

Informational



Who is here today?



Scan code & share:

- Your name,
- Role/Job title,
- Your community
- Organization
- Rate your knowledge about CHWs on a scale 1-5:
1=Know a little 5=Know a lot!



CHW Network Mission

Founded by CHWs, for CHWs.

Pillars of Mission:

- Identify the CHW workforce in Alaska
- Empower the voices of CHWs across Alaska
- Facilitate networking of CHWs as a profession
- Support the professional development of CHWs
- Advocate for the integration of CHWs in Alaska's Continuum of Care

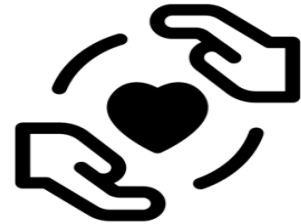
Who are CHWs?

- A frontline public health worker who is trusted by the community or has a deep understanding of its language, culture and values, and socioeconomic needs.
- CHWs often share lived experiences with the populations they serve, fostering strong relationships and trust.
- Acting as liaisons between health and social services and the community, CHWs help improve access to care and ensure culturally competent service delivery.

Most do NOT have “CHW” in their job title!

Why CHWs Matter

- CHWs connect people to care, to resources, and to support
- CHWs are trusted and reach people providers can't
- Especially vital in rural and underserved areas
- CHWs make healthcare work better for Alaskans & lower the cost to care. **For every \$1 spent on a CHW, 3\$ are saved!**
- CHWs get needed information out to community members
- Programs and services informed by community input succeed (i.e blood pressure self-management)



Where do CHWs work?

CHWs work in:

Clinics, hospitals, faith-based, home-based, and community-based organizations

CHWs work in many focus areas:

Low-income	Rural	Alaska Native
Older adults	Unhoused	Domestic Violence
Limited English	Veterans	Immigrant/Refugee

What does CHW integration look like?

When community health workers are fully integrated into a team, they are valued as colleagues with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Their expertise and contributions are understood and respected, and they receive fair compensation with a living wage, reflecting the importance of their work in improving community health.

Linda will provide some examples of what this looks like.



How a Network Can Help CHWs

- Provide access to free or low-cost training
- Build peer support and opportunities to share resources
- Collect and share impact stories
- Maintain a directory of CHWs to improve referrals
- Maintain a resource hub that CHWs can use
- Host webinars, conferences, and storytelling events
- Serve as a training hub — not a licensing body
- Work with policymakers and organizations to show how CHWs improve health and save money.



What We Heard

CHWs shared:

- A strong demand for training, peer support, and resources
- A CHW Network could help CHWs connect, learn, and advocate
- A need for sustainable funding and integration into care teams are critical for both clinic based and community based CHWs

AK CHW Network Full Strategic Plan



SCAN ME

What Can We Advocate For?

At the systems level we can influence/advocate for:

- Secure and sustainable funding for CHW positions (both clinic based and community based)
- Integrate CHWs into health and social service teams
- Training pathways and career development
- A thriving wage
- Build partnerships across healthcare, Tribal programs, and community-based organizations
- Include CHWs in decision-making



STAY CONNECTED & ENGAGED WITH THE NETWORK



Follow-us
Alaska Community
Health Worker Network

Questions/comments/meeting
requests:

akchwnetwork@gmail.com

Stay Connected to National Efforts

- Become a member of the National Association for Community Health Workers
- Join a working group like NACHW's Policy and Advocacy Group or Workforce development



- Stay up to date with other CHWs and CHW based associations through the Connector App

Introducing CHW Connector!

CHW Connector is the new social platform for the CHW Community brought to you by NACHW. It is available NOW on Apple App Store, Google Play and on the Web!

Sign up for CHW Connector at CHWConnector.org. Already a member of NACHW? Use the MemberClicks option to sign up and login in one easy step!



Desktop Site



Mobile Download OR