

Community Health Worker Certification Efforts

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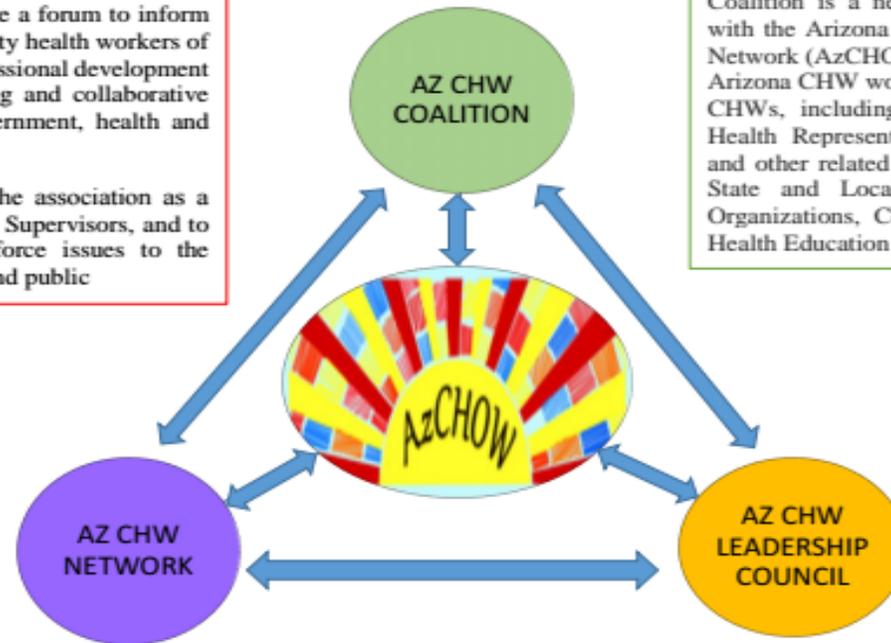
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KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN STRENGTHENING ARIZONA'S CHW WORKFORCE &
CREATING A ROADMAP TO SUSTAINABILITY

The Arizona Community Health Workers (AzCHOW) Network, established in 2001, is a professional association of CHWs with the mission to provide a forum to inform and unite culturally diverse community health workers of all disciplines, to strengthen the professional development of the field through resource sharing and collaborative opportunities with community, government, health and educational institutions.

AzCHOW's vision is to establish the association as a training center for CHW's, and their Supervisors, and to provide education on CHW workforce issues to the healthcare industry, policy makers, and public

The Arizona Community Health Worker Workforce Coalition is a network of organizations collaborating with the Arizona Community Health Outreach Worker Network (AzCHOW) to support the sustainability of the Arizona CHW workforce. The Coalition is comprised of CHWs, including Promotores de Salud, Community Health Representatives, Community Health Advisors and other related titles, and the University of Arizona, State and Local Health Departments, Community Organizations, Community Health Centers, and Area Health Education Centers.



The Arizona Community Health Worker Network (AzCHWN) goal is "to unite rural and regional CHW interest groups across ethnic, racial and geographic sectors in AZ to increase access to and quality of care by enhancing capacity and integration of CHW workforce in primary care and health promotion". The Network is currently focusing on AzCHOW's sustainability; CHW credentialing and certification; and increasing demand for CHWs in the health sector.

The AzCHW Leadership Council provides leadership and guidance to the Arizona Department of Health Services to establish a curriculum for the certification and training of Community Health Workers in Arizona, and supports AzCHOW and the Arizona Community Health Worker Workforce Coalition to advance the development of the CHW workforce.

Sunrise Application Update

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Sunrise Application

- Mechanism for the health profession and non-health profession to request regulation over the health profession and expansion of the scope of practice from the state legislature.
 - Sunrise application deadline for upcoming session: Sept. 1, 2015
- Next steps
 - Once application is submitted, assigned to the Committee of Reference
 1. Legislators determine the scope of the Sunrise
 2. Oral presentation
 3. Committee Chaired Senator Nancy Bartow
 4. Question and answer session
 - If application approved, move out of sunrise process and present to legislature

Required Sunrise Process

- Sunrise application
 - What does it look like?
 - 8 questions
 - Addressing: Identification of the problem, scope of practice, alternatives to state regulation. . .
 - How were questions answered?
- Sunrise document focused specifically on CHWs rather than CHR's
- Recognize differences between the 2 groups
 - Scope
 - Payment/reimbursement ability

Update and Next Steps

- Where are we now?
- Sunrise application: Completed
 - Need continuous updates and revisions in order to maintain relevance
 - Submission will be postponed
- Past Conversations
 1. Senator David Bradley
 - AHCCCS
 - Requested recommendations around CHW utilization
 2. Representative Heather Carter
- Next Steps
 1. Governors office
 - Health Advisor
 2. Health plans
 - Legislative Liaisons
 3. Informational Presentation

New Opportunities

- Pause in Sunrise Application
- Work directly with health plans
 - Meet with legislative liaisons to discuss financial benefits of working with CHWs as part of comprehensive health care
- Informational Presentation to health committee
- Work to create voluntary certification process
 - Ideally lead by AzCHOW
 - Money, support, action needed
 - January 2016