



NOTES

Advocacy Committee Meeting

The goal of the Advocacy Committee is to raise awareness about the value of Community Health Workers in Kansas.

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 • Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

- ❖ **Members present:** Guadalupe Tredway, Broderick Crawford, Diana Lady, Amy Gaier, and Alissa Rankin
- ❖ **New business**
 - Families USA – Advocacy to engage Local Health Departments about CHWS for contact tracing, census, and elections
 - Ellen Albritton has been replaced by Raven Gomez
 - rgomez@familiesusa.org
 - Fellows program – completing cohort 2
 - For those who are doing community health advocacy in US
 - Children’s Health Leadership Network
 - Opportunities for CHW Advocacy as well
 - National conference was last week
 - Regional – Kansas, Missouri and Texas
 - Kansas cohort as well
 - Addressing infant mortality, advocacy for women’s health, etc. (e.g., doulas provide a connection)
 - Early Detection Works – CHWs of Color in Sedgwick County
 - Debbie Snyder will be in contact with Alissa
 - Advocate for CHWs as contact tracers. Local Health Departments are not necessarily where they should be for contact tracing.
 - KDHE contracted with a company to bring on up to 100 contact tracers as paid positions through ELC grant
 - LHDs can contact KDHE to apply for help through this
 - Organization is hiring 20 each week until reach 100
 - **LHDs can apply for additional Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funds to enhance COVID resource coordination. This includes CHWs for contact tracing.**

- KDHE may be able to share in the next few weeks.
- CDC to LHD to get resource coordination paid for at local level
- Contact tracing team
 - CHWs are asked: What are social needs of clients?
 - CHWs are overwhelmed (e.g., 250 people in a month for 3 CHWs)
 - Unemployment applications alone take an hour to complete
 - Managing COVID situations makes CHWs overwhelmed with work
 - ◆ Helping with contact tracing
 - **There need to be CHWs that focus on social needs and CHWs that focus on contact tracing, independently.**
 - KU/WYCO CHWs have success stories

❖ Old business

- Advocacy presentations
 - the BIG in big Data – Disease disparities
 - Cancer focus
 - Implementation Science National Conference on 9/26-27 on patient and CHW advocacy

❖ KDHE Updates

- Press release on hazards of gatherings larger than 500
 - Anyone in attendance will be asked to self-quarantine
- See above.

❖ Next Steps

- Advocate for CHWs as contact tracers
 - Amy Gaier will assist with verbiage to inform LHDs of funding opportunities
- Find out if people in Kansas have received their stimulus checks. Seems that Communities of Color are not receiving them. Follow-up with all committees' participants.

Next Meetings

Tuesday, September 8, 2020
 Tuesday, October 13, 2020
 Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Tuesday, December 8, 2020