

Nevada Community Health Worker Association

2022 Updates and Overview

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NV CHW
association

Nevada CHW Association Team



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What is a CHW?

- Community Health Worker Benefits
 - Empower followup on case and health plans
 - Extend the reach of licensed health professionals
 - Reduce ER, readmission, and urgent care reliance
- CHWs are Trusted Members of the Community
 - Frontline public health worker NRS 449.0027
 - Serve as a liaison, link, or intermediary
 - Facilitate access to services and improve quality
 - Bring cultural & linguistic competence
- State Certification Available



Career Development

First step for a more representative healthcare workforce

CHW Students:

- *3% American Indian or Alaska Native*
- *3% Hawaiian or Pacific Islander*
- *24% Black or African American*
- *31% Hispanic*
- *32% Rural*



CHW Training Programs in Nevada



NvCHWA

NV Community Health
Worker Association



TMCC

Truckee Meadows
Community College



CSN

College of Southern Nevada

CASAT



Many Peers are Cross Trained as CHWs



AHEC *(in pilot phase)*

High Sierra Area Health Education Center

CHW Training

Nationally Developed

approved by
Nevada Department of
Public Behavioral Health



Communication Activity



The 13 CHW Competencies



The Community
Health Worker
Core Consensus
Project
TTUHSC EL PASO

- 1. ADVOCACY SKILLS**
- 2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**
- 3. COMMUNICATION SKILLS**
- 4. PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES/HEALTHY EATING ACTIVE LIVING (HEAL)**
- 5. CULTURAL COMPETENCE AND RESPONSIVENESS**
- 6. SERVICE COORDINATION SKILLS**
- 7. INDIVIDUAL AND ASSESSMENT SKILLS**
- 8. HEALTH INSURANCE BASICS**
- 9. TEACHING SKILLS**
- 10. ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS**
- 11. COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING**
- 12. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS**
- 13. PUBLIC HEALTH**

A.B. 191

Chronic Disease Prevention and Management

Bill Text: 1. The Director shall include in the State Plan for Medicaid a requirement that the State, to the extent authorized by federal law, pay the nonfederal share of expenditures incurred for the services of a community health worker who provides services under the supervision of a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse. 2. As used in this section, “community health worker” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0027.



Medicaid Reimbursement | Medical Model

- CHW services must be related to disease prevention and chronic disease management
- CHWs may provide services to recipients (individually or in a group) within the home, clinical setting, or other community settings.
- Medicaid Services Manual Chapter 600 – Physician Services, CHW Services
 - https://dhcfp.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dhcfpnavgov/content/Resources/AdminSupport/Manuals/MSM/C600/MSM_600_22_03_29.pdf

Medicaid Reimbursement | MSMs & SPA Implementation

- February 1, 2022 - Reimbursable New Provider Type (PT) 89
- July 7, 2022 - CMS Approved the State Plan Amendment
- CHW Provider Qualifications
 - CHW Certification must be obtained through the Nevada Certification Board
 - CHW Supervised by a Nevada Medicaid enrolled physician, physician assistant (PA), or advanced practice registered nurse (APRN)
 - Collaborative Supervision Agreement
 - Required between the supervisor and the CHW
 - Lists agreement protocols
 - Identifies collaborative practice service settings (organization or community)
 - Policy declaration (CHW attests to understanding relevant Medicaid policies)

Challenges & Opportunities

CHWs in Behavioral Health



Medicaid funded CHWs in Other States

South Dakota - 2019

- Self-Management Edu and training for those with mental health conditions, substance abuse disorder, cancer, diabetes and heart disease. Overcoming barriers to care such as geographic distance or adherence to treatments/therapeutic regimens
- Supervision of a physician or licensed practitioner

Indiana - 2018

- Education for managing health, serving as a translator (either due to language or socioeconomic status), health promotion of chronic diseases, and direct preventive services
- Supervision of a physician or licensed clinician

Minnesota - 2007

- Diagnosis-related medical interventions and not social service were approved so the program
- Supervision of a physician or licensed clinician

New Mexico - 2014

- Care coordination activities, interpretation and translation, culturally competent health education, informal counseling on health behaviors, and linking enrollees with health care services and community resources
- Mandated MCOs to hire and supervise CHWs

Research

- Systematic review of 39 trials identified supervision as a key factor to improve outcomes of behavioral health clients with CHW services (*National Library of Medicine*)
- In the United States, supportive supervision is crucial to the effective integration of CHWs into institutional workflows, which is in turn fundamental to achieving the mission of health care and public health organizations (*National Academy of Medicine*)
- Historically, supervisors of CHWs were often individuals with backgrounds in social work or public health. As CHWs shift into health care, clinicians (e.g., nurses, doctors) are often asked to supervise. This represents a challenge in some ways because the underlying paradigm of CHW work is different from the biomedical/clinical paradigm. (*National Academy of Medicine*)
- State licensed Behavioral Health supervisors will enhance CHW services across the state because they have a longer history of supervision experience with CHWs and close ties with the community

CHWs in Behavioral Health

Challenges

- CHW supervisors are limited in NRS code to Medicaid enrolled physicians, physician assistants, & advanced practice registered nurses
- Increase awareness of the Nevada Certification Board
- Increase employers' Scope of Work knowledge for CHWs, Peers, and other Paraprofessionals
- Open career paths to the diverse CHW workforce in public health settings

Recommendations

- Inclusive NRS language to recognize CHWs in other settings and with other staff funding mechanisms
- Evidence that appropriately supervised CHWs reduce costs \$2 for every \$1 spent
- Legislative authority to Medicaid to include qualified supervisors
- Add CHW certification to the NRS definition of Community Health Workers

Additional Information

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Join the Facebook Group:

facebook.com/groups/nvchw

Follow the Focus Page

nvchwa.org/focus

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Abbreviations

AHEC Area Health Education Center

APRN Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

CASAT The Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies

CHW Community Health Worker

CMS Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

CPS Certified Prevention Specialist

CSN College of Southern Nevada

MCO Managed Care Organization

MSM Medical Service Manual

NCB Nevada Certification Board

NVCHWA Nevada Community Health Worker Association

PA Physician Assistant

PT Provider Type

SPA State Plan Amendment

TMCC Truckee Meadows Community College