - Final approval to the Governor for Appointment to the Board.

# Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body (continued)

## **New Mexico** DOH formed the CHW Certification Board

- **Role of the Association (NMCHWA)** Continues to participate in partner meetings with the DOH to maintain the certification process.
- **Selection Process:**
  - Certification Coordinator from each of 6 regions review the applications.
  - Qualified applicants are submitted to the Office of CHWs within DOH.
  - If approved application sent to Secretary of the Public Health Division of DOH for final appointment.

# Selection Process for the Certification Advisory Body Overview

	Texas	Rhode Island	Massachusetts	New Mexico
<b>Who Appoints</b>	DSHS Commissioner	RI-DOH-Health Equity Institute & Certification Board	Commissioner and Governor	Bureau Chief of the Public Health Division of DOH
<b>Selection of Members</b>	CHW Advisory Committee & Commissioner	Same as Above	MACHWA, Director of the Bureau Commissioner Governor	Region Certification Coordinators Office of CHWs
<b>Process</b>	Application & 2 Letters of Recommendation reviewed	Applications submitted & reviewed	By Nomination Nominees submit resume and letter of intent	Applications reviewed



# How are the Advisory Body (Board) members chosen?

## Texas –

- The committee composed of nine members appointed by the Commissioner.
- Commissioner appoints 4 CHWs and 5 other members composed of specific expertise
- DSHS will consider the applicants' qualifications, background and interest in serving on the committee.
- DSHS also tries to choose committee members who, as a whole, represent the diversity of all Texans.
- DSHS considers applicants' ethnicity, gender and geographic location.

## Massachusetts –

- Committee composed of eleven members appointed by the governor.
- Governor appoints Commissioner as Chair and the remaining 10 members.
- 6 will be appointed to assure representation of all 6 areas of the executive office of health & human services.
- 4 appointed CHWs recommended by MACHW.

# How are the Advisory Body (Board) members chosen?

## **New Mexico –**

- Board of Certification is composed of nine members.
- Secretary of Health appoints all members and serves as co-chair.
- 5 appointed with specific level of expertise.
- 3 current practicing Community Health Workers

## **Rhode Island –**

- Subject Matter Experts are composed of ten members
- Subject Matter Expert applications are reviewed by the Rhode Island Certification Board.
- The group is comprised of Community Health Workers who represent a diversity of practice, experience, geographic regions and education.

# How are the Advisory Body (Board) members chosen? Overview

	TX	MA	NM	RI
<b>Composition</b>	<u>9 members</u> 4 CHWs and 5 other members composed of specific expertise.	<u>11 members</u> 4 CHWs Commissioner 9 other members with specific expertise.	<u>Nine members</u> 3 CHWs Secretary 5 other members with specific expertise.	10 SME's All CHWs with diverse experience.
<b>Appointments</b>	DSHS will consider the various applicant variables	Governor appoints all members	Secretary of Health appoints all members	RI DOH and SME Experts
<b>Final Decision</b>	Commissioner of DPH	Governor	Secretary of Public Health	Same as Above

# Proposed Options for CT Advisory Body

Appointment Component	Options			
Process for being considered	Application Process- Applications are submitted for each category & reviewed	Nomination Process- Organizations are designated to provide nominations		
Process for Review	SIM Steering Committee/OHS Governing Body reviews & makes recommendations	CHW Advisory Committee reviews & makes recommendations	Internal staff review & make recommendations to final decision maker	
Final Decision	Governor	DPH Commissioner	OHS Director	SIM Steering Committee/OHS Governing Body

# Committee Role in Supporting SIM Objectives & Beyond

# The Future Role of the CHW Advisory Committee

## Takeaways from October Meeting:

- The Committee has made significant progress and would like to continue building from existing momentum
- New voices should be added to the Committee, but it is critical to retain a working knowledge of the Committee's history

# Short-Term Needs to Support CHWs

- Advocacy Efforts to support Certification legislation- **as discussed today**
- Selection process for Certification Advisory Body- **as discussed today**
- Approving Training Programs for Certification- **Role of the Association- or is there a role for the Committee?**
- Input on new primary care delivery and payment initiatives- **opportunities now through SIM**
- Professional Support for CHWs currently working in CT- **not currently a role the Advisory Committee plays**

# Long-Term Needs to Support CHWs

- Professional Support for CHWs working in Connecticut
- Advocacy Efforts for Sustainable Payment Models for CHWs
- Advising on Technical Assistance Strategies for integrating CHWs into care teams

## Questions:

- Should the Committee play a role in these areas?
- How does the Committee relate to the Association in these areas?
- How can/should OHS support these efforts? Are there other organizations/agencies that can/should play a role?



# Next Steps

# Next Steps

- Meeting Schedule for Next Year
- Need to adjust Committee membership
- Strategy for developing next phase of Committee charge

# Adjourn