



Building the Pipeline of Peers and Community Health Workers in Health Centers Learning Collaborative Call for Applications

Community Health Worker (CHW) programs provide opportunities to strengthen our understanding and connections for health centers and the vulnerable populations they serve. The skills and life experience that CHWs bring to the job can and will significantly impact health outcomes for the hardest to reach populations. Building a CHW program is the first step. Once established it is essential to nurture the supports to expand and sustain the staff and workers at the core of the program.

The National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC), MHP Salud, and Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) are launching a second cohort of the HRSA sponsored ***Building the Pipeline of Peers and Community Health Workers in Health Centers Learning Collaborative***. The series curriculum utilizes a shared learning and peer forum to explore promising practices, solve challenging problems and create new opportunities focused on recruiting and sustaining staff in your peer and community health worker program. The three HRSA technical assistance providers will combine their expertise with health centers and special vulnerable populations to equip health centers to maximize community health worker programs, address growing workforce needs, and establish health outcome metrics for individuals experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable populations.

Benefits of this CHW Learning Collaborative

A learning collaborative is a dynamic, virtual peer exchange that enables dialogue among stakeholders pursuing similar objectives. Through a series of facilitated webinars, interactive discussions, resources, and tools - – February – April 2020 Health Centers with existing Community Health Worker Programs will benefit from the shared insights on:

- February 13, 2020 - Community Health Worker Program Foundation and Understanding the Target Population
- March 5, 2020 – Recruiting, Hiring, and Supportive People with Lived Experience
- March 26, 2020 – Training, Supervising, Certifying, and Retaining Community Health Workers
- April 16, 2020 - Community Health Worker Program Sustainability and Return on Investment

The ***Building the Pipeline of Peers and Community Health Workers in Health Centers Learning Collaborative*** has two primary components:

1. *Group Learning*: Through a series of four virtual meetings/webinars, health centers will share program information, set goals for strengthening their programs, and strategize implementation steps.
2. *Individualized Planning*: Each Learning Collaborative session will include discussion and exercises that participants can adapt for their individual organization and community. Follow-up resources, 'office hours' and consultation will be available from the three sponsor technical assistance organizations.

Participation in the CHW Learning Collaborative

The Community Health Worker Learning Collaborative will be accepting applications starting in December 2019 from health centers. The goal is to include 10-12 health centers with established CHW Programs that are exploring opportunities to strengthen and expand their programs. Team enrollment is recommended with at least 3 individuals per agency, and should include staff with executive, clinical and outreach/enabling service responsibilities. Additional staff can be added to the sessions depending on the specific topic area. Next steps for health centers interested in participating:

- ✓ Complete the online “Application of Interest” in SurveyMonkey by Friday, December 20, 2019. Insert Link
- ✓ Commit to engage in all Collaborative sessions and exercises with the goal of incorporating new knowledge towards their Community Health Worker program.

It is the expectation that most participants will make significant progress on their goals for enhancing their Community Health Worker Program.

About the Learning Collaborative Sponsors:

National Health Care for the Homeless: NHCHC is a network of doctors, nurses, social workers, consumers, and advocates who share the mission to eliminate homelessness. Since 1986 we have been the leading organization to call for comprehensive health care and secure housing for all. We produce leading research in the field and provide the highest level of training and resources related to care for persons experiencing homelessness. We collaborate with government agencies and private institutions in order to solve complex problems associated with homelessness. Additionally, we provide support to publicly funded health centers and Health Care for the Homeless programs in all 50 states. Additional information is available at www.nhchc.org

MHP Salud: MHP Salud is a national nonprofit organization with 35 years of experience developing, implementing, and evaluating community-based, culturally tailored Community Health Worker (CHW)/Promotor(a) programs and promoting the CHW model through training and technical assistance services. MHP Salud aims to implement CHW programs to empower underserved special and vulnerable communities and promote the CHW model nationally as a culturally appropriate strategy to improve health. Additional information available at www.mhpsalud.org

CSH: With staff in more than 25 locations around the country, CSH transforms how communities use housing solutions to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people. We offer expertise, information and innovation that allow our partners to use supportive housing to achieve stability and leverage partnerships across industries for the people most in need. Additional information is available at www.csh.org

CSH, NHCHC and MHP Salud are National Technical Assistance and Training providers through National Cooperative Agreements with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Contacts:

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Application of Interest – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5ZHMRZJ>

Eligibility:

- ☐ The health center applicant has an existing Community Health Worker Program

Contact Information

Date Submitted	
Health Center Organization	<i>Name</i>
Health Center	<i>Street, City, State, Zip Code</i>
Community Partner on CHW program, if any	<i>Health partner, service organization, municipality, etc</i>
Person Submitting Application	<i>Name, Title, Telephone Number, Email Address</i>
Primary Contact	<i>Name, Title, Telephone Number, Email Address</i>
Intended Team Participants – 3 individuals	We recommend participation by multiple representatives from the health center engaged in health and housing partnerships including executive, clinical, and outreach/enabling services.
1. Name	<i>Title, Organization, Telephone Number, Email address</i>
2. Name	<i>Title, Organization, Telephone Number, Email address</i>
3. Name	<i>Title, Organization, Telephone Number, Email address</i>

General Information

Health Center Designation(s)	330(e) Community Health Center	330(h) Health Care for the Homeless	330(g) Migrant Health Center	330(i) Public Housing Primary Care	Other(s)
Indicate all that apply					
Services Summary	<i>Number of patients served annually; Please provide a summary of your health center's services. (medical, dental, behavioral health, other)?</i>				

Statement of Interest

Social Determinants of Health	<i>Generally describe how your organization participates in activities that address social determinants of health.</i>
Strategic Planning	<i>How will participation in the Community Health Worker LC support these SDOH activities? Support your organization's strategic planning?</i>
Community Health Worker Program	<i>Identify your goals for enhancing /changing your current Community Health Worker Program.</i> <i>Describe your health centers' current Community Health Worker Program. When was it started? How many workers are included? Describe the roles and responsibilities for CHWs in your program.</i>

Community Partnerships	<i>Who are the organizations that you partner with for your CHW program? What is/are the housing-related service(s) and organization(s) under consideration for partnership with the FQHC? How many people do/will benefit from the new service(s)/units?</i>
Training	<i>Describe the training and capacity building that your organization has engaged to build your Community Health Worker Program? What are your current needs for training?</i>
Financing Information	<i>What are the funding sources that support your Community Health Worker Program? Are there other sources of funding that you seek to pursue?</i>

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Barriers	<i>What barriers have you faced in building your Community Health Worker Program?</i>
Decision Making	<i>What do you need/want to understand about CHW program when making decisions regarding program expansion, roles, recruiting? What questions about CHW have been raised within your organization?</i>
Other	<i>Highlight other information you hope to learn about/share during the Building the Pipeline of Peers and Community Health Workers in Health Centers Learning Collaborative?</i>