

Florida CHW Coalition Monthly Meeting
February 14, 2013
By conference call

Attending:

Sean Dickerson, Colleen Reinert, Denise Kerwin, Cheryl Kerr, Natoy Baker, Cinitra Williams, Coni Williams, Dee Snell, Lolita Dash-Pitts, Natali Ramirez, Patria Alguila, Josephine Mercado, Clifton Skipper, Susan Fleming, Marion Banzhaf

If you attended the meeting, but your name is not included in the above list, please e-mail Marion at marion_banzhaf@doh.state.fl.us

Sean Dickerson began the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day! Since this was a conference call meeting instead of a webinar, please e-mail your attendance to either Marion or respond to the meeting announcement to Clifton after the meeting. The March meeting will be a webinar.

Notes from the January meeting will be sent out after this meeting, and will be reviewed and approved at the March meeting.

Policy subgroup report:

Denise Kerwin reported that this group has been busy! Rep. Reed filed her bill, HB 241, and it has been referred to the House Health Quality subcommittee. Just this morning, Senator Braynon filed the companion bill, SB 894, in the Senate. Bills get placed on committee agendas if people call for it to be placed on the agenda.

People can always educate their policymakers about the role that CHWs play in improving health care outcomes in their districts, and people can also let their policy makers know that Rep. Reed and Sen. Braynon filed bills concerning CHWs. If you want more information about educating your elected officials, feel free to contact either Sean, Denise or other members of the Policy subgroup.

The DVD is just getting some final editing done and should be ready to upload on the CHW Coalition YouTube site soon. Marion will let everyone know when it can be seen.

Research:

Marion reported that communications continue with Molina Health Care, who is expanding into Florida. Molina is a family-owned HMO, which conducted a Return on Investment (ROI) study about using CHWs with some of their clients in New Mexico. The study showed that those patients who interacted with CHWs had fewer ER visits and hospitalizations which led to a more than 2:1 ROI. As Molina rolls out its services in Florida, it would like to conduct a similar study here.

Networking:

Coni Williams reported on the last meeting, which included information about the membership survey we want to conduct so that we can get more information from our members and can start making maps of where CHWs are. The survey will also ask about using various forms of social media.

The group asked about exhibiting on the Coalition at the SOPHE annual meeting, and Lolita will check with Thometta about what the Coalition might need to do. Patria and Natoy are interested in volunteering at the conference.

Brendaly organized a couple of abstracts about the Coalition to be submitted to the APHA CHW section. The APHA conference will be in Boston in November. We will hear whether the abstracts were accepted in June.

Natali Ramirez gave an update on the website revision. We had a conference call with the folks at UF who host the site and hope to get the staffing situation settled so that it can be updated and become a live site in the next month or so.

Curriculum/Practice:

Cheryl Kerr reported that the survey on core competencies and roles of practice was put into Survey Monkey and sent to the entire coalition. Marion will send it out again and make sure that people understand that we want everyone in the coalition to fill it out, not just members who are CHWs. (There is a question on the survey that asks whether you are a CHW, and if you're not, how you are involved with CHWs.)

Cheryl is drafting some samples for us to discuss about credentialing.

The next meeting is 2/28, the fourth Thursday. The old meeting time, the 3rd Thursday, will be withdrawn and a new recurring cycle for the 4th Thursday will be issued.

Announcements

The draft of the job description for the Coalition Co-Chair is attached. The Steering Committee will be discussing the process to select the Co-Chair. Sean stated that our first preference is for an active CHW to take the position, since we want leadership positions to be filled by CHWs whenever possible. Please read the job description and nominate yourself if you are able to step up to do the job.

Florida Community Health Worker Coalition Co-Chair Job Description

Qualifications:

Experience working in the Community Health Worker field

Active membership within the Florida CHW Coalition

Leadership skills:

- Ability to work well with others

- Ability to plan programmatic initiatives

- Ability to communicate effectively

- Ability to follow through with ideas and tasks decided upon

Responsibilities and duties of the volunteer Co-Chair of the Florida CHW Coalition are:

To work with the other Co-Chair to build the Florida CHW Coalition
To lead monthly meetings of the Coalition
To think strategically about the development of the Coalition
To delegate tasks to subgroups or individuals of the Coalition to work toward achieving the Coalition's goals
To communicate regularly with the chairs/co-chairs of subgroups of the Coalition
To participate in biweekly Steering Committee meetings and assist in follow-up with decisions made
To assist in preparing agendas for the regular Monthly Meetings
To attend sub-group meetings when appropriate
To be a public face for the Coalition
To reach out to the media about Coalition activities and concerns
To steer the Coalition into becoming an independent entity
To liaise with DOH staff to achieve the above

Marion reported that the CDC issues a "Science in Brief" notice and that this month, it synthesizes "The Impact of Community Health Workers on Cardiovascular Risk Reduction", from an article in the January 2013 issue of the American Journal of Public Health. Here is the link:

..\References\Science-in-Brief_Jan 2013_CHW CVD.pdf

Marion reported that Vivienne Treharne, another Coalition member, shared a link about an approved peer training program around HIV/STIs. Here is the information:

May be of interest re: HIV/STI & CHW

http://www.caiglobal.org/caistage/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=468&Itemid=781
<http://fofintervention.org/index.php/search>

FOF uses trained Peer Health Advisors in clinics to deliver the program. It can be implemented in less than an hour at an inexpensive rate of less than \$32 per client. The intervention can also be adapted and tailored for use in different settings and with different target populations in order to increasing access to contraception and sexual health care.

The program was successfully piloted at the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) in Montgomery in 2012.

Marion also reported that the US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health, is developing a Resource Persons Network Program, a group of professional volunteers to provide capacity building and technical assistance to community-based organizations. Here is the information :

Action Alert

Provided by the Office of Minority Health Resource Center
February 4, 2013

Resource Persons Network Program

We are currently recruiting professional volunteers to provide capacity building and technical assistance to

community-based organizations serving minority populations. Areas of expertise include:

- Program and organizational development
- Conference and workshop presentations
- Guidance on report preparations
- Grant proposal review
- Advice to committees and workgroups

Contact the Office of Minority Health Resource Center at rpninfo@minorityhealth.hhs.gov for more information or go online to apply at minorityhealth.hhs.gov/rpn.

Hispanic Health Institute Grant Application:

Josephine Mercado, of Hispanic Health Initiatives, reported on a grant they are pursuing for which they are seeking letters of support from agencies and institutions statewide. This grant is training CHWs and other community leaders to educate people about their options under the Affordable Care Act. Consumers will start signing up for policies in October 2013, and many people are clueless as to what they are eligible for. In Florida, 1.2 million people should be able to get coverage under Medicaid expansion. All those people need outreach so they and their children can sign up for health coverage.

HHI has divided the state into ACHA regions and they intend to conduct county and regional trainings to put a large dent in the development of navigators to help people learn what is available to them.

Please send letters of support by Tuesday, Feb 19 so they can be included in the grant application.

If HHI is successful in getting this grant, it will be a boon to CHWs and Floridians currently without health care coverage.

Spanish Leadership Institute:

Marion reported that progress is moving forward on conducting a Spanish Women's Health Leadership Institute during the summer for CHWs. The curriculum will be translated, and a committee will be formed to help plan and implement the Institute. If you are interested in being on the committee, please let Marion know.

At the January meeting, we talked about vision and having regional or a statewide meeting probably in the summer. Stay tuned for more information about that.

The next monthly meeting is Thursday, March 14.