Have you checked out the **2021 Kansas Community Health Worker Workforce Assessment** yet? A total of 133 community health workers (CHWs) responded to at least one question on the workforce assessment. Most of the respondents were female, white, non-Hispanic, and between 45-59 years old. The majority of respondents indicated they are certified clinicians (including RNs, LPNs, LMSWs, LBSWs, and CNAs). The majority of CHWs surveyed responded in English, while 37% responded in Spanish. On average, respondents each work in five different counties, and the majority of respondents live and work in the same county.

**Key Findings from Community Health Workers**

*Where do they work?*

- Most reported they are paid full-time as CHWs, and one-quarter are paid between $18-25.99/hour.
- Most CHWs work as part of a team, with the most frequently mentioned team members including other CHWs, nurses, and social workers.
- 34% of respondents work for a non-profit organization.
2021 Workforce Assessment

continued from Page 1

Who do they serve?

- Almost all respondents serve people ages 19-64 years old.
- The top groups CHWs assist or provide services for are people without health insurance, people with low-income or financial instability, rural populations, people with mental health needs, and women and children.
- The top three health needs respondents assist people with are diabetes, nutrition, and physical activity.

What do they do?

- Respondents indicated their job duties include: providing education, connecting people with non-medical help and programs, helping people with medical issues, and helping people get health insurance.

Where are clients met and served?

- Clients are met and served at community events.
- Clients are most often met via other organizations and healthcare providers.

More than half of respondents have more than 20 people on their typical caseload.

Respondents agree that:

- There should be more CHWs
- They feel supported in their role as a CHW
- More training would help them be better at their job
- Their employers prioritize their growth and advancement
- They have everything they need to help people
CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS
BLACK MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH MATTERS.

As part of a project for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to understand the health care experiences of Non-Hispanic Black mothers in Kansas both pre- and post-partum. Wichita State University’s Center for Applied Research and Evaluation has been asked to conduct interviews with women who meet the criteria below. Please provide the following information to women who fit the criteria. Their participation must be voluntary. Sign up here.

Who is eligible to participate:
- Non-Hispanic Black women
- Women who have given birth or been pregnant
- Women 18 years of age or older
- English speakers

LEARNING OPPORTUNITY
CHWS ROLE IN ADVANCING EQUITY

Join County Health Rankings & Roadmap’s webinar on August 24th as they explore the work of CHWs and their role in advancing equity. You can register and learn more here.
COMMITTEE UPDATES

The Executive Committee met and discussed the development and planning for non-profit status. Northeast Kansas & Tribal Health Regional Update: the Kansas Tribal Health Summit will be held virtually and there is an upcoming Sunday Funday drive-thru event. The Executive Committee will meet again Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 1 PM.

The joint Advocacy and Sustainability Committee, Symposium Committee, and Education Committee took a break during August. They will resume meeting in September on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 1:30 PM, Monday, September 20, 2021, at 10 AM, and Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 3:00 PM, respectively.

For more information about Kansas CHW Coalition contact janeshia.wilson@wichita.edu.

IN THE NEWS

In the ASTHO (Association of State and Territorial Health Officials blog, CHWs were recognized as the Heart of Public Health. Dr. Marcus Plescia, ASTHO’s Chief Medical Officer states the need to expand the role of CHWs in medical care settings.” CHWs are instrumental in addressing disparities in chronic conditions including cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Several recommendations to build infrastructure including building CHW programs with recent expansion in funding, creating a support hiring environment for CHWs, developing sustainable funding opportunities, contributing to the evidence demonstrating the value of CHWs, and support CHW peer networks. Read the article here.

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, Sep. 27, 9:00 am

ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, Sep. 23, 8:00 am

KC REGIONAL CHW FORUM
Thursday, Sep. 23, 9:00 am

KC REGIONAL CHW COLLABORATIVE
Thursday, Sep. 23, 10:30 am

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

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You are receiving this email because you expressed interest in the Kansas Community Health Worker Coalition or Symposium.