

**CHW WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF April 6, 2022**

Attendees

Ashley Sherman, Sentara RMH Medical Center; Adyam Woodson (Redae)- DDP, Virginia Department of Health; Consuelo Staton, VDH, Resource Mothers Program; Patrick Wiggins, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Lead, Virginia Department of Health; Christopher Nye, VDH; Curtis Johnson Optima Health; Lydia Allen, Program Manager for Health Access at Northern Virginia Family Service; khusboo Azim Henrico Health Department CHW; Tameka Coles, CCHW, PATHS Danville; Ralitsa Maduro, PHD - Sentara Healthcare; Tammy Oakes - AOWM; LaToya Jones at Compassion Healthcare CHW; Mario Martinez CHW RHH; Logan Bare CHW; Alan Stillman Stroke Smart Virginia; Kelly Evans - CCHW VACHWA; Tanya CCHW VDH; Ronnette Moton, IPHI Program Associate; Carolyn Simon, Market Development and Outreach Specialist, Optima Health; Stephanie Flowers CHW VCU Health Systems Medical Outreach Worker; Adrienne Hill VHHA Community Health Worker Program Manager; Madi Eubanks, Manager of Primary and Specialty Care Services at Bon Secours; Michelle White - HQ; Hope Cupit SERCAP; Pam Blankenship VDH- Dental Health Program; Ben Barber - VCU Health; Dayana Camacho - CHW; Kara Birkhead, CHW- Paths, Chatham; Lydia English; Leslie Clark, Director Family Health Strategies, United Way Roanoke Valley; Valerie McAllister, Institute for Public Health Innovation; Ralitsa Maduro; Stephanie Toney; Claudia Artero, IPHI; Jackie Green; Teneya Goodwin CCHW with IPHI; Stephanie Carrington; Allie Verlander, Ballad Health; De'naja Blanchard CHW with Family Lifeline; Albert Walker, Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, Program and Strategy Officer; Kristin Bedsaul-CHW through Gateway Health; Patra Reed DNP, RN; Margo Webb, Director of Community Programing; Keandra Holloway, Richmond Henrico Health District; Helen Kariuki- IPHI, Program Manager, CHW for a Healthy VA; Margaret Kadree; Saraya Perry, Project Coordinator, VCHI; Johnny Mills CCHW Division Chief Community Health & Planning Danville Life Saving Crew (EMS); Adrienne Hill, VHHA Foundation CHW Program Manager; Joan Corder-Mabe, VCU Sickle Cell Disease Patient Navigator Program; Jackie Murrell, VDH CHW; Patrick Wiggins, Virginia Department of Health; Kelly Evans - CCHW VACA; Aieshia Brooks, Virginia Department of Health, Division of Disease Prevention; Keith Carroll Community Paramedic / CHW Danville Life Saving Crew; Pat Young- Centra; Anjanette Farmer; Tracy Cooper (CHW)/ WellAWARE; Robin Tyler, Outreach Coordinator CVHS Health Services; Danielle Montague Virginia Rural Health Association-Program Coordinator-Danville/Pittsylvania County; Lisa Brown, CCHW - Co-Founder/Deputy Executive Director; Allie Verlander; Keandra Holloway; Bryanna F; Stephanie Flowers CHW VCU Health Systems Medical Outreach Worker; Abby Charles; Chris Nye; Martina Tatum CHW; Keyanah Tucker CHW PATHS; Dayana Camacho Certified CHW La Casa de la Salud

Meeting Start

The meeting began at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Participant Updates

Erica with Virginia Health Catalyst shared that they've been engaged with conversations to embed CHWs into the workforce specifically with oral safety net clinics. They want to help CHWs break the glass ceiling and crossover to become dental hygienists. Phyllis Wolf with Corilian Clinic shared they are doing trainings with peer recovery clinic specialists. Leslie Clark with United Way shared that they are moving from a clinical based model to community-based model. They are looking to place CHWs and cross train them. Stephanie Toney with Richmond Henrico Health District shared their CHW virtual training will be coming up on XX date. Please contact Stephanie Toney for more information and for registration [virtual training](#). Pat young from Centra Health shared they are very interested in developing the CHW workforce and want to bring CHWs on

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board. Pam Blankenship with VDH shared they offer oral health resources and education to CHWs. She is hopeful to get CHWs into the oral health side of safety net clinics. Robyn Tyler with Central Virginia Health Services shared CVHS has two health workers who set up outreach in schools. **Helen Gonzalez of Boston Court** Caravan recommends the CHW training that Stephanie Toney mentioned. Lisa Kaplowitz with VDH shared that VDH is bringing on two staff members to coordinate CHW work in the health districts.

Background of CHW Workforce Development Council

Abby Charles spoke on the Development Council and the work that's being done. She shared the current Charter and asked that everyone read it in full to understand the background of the Development Council and spoke on the expected outcomes. Abby spoke on the importance of membership and how joining one of the four committees can be very beneficial to helping create change. **She also discussed that the group will vote to approve the charter at the next development council meeting.**

Service of Recognition

Recognition of Chris Nye who has been with IPHI for the last 6 years helping develop this council. He really pushed this work to make sure CHWs and the CHW workforce were recognized in Virginia. He has transitioned to a new role with VDH. The group shared their kudos and thanks to Chris. Thank you for all the work you've done.

Nominating a Chair

Nominations for the Chair of the Council are open until May 6th. We welcome CHWs and those with long-term CHW experience to be nominated. We want to have someone in place by our next meeting in June. If there are any questions about this nomination process, please contact Patrice Shelton or Abby Charles. Please submit nominations here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CouncilNom>

Updates on CHW Certification from the VA Certification Board

Mary Jo Mather gave updates on CHW Certification in Virginia. As of January, the 60 hour training for CHWs must now come from an accredited CHW training program that has been accredited by the VA Certification Board. There are five training providers that have gone through the accreditation process, four of which offer full 60 hours or more, and one that offers partial accreditation. The groups accredited are MHP Salud which offers partial certification, Richmond City Health District, The Blue Ridge Health District, the Institute for Public Health Innovation, and the VA Healthcare Workforce Development Authority are fully accredited. Any training organization is open to apply for accreditation. CHWs have up to a year and a half to complete the recertification process.

Updates on CHWs from Virginia Department of Health

Patrick Wiggins of VDH gave updates on the CDC grant "Living Well" which is ending in 2023. The next iteration of grants may have a greater emphasis on CHWs and on health disparities and how we navigate health equity. VDH is working on Healthy Heart Ambassador Program that trains program facilitators and educators on how to teach others how to take their blood pressure. The goal is to share this with CHWs and the CHW Association to take out into the communities. VA Pharmacists Association is cross-training pharmacy technicians. VDH received a CDC Stroke focused grant and are working with Unite Us to connect stroke patients to CHWs in their communities.

CHW Association Updates

Stephanie Carrington gave updates regarding hiring a new Executive Director for the Association. The Association is reviewing resumes and getting ready for interviews. Their scholarship program has started, where member CHWs who complete a CHW program and who want to become a certified CHW or re-certify can receive funding to pay for their certification. The Association also offers a toolkit for CHWs to help demonstrate to clients how to use tools that help with their chronic diseases. The CHW Association Intake Form:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScRxUgJXcgRHBWkBpg1Nqizu047RHmb7CGu7PXpb76fZo2O-g/viewform>

CHWs for a Healthy VA Update

Valerie McAllister gave updates on the CHWs and COVID Resilient Communities Grant they were awarded in August 2021. This grant has funded 15 implementation sites, and 28 CHWs have been hired for those sites. Through the grant they have established four regional coalitions to address CHWs across VA, and more. The goal of the grant is to build a strong and sustainable workforce in VA.

Virginia CHW Registry

Abby Charles gave an update regarding the CHW registry which is up and running. CHWs can begin registering in the registry. There will be a presentation of the Registry to the Development Council on April 20th at 11am. This will be an opportunity to see how the registry works. Link for registry:
www.vachwregistry.org

Finalizing the VA CHW Development Council Charter

Abby Charles gave an update on when the charter will be finalized. The request is for everyone to review the charter and let us know if any edits or changes need to be made. The group will review the charter in depth during our next meeting and will vote on a finalized charter.

Newsletter and Communications

Cynthia Hatchell gave updates on the Development Council newsletter. She will be sending the newsletter out going forward and asks if anyone has resources, trainings, etc. that they'd want featured in the newsletter to send them via email. The newsletter is geared towards how to expand the workforce in VA.

Council Membership

Abby Charles spoke on membership and encouraged everyone to become a member. Only members of the Council can be a part of voting and decision-making processes of the Council. Membership Form:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Va_CHW_Council. Membership is free to all.

