



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Kansas CHN Core

- 1. Self-Awareness
- 2. Service Coordination & System Navigation 3. Educating to Promote Healthy Behavior Change
- 4. Advocacy
- 5. Individual & Community Capacity Building
- 6. Effective Communication Strategies
- 7. Cultural Responsiveness
- 8. Documentation & Reporting
- 9. Professionalism & Conduct
- 10. Use of Public Health/Community Health Concepts & Approaches
- 11. Individual Assessment

TO LEARN

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KSCHW.ORG

12. Community Assessment, Identifying Barriers & Resources

History and Achievements of the Kansas Community Health Worker Coalition

BACKGROUND:

The Kansas Community Health Worker Coalition (KCHWC) was established in 2017, and continues to expand as the Community Health Worker (CHW) workforce evolves. The coalition strives to educate and support the Kansas Community Health Worker population by promoting our mission to achieve health equity through education, empowerment, and advocacy. The coalition leadership team carries this mission out by providing opportunities for CHWs to learn and grow, including (but not limited to) CHW Core Competency Education courses, continuing education opportunities with topics relevant to the CHW scope of practice, opportunities for CHWs to join the coalition and make their voices heard, and providing certification services for CHWs practicing in Kansas.

In 2023, the coalition aims to become a 501(c)(3) organization with the goal of expanding its reach to CHWs in communities across Kansas. This decision has allowed funding to be directed to the specific needs relevant to the CHW population. As a result, health organizations are seeing the value of adding CHWs to their workforce.

KCHWC Education Course

- Modules are derived from the Mid-America
- Textbook: Foundations for Community Health Workers, 2nd Edition
- Scholarships provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment & United Methodist Health Ministry Fund and are distributed to CHWs around the state of Kansas.
- CHWs to apply for certification on the education
- The course consists of 100 hours of class time learning/discussion, and 60 hours of servicelearning activities.
- Modules review the 12 Kansas CHW Core Competencies in detail
- Service learning activities are designed to expand each CHW's resource toolbox and connections within the community.

CHN Certification

- Kansas CHW Certification is a non-state agency certification, recognizing CHWs who have completed a KDHE-endorsed training program.
- The Kansas CHW registry, maintained by the Coalition, consists of the names, certification status, certification number, etc. of all certified Kansas CHWs.
- The CHW CEU process allows certified CHWS to maintain active status on the registry once the certification period (2 years) has expired.
- The KCHWC Recognizes Missouri's CHW credential a CHW with a MO credential can be added to the KS registry after submitting a Kansas certification application.

CHWs may apply for certification on one of two pathways:

Education

Applicant must complete a KDHE approved CHW training program through KCHWC or another certified KS CHW education provider.

Work Experience

Applicant must provide proof of 800 hours practicing as a CHW over three years plus three letters of recommendation to document work and/or volunteer experience

- Regional Council (MARC) curriculum
- Completion of a KDHE approved course allows

First Annual CHW Symposium

held in Wichita, KS. During this

session, CHWs were asked to

brainstorm what was needed

for future success. CHWs

overwhelmingly agreed that

they needed a professional

space to organize and convene.



- delivery options
- **Created & trained instruction team** partners for curriculum delivery
- Facilitated first CHW core competency course

2016

Six months after the first CHW Symposium, the Kansas Community **Health Worker Coalition was** created to provide Kansas **Community Health Workers with the** tools, resources, and connections needed to empower and strengthen the workforce.

- **Adopted the Kansas CHW** definition to be used by the coalition and across Kansas
- **Outlined Kansas CHW core** competencies and scope of practice



2019-2020

Adopted standard curriculum and

2018

- **Established the Certification** Task Force to gauge CHWs' interest and develop guidelines
- Began identifying strategies for Kansas CHW workforce sustainability



Thus far, the coalition has: Trained 170 CHWs, and certified

111* CHWs in Kansas Produced continuing education

of the Coalition

Benefits

- modules on varying topics Helped establish standardized criteria and benchmarks for CHWs to ensure consistency and quality of work throughout different
- organizations across the state
- Disseminated resources, learning opportunities, and career advancement resources via the
- Kansas

2021-2023

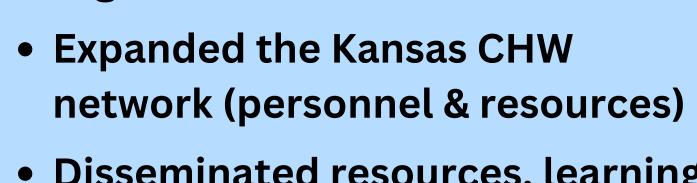
Launched Kansas CHW Certification on April 4th,

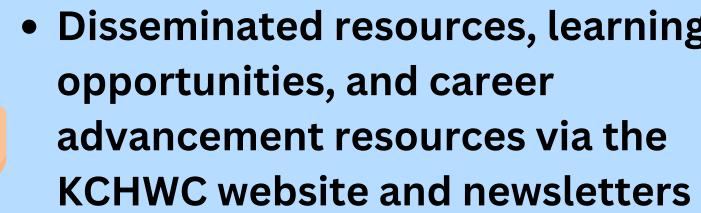
- Facilitated 13 additional CHW core competency
- Integrated an online learning platform (LearnWorlds) into education cohorts to enhance the learning experience for CHWs
- Training third cohort of instructors for curriculum delivery

Explore recognition of certifications for other neighboring states.

- The coalition is close to becoming a non-profit organization
- Evaluations and feedback are consistently used to enhance all aspects of the coalition to ensure all resources and tools remain relevant and valuable for Kansas CHWs







 Demonstrated regulatory compliance as a necessity for CHW **Curriculum providers throughout**

*As of 9/14/2023