What is a Community Health Worker (CHW)?

A frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has a deep understanding of the community served. They serve as liaisons between health/social services and community members.

CHWs have a great impact in our communities

Health Start CHWs saves us $4,000 for the prevention of every very low birth weight birth in Arizona.

Diabetes patients significantly lowered their blood pressure and glucose levels (HbA1C).

CHWs helped community members improve their health behaviors to lower their body mass index, blood pressure and cholesterol.

COST SAVINGS

$2.92 cost savings for every dollar spent for managed health care coordination.

$4.01 cost savings on every dollar for childhood asthma management by reducing urgent visit and hospital costs.

$6.10 cost savings for every dollar of cost in providing self-management education and care coordination for diabetics.

During 2015 in Arizona:

OVER 1,000 CHWs were employed throughout Arizona.

CHWs served all 15 Counties and 19 Tribes in Arizona.

A 2015 survey of 364 licensed Arizona health providers found:

90% say CHWs have had a positive impact on patient care.

70% agree CHWs have contributed to preventing high risk or high health conditions.

75% would be more likely to utilize CHWs as part of the health care team if CHWs service were reimbursable by AHCCCS or third-party payers.

For more information or to join the Arizona Community Health Worker Coalition, please contact Monica Munoz at mgmunoz@email.arizona.edu.