



Current events regarding CHWs

CHR Policy Summit II, September 29-30, 2016

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Movement toward a national organization of CHWs

- ▶ Planning group meeting in Phoenix October 7-8
 - ▶ Group includes Mae-Gilene Begay
- ▶ Full participation of CHRs and Promotores strongly encouraged
- ▶ Interest from federal agencies and other national partners



CDC national policy study on CHW certification

- ▶ Case studies of 4-5 states
 - ▶ National summary of state-by-state status
 - ▶ CDC has been encouraging states to implement supportive policies
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National groups endorse CHW participation in team-based care

- ▶ American Medical Assn. House of Delegates report, November 2015
 - ▶ Describes CHWs as a "profession"
- ▶ American Nurses Assn. President supports CHWs
 - ▶ Forthcoming white paper on team-based care will support integrating CHWs
 - ▶ "Patient-centered team" means patient should have power to choose leader of his/her team



CHW Core Consensus (C3) Project

- National effort to maximize agreement on definition of CHW Roles, Skills and Qualities
- Initiative recommendations vetted by 25 state and local CHW assns.
- New phase expanding outreach to other national stakeholders
- Also developing new recommendations on differences in roles and skills between 100% community-based and clinically-based CHW practice
- ...and recommendations on methods to assess proficiency in CHW Core Skills



Proposed IHS guidelines on expansion of CHA-P model and CHR qualifications

- ▶ CHW leadership very interested in views of tribal leaders on this proposal
- ▶ Distinctions between CHAs and CHWs/CHRs are significant: State of Alaska regards them as fundamentally different
- ▶ Does IHS intend to define a new "umbrella?" - language matters
- ▶ Unity of larger CHW workforce can be aided if IHS at least considers C3 recommendations in defining CHR qualifications