The 6th Annual Kansas Community Health Worker Symposium was held virtually on June 8, 2021. The theme for this event was Building Resilience through Training and Resources. We appreciate our speakers and sponsors for their support in making this event happen!

Dr. Somava Saha opened the Symposium with a presentation on Charting a Path to Population Health and Equity and Civic Capacity. The Symposium included two breakout sessions: Identifying the Role of Public Health Organizations in Addressing Social Cohesion with Dr. Paigton Mayes and The Brain Science Behind Self-Care and Boundaries with Franchon Frances. The slides from these sessions will be made available. To wrap up, Cristi Cain shared lessons learned from COVID-19 and the pandemic responses from a state and local level.

Additionally, we would like to say congratulations to Diana Lady for receiving the 2021 Kansas Community Health Worker of the Year Award and welcome to our newly elected members of the Kansas Community Health Worker Coalition!

Executive & Coalition Co-Chairs: Alma Vargas and Elaine Johannes
Education CHW Co-Chair: Denise Romero
Symposium Committee Co-Chair: Diana Lady

Spotlight
KSCHW Symposium Recap

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are collecting Community Health Worker success stories and want to know yours! Please click here and take a moment to share so that we can raise awareness of CHWs in Kansas.

Want to receive this newsletter regularly? Click here to subscribe.
IN THE NEWS

A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER INTERVENTION REDUCES HOSPITAL READMISSIONS

Hospital readmissions are a major contributor to health care costs but research indicates about 27% of adult 30-day readmissions are preventable. This article discusses how Community Health Workers are successful in reducing hospital readmissions.

RESOURCES

MENTAL HEALTH FOR FARMERS

The worsening drought is having mental health effects on farmers. Learn more about effects weather patterns can have on agriculture based communities and the importance of addressing rural mental health resource gaps.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

KANSAS PREVENTION COLLABORATIVE - CONNECTING CULTURES SERIES

This series includes six sessions with speakers from Kansas communities who have been marginalized and experience behavioral health disparities. These sessions aim to promote healing and improve behavioral health for all.
COMMITTEE UPDATES

The Executive Committee met and discussed adding vaccine messaging to the CHW website to include resources on myth-busting misinformation. Northeast Kansas & Tribal Health Regional Update: currently working on funding received from Sunflower Foundation in vaccine education promotion. Southwest Kansas Regional Update: held a few vaccination events in various community locations. The Executive Committee will meet again Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 1 PM.

The joint Advocacy and Sustainability Committee met and reviewed the Workforce Assessment Handout. The Committees discussed developing a partner and member engagement plan. The Advocacy and Sustainability Committee will meet again Tuesday, July 20 at 1:30 PM.

The Symposium Committee did not meet for the month of June. The Symposium Committee will meet again on Monday, July 19, 2021 at 10 AM.

The Education Committee postponed their June meeting. The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 20 at 3:00 PM.

For more information about Kansas CHW Coalition meeting dates, please contact alissa.rankin@wichita.edu.

KC REGIONAL CHW COLLABORATIVE

Have you participated in the Kansas City Regional CHW Collaborative meetings? The mission of this collaborative is to integrate CHWs into the health and human services systems through capacity building, advocacy, and sustainability. You find more information here or contact Hannayd Ruiz at hruiz@marc.org.

CAPACITY BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE
Monday, July 26, 9:00 am

ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, July 22, 8:00 am

KC REGIONAL CHW FORUM
Thursday, July 22 9:00 am

KC REGIONAL CHW COLLABORATIVE
TO BE DETERMINED

Our mailing address is:
Wichita State University
Community Engagement Institute
Center for Public Health Initiatives
1845 Fairmount, Box 201
Wichita, Kansas 67260

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