



## **Agenda**

### **Education Committee**

*The goal of the Education Committee is to continually improve the content and process of CHW education in KS.*

**Education Committee Co-Chair:** Marixendra Alvarez and Erik Fields  
Date: July 8th, 2025, • Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am

- **Welcome & Introductions**

**Attendees**

Marixendra Alvarez, Erik Fields, Treva Smith, Debra Cooper, Kaitlin Woods, Alissa Rankin, Barb Wiman, Elaine Johannes, Hannayd Ruiz, Birgit Lemke, Lesley Hayward, Jackie Betance, Crystal Rodriguez,

- **Discussion:**

- Due to transition of backbone work, Coalition organizing committee meetings with help of KDHE and notetaking support.

- **Updates:**

- (Alissa) Certification Recertification and Current number of certified CHWs:

**Certified CHWs through the KCHWC:**

-347 currently certified

-6 pending recertification\*

-10 pending recertification\*

\*submitted within the last week

- Fees are currently being waived for a period of time for both MO/KS CHWs
- (Treva) Missouri does not currently recognize Kansas CHW certification, it may be important to prioritize funding support for Kansas-certified CHWs to help ensure they are well-positioned and valued in the workforce.
- (Hannayd) Missouri employers recognize CHWs certified in both Kansas and Missouri.

After reviews completed/approved this week: **363 certified CHWs.**

- **Upcoming CE offerings:**

- <https://nichq.org/webinar/kansas-community-collaborative-to-prevent-infant-mortality-state-town-hall-meeting/>
- (Alissa) The KCHWC newsletter will go out on Thursday. It has a list of resources and trainings. If you aren't signed up for that, you can do so here: <https://kschw.org/contact-us/>
- (Crystal) K-State Trainings and Events: <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/program-areas/supporting-communities/cv-calendar-of-events.html>
- (Treva) NACHWA Events: <https://nachwunity.org/>
- (Crystal) **Webinar : Missouri's Psychiatry Access Programs: Bridging the Gap in Mental and Behavioral Health Care for Pregnant, Postpartum, and Pediatric Populations Amid Workforce Shortages**  
*Thursday, July 10th, 2025*  
*12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. cst*  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_iEZuaTTqTvGbvipvvpEXNA#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iEZuaTTqTvGbvipvvpEXNA#/registration)
- (Hannayd) **Cardiovascular health:** <https://forms.office.com/r/tT7waUUmR7>  
 Below is a description and objectives (Spanish and English)

TOMA EL CONTROL: Los efectos del tabaco en tu salud cardiovascular

Alma Tavera Rodríguez, Médico pasante de medicina – asistente de investigación

Descripción:

Este taller está diseñado para fortalecer las capacidades de las trabajadoras comunitarias de salud en la medición precisa de la presión arterial y en la comprensión del impacto del consumo de tabaco en la salud cardiovascular. Aprenderán cómo tomar la presión arterial de manera correcta y segura, y cómo explicar su importancia a la comunidad. También conocerán cómo el uso del tabaco puede afectar la presión arterial y la salud del corazón.

*This workshop is designed to enhance the skills of community health workers in accurately measuring blood pressure and understanding the impact of tobacco use on cardiovascular health. Participants will learn how to take blood pressure correctly and safely, and how to explain its importance to the general public. They will also learn how tobacco use can affect blood pressure and heart health.*

Objetivos:

1. Capacitar a las trabajadoras comunitarias de salud en la medición precisa de la presión arterial utilizando técnicas estandarizadas.
2. Explicar de manera clara cómo el tabaco puede afectar la presión arterial y el corazón.
3. Concientizar sobre la relación entre el consumo de tabaco y la hipertensión arterial, así como sus implicaciones en la salud cardiovascular.
4. Promover intervenciones comunitarias efectivas que integren la toma de presión arterial como herramienta de detección temprana y prevención.

1. Train community health workers in accurate blood pressure measurement using standardized techniques.
2. Clearly explain how tobacco can affect blood pressure and heart health.
3. Raise awareness about the link between tobacco use and high blood pressure, and its impact on cardiovascular health.
4. Promote effective community interventions that incorporate blood pressure screening as a tool for early detection and prevention.

- Heartland Health Equity Conf. is Sept 10-12:

<https://www.kcheartlandconference.com/>

- **Blood pressure** workshop

register: <https://forms.office.com/r/tT7waUUmR7> MARC will be facilitating the course and connecting with Garden City via Zoom.

- **Dementia training:**

<https://member.marc.org/ap/Events/Register/3BF3aKIIYCQCg>

- **Spanish Cohort Updates:**

- (Hannayd and Birgit) We currently have a group of eight participants attending in person. They've successfully learned how to adapt to a hybrid learning model and are applying it through Talent LMS. All sessions are being documented, with live recordings created on the platform that can be downloaded and referenced later. Right now, the focus is on supporting students with assignments and helping them prepare for their final presentations. We're also assessing and teaching technology skills, and it's great to see the students actively engaging and learning. The PowerPoint and curriculum are in the final stages, and students continue to complete prep work while supporting one another throughout the process.

- <https://www.talentlms.com/>

- **Current and Upcoming Cohorts**

- **(Alissa) Upcoming Virtual WSU CEI cohorts through self-pay, employer-pay, etc.: Tentative Dates**

-Tues Thurs, 8/5/25 - 11/6/25, 1-4 pm\*

-Mon Wed, 9/3/25-12/22/25, 9am-12pm\*

\*college credit is available upon request through partnership with K-State

- **Rate:** 1,500 per student
- Seeking scholarship sponsor opportunities for anyone interested in supporting CHW trainings. Please contact Alissa Rankin:  
[alissa.rankin@wichita.edu](mailto:alissa.rankin@wichita.edu).

- **Garden City Community College** Fall course, please see below:  
16-week CHW course that starts in August.

→ **Apply NOW:** <https://ow.ly/vh5w50V0pw0>

Learn more: <https://ow.ly/6Z9450V0pvX>

**Kansas Promise Scholarship available:** [Kansas Promise Scholarship](#)

○ **Other updates-**

- **(Barb) What support systems are there and how can we support this committee?**

- (Marixendra) We are currently going through a transition and ask for this group to share and bring ideas or needs that the education committee can assist with.

- (Alissa) We currently have a grant through the United Health Forward Foundation that supports CHW certification processes over the next three years. This includes coverage for applications, renewals, and support through the Certification and Exceptions Committee.

Additionally, the grant supports partnership efforts with Community Health Representatives, offering assistance with certification applications for CHRs.

Chantel Ness and Alissa are in contact with the Kansas Alliance for Tribal Community Health to help coordinate and strengthen these

efforts. <https://cbma.catchafire.org/volunteer/127939/kansas-alliance-for-tribal-community-health--mission--vision---values/>

Asking tribes serving as CHRs how they can be supportive.

- (Birgit) Jackie has been in contact with KATCH and is familiar with this work. Would be great to invite CHRs to our committees.

- (Crystal) There has been a need for Spanish language Certification supporting materials (instructions, application, and renewal process) by Promotoras for coalition website. Many thanks to **Hannayd** and her team for sharing the translated certification pathway word document. Crystal to share the renewal process in Spanish.

○ **Next Steps**

- Elaine to follow up on any new changes with Kansas Board or Regents.

- Alissa to extend invitation to CHRs to join future committee meetings.

**Next Committee Meeting Dates**

**Tue 8/12/2025 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month

Join by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89862548774?pwd=f4jAUm848fmsCC6ScZ4aNPKxRKA2SD.1>