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ARIZONA PREVENTION
RESEARCH CENTER

2014 NATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER ADVOCACY SURVEY

A project of the
University of Arizona,
Arizona Prevention Research Center

The 2014 National Community Health Worker Advocacy Survey (NCHWAS) is the largest on-line survey of Community Health Workers (CHW) conducted to date. NCHWAS represents the voices of approximately 1,767 CHWs from 45 United States and 4 US territories. Data gathered through NCHWAS is intended to be 'open source' and used for CHW workforce development and sustainability.

The NCHWAS aims to describe (1) the state of CHWs as a professional field and (2) the impact of CHW community advocacy on community engagement to address health disparities. Although Community Health Workers or CHWs go by a variety of titles including, *Promotora de Salud*, Community Health Representatives, Community Health Aides, Peer Educators, and Patient Navigators to name just a few, we use the term Community Health Worker or CHWs as the umbrella term to describe the workforce.

CHW workforce data collected by NCHWAS includes; gender, race/ethnicity, education, salary, experience, work environment, training, and health and social areas of focus, professional affiliation and leadership, engagement in Affordable Care Act outreach and enrollment, CHWs advocacy efforts and impact on the social determinants of health and CHWs -led initiatives to sustain and advance the CHW workforce.

The anonymous, on-line survey was distributed to CHWs through local, state, and national CHW professional associations, programs, and allies during the months of February and May of 2014 and was available in English, Spanish and Korean languages. Data reported here are not intended for publication in academic journals.

This report represents preliminary data for **HRSA Region V**.

A total of 168 individuals initiated the on-line survey, of which 168 self-identified as a CHW of whom 168 had not taken the survey in the previous 12 months and were eligible to complete the survey. All reports include data for CHWs who initiated the survey and may or may not have completed the entire survey thus the number of participants fluctuates by question as responses were not required for every question.

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*National Community Health Worker Advocacy Survey: 2014 Preliminary Data Report for HRSA
Region V – (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
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If you have questions please contact us at the COPH-azprc@email.arizona.edu

CHW Demographics

States

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Ohio	1	1%
Indiana	7	4%
Illinois	9	5%
Minnesota	11	7%
Wisconsin	38	23%
Michigan	102	61%
TOTAL RESPONSE		168

Years Worked as a CHW

	<i>Response</i>
Average Years Worked	7
Minimum Years Worked	1 month
Maximum Years Worked	28
TOTAL RESPONSE	161

CHW Age

	<i>Response</i>
Average Age in Years	44
Minimum Age in Years	21
Maximum Age in Years	75
TOTAL RESPONSE	134

CHW Gender

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Male	14	11%
Female	119	89%
TOTAL RESPONSE		133

CHW Race and Ethnicity

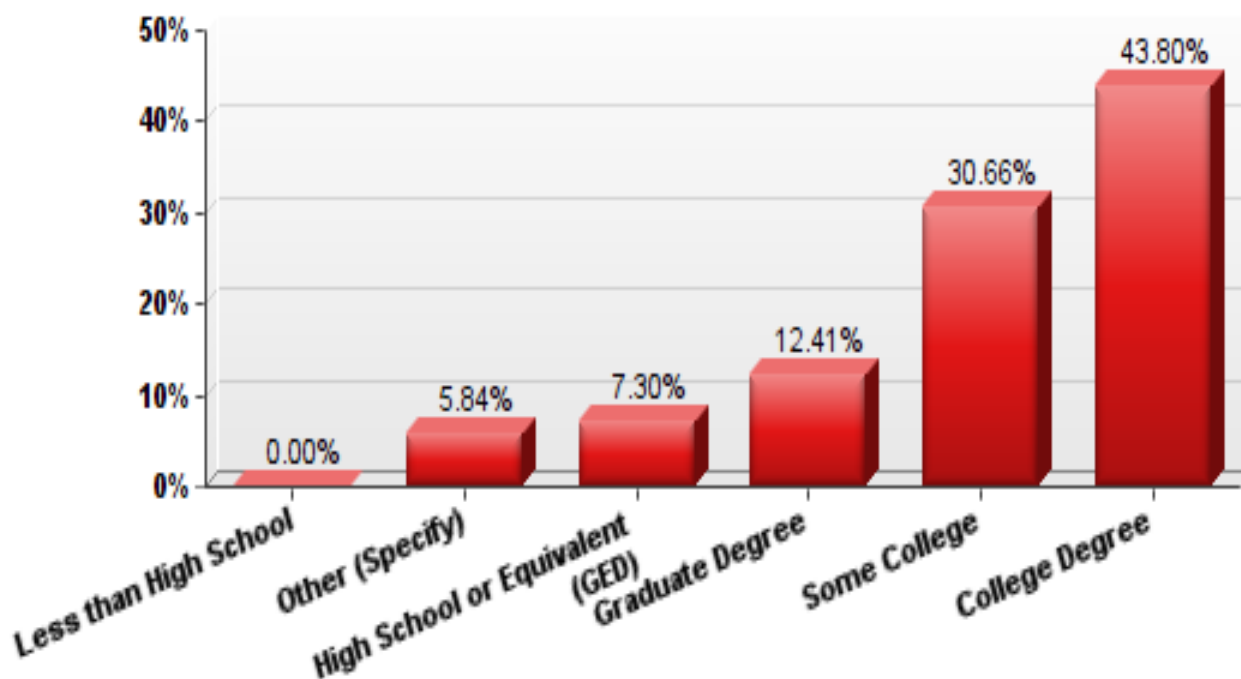
Answer	Response	%
Asian / Pacific Islander	1	1%
American Indian / Alaska Native	2	1%
Other (Specify)	9	7%
Hispanic / Latino(a)	36	26%
Non Hispanic White	42	31%
Black / African American	49	36%
TOTAL RESPONSE		137

CHW Highest Level of Education

Answer	Response	%
Less than High School	0	0%
High School or Equivalent (GED)	10	7%
Some College	42	31%
College Degree	60	44%
Graduate Degree	17	12%
Other (Specify)	8	6%
TOTAL RESPONSE		137

CHW Highest Level of Education

N = 137



Number of Hours CHW Worked or Volunteered in a Typical Week

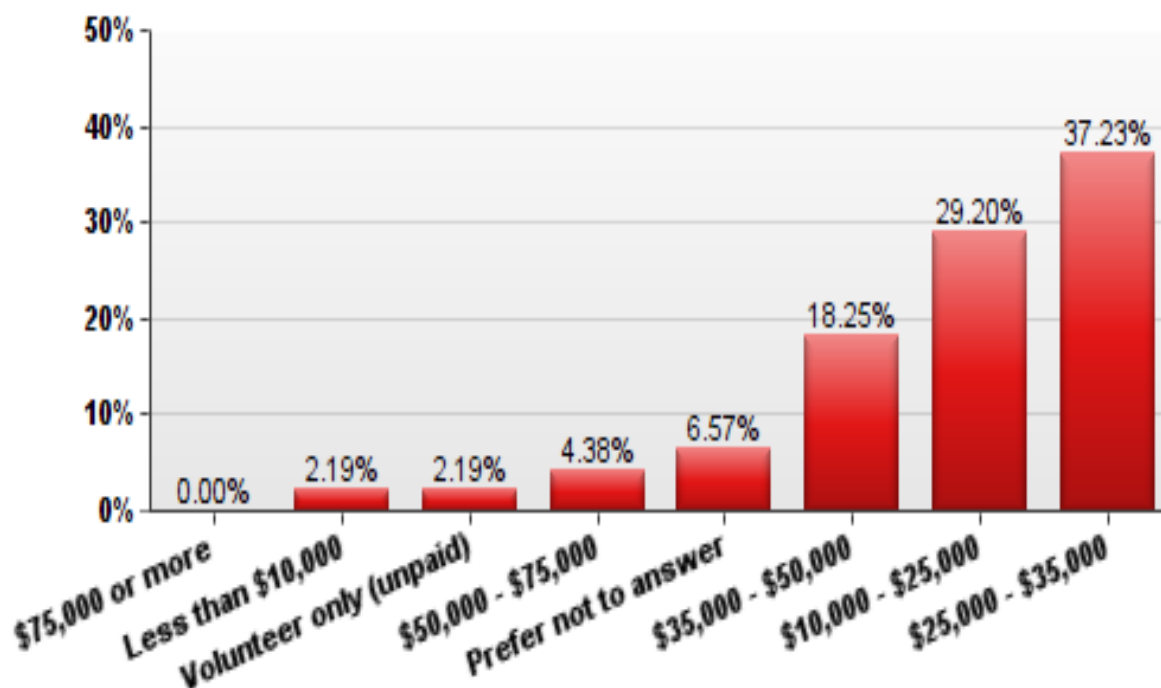
<i>Paid</i>		<i>Volunteer</i>	
Average Hours Worked	35	Average Hours Worked	10
Minimum Hours Worked	4	Minimum Hours Worked	1
Maximum Hours Worked	60	Maximum Hours Worked	40
TOTAL RESPONSE	131	TOTAL RESPONSE	80

CHW Individual Annual Income

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Less than \$10,000	3	2%
\$10,000 - \$25,000	40	29%
\$25,000 - \$35,000	51	37%
\$35,000 - \$50,000	25	18%
\$50,000 - \$75,000	6	4%
\$75,000 or more	0	0%
Volunteer only (unpaid)	3	2%
Prefer not to answer	9	7%
TOTAL RESPONSE		137

CHW Individual Annual Income

N = 137



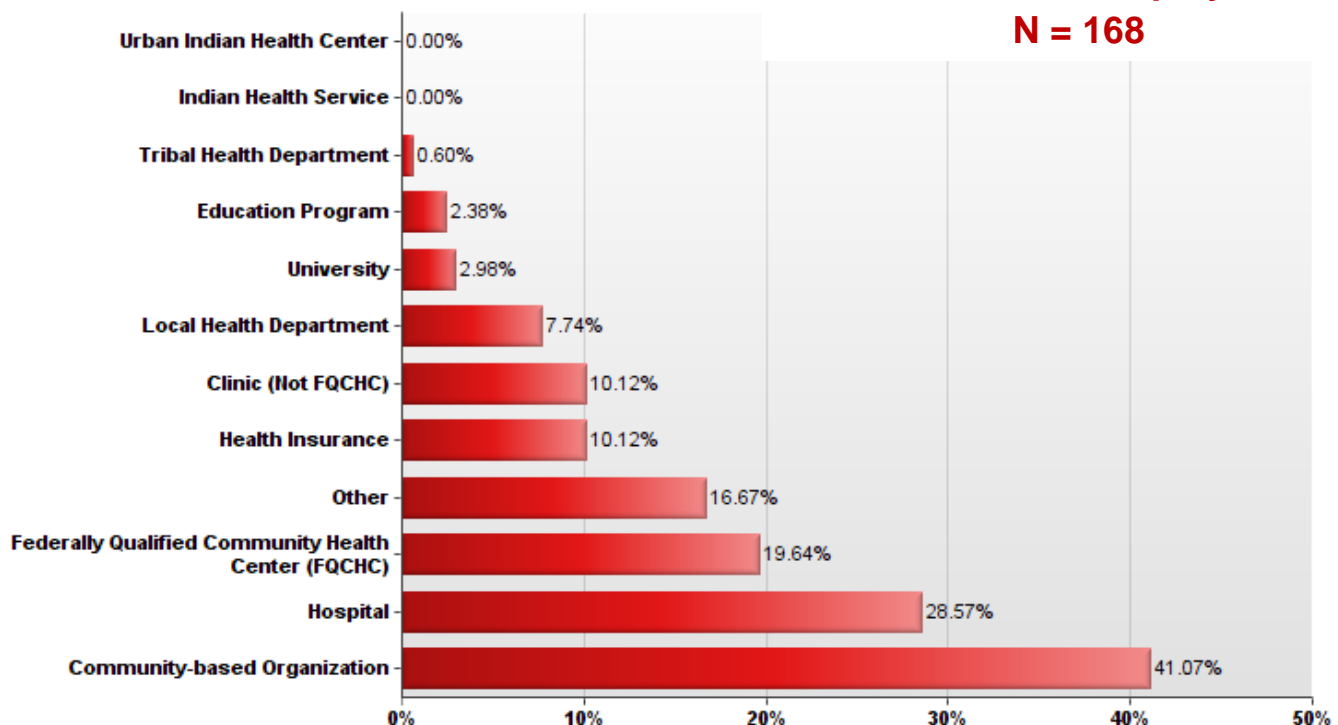
CHW with Employer-Based Health Insurance

Answer	Response	%
Yes	108	80%
No	27	20%
TOTAL RESPONSE		135

CHW Place of Employment

Answer	Response	%
Urban Indian Health Center	0	0%
Indian Health Service	0	0%
Tribal Health Department	1	1%
Education Program	4	2%
University	5	3%
Local Health Department	13	8%
Clinic (Not FQCHC)	17	10%
Health Insurance	17	10%
Other	28	17%
Federally Qualified Community Health Center (FQCHC)	33	20%
Hospital	48	29%
Community-based Organization	69	41%
* CHWs could select more than one place of employment. CHWs often selected a primary place of employment listed above and marked Other to specify Where CHWs Work		
TOTAL RESPONSE		168

CHW Place of Employment N = 168



Where CHWs Work
SUMMARY – City Only

City	Response
Algonac	1
Ann Arbor	1
Apple Valley	1
Centreville	1
Chicago	8
Detroit	26
Elkhorn	1
Ely	2
Flint	1
Frankfort	1
Fraser	1
Grand Rapids	35
Greenville	1
Greenwood	2
Hart	1
Hazel Park	1
holland	1
Indianapolis	1
Inkster	2
Inkster and Taylor	1
Jackson	1
Lansing	6
Madison	4
Mankato	1
Milwaukee	27
Minneapolis	4
Muncie	1
Muskegon	13
Oneida	1
Oscoda	3
Painesville	1
Racine	2
Richfield	1
Rochester	1
Saginaw	5
Southfield	1
Sterling	1
Terre Haute	1
Trafalgar	1
Twin Cities	1
West Allis	3
TOTAL RESPONSE	168

Top Three Health Issues CHWs Work On

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Tuberculosis - TB	1	1%
Occupational Health	4	2%
Cardio Vascular Disease - CVD (Screening and Management)	6	4%
Environmental Health	8	5%
Injury Control	8	5%
Elder Health	12	7%
Dental Health	14	9%
Sexual or Reproductive Health	15	9%
Adolescent Health	15	9%
HIV / AIDS	15	9%
Cancer (Screening and Treatment)	16	10%
Alcohol / Substance / Tobacco Use	23	14%
Asthma	29	18%
Maternal and Child Health	32	20%
Chronic Disease Prevention	42	26%
Prevention (Nutrition and/or Physical Activity)	43	27%
Diabetes (Screening and Self-management)	54	34%
Behavioral Health / Mental Health	57	35%
Accessing Health Services	66	41%
TOTAL RESPONSE	161	

Primary Race or Ethnicity of Population Served by CHWs

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Asian / Pacific Islander	14	8%
American Indian / Alaska Native	14	8%
Other (Specify)	15	9%
Non-Hispanic White	77	46%
Hispanic / Latino(a)	79	48%
Black / African American	115	69%
TOTAL RESPONSE	166	

CHW Professional Development

Level of Agreement with the *American Public Health Association* definition of a Community Health Worker

A Community Health Worker (CHW) is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the CHW to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery.

A CHW also builds individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support and advocacy text.

Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses
Level of agreement	5 (4%)	6 (4%)	55 (39%)	75 (57%)	141

CHW Perceptions on Opportunities for Better Pay in Current Place of Employment

Answer	Response	%
Yes	22	15%
No	52	37%
I don't know	68	48%
TOTAL RESPONSE	142	

Desired Aspects of a Community Health Worker Professional Association or Group

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Getting peer support from others.	82	60%
Opportunities to share information or learn about community events.	87	64%
Opportunities to work with other CHWs on issues that are important to the CHW profession.	94	69%
Opportunities to gain leadership skills.	99	73%
Opportunities to network with other CHWs.	107	79%
Opportunities to work with other CHWs on issues that are important to my community.	110	81%
Training or seminars.	117	86%
TOTAL RESPONSE		136

A CHW Member Of A CHW Professional Association or Group

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	71	50%
No	70	50%
TOTAL RESPONSE		141

CHW Community Advocacy Readings and Resources

Publications

- **Establishing a Professional Profile of Community Health Workers: results from a national study of roles, activities, and training.** Ingram M, Reinschmidt K, Schachter KA, Davidson CL, Sabo S, De Zapien JG, Carvajal SC. *Journal of Community Health* 2012;37(2):529-37. doi:10.1007/s10900-001-9475-2. PubMed PMID: 21964912.
<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10900-011-9475-2/fulltext.html>
- **Predictors and a Framework for Fostering Community Advocacy as a Community Health Worker Core Function to Eliminate Health Disparities.** Sabo S, Ingram M, Reinschmidt K, Schachter K, Jacobs L, Guernsey de Zapien J, Robinson L, Carvajal C. *American Journal of Public Health* 2013; 103(7):e67-e73. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2012.301108. Epub 2013;15(2):427-36. PubMed: PMID: 23678904.
<http://ajph.publicatons.org/doi/abs/10.2105?AJPH>
- **Developing an Action Learning Community Advocacy/Leadership Training Program for Community Health Workers and Their Agencies to Reduce Health Disparities in Arizona Border Communities.** Schachter K, Ingram M, Jacobs L, Guernsey de Zapien J, Hafter H, Carvajal S. *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice, Volume 7(2)Spring 2014, 34-49.*
<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10935-013-0335-y>
- **A community health worker intervention to address the social determinants of health through policy change.** Ingram M, Schachter K, Sabo, S Reinschmidt K, Gomez S, Guernsey de Zapien J, Carvajal SC.. *Journal of Primary Prevention.* April 2014, Volume 35, Issue 2, pp 119-123 <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10935-013-0335-y>

CHW Advocacy and Leadership Curriculum

Acción Para La Salud (Action for Health)

The Acción Para La Salud core research project aims to determine the effectiveness of integrating community advocacy into community health worker (CHW) outreach and education activities in increasing community-driven policy change related to chronic disease prevention.

English Version

<http://azprc.arizona.edu/sites/azprc.arizona.edu/files/Accion-Para-La-Salud-English.pdf>

Spanish Version

<http://azprc.arizona.edu/sites/azprc.arizona.edu/files/Accion%20Para%20la%20Salud%20Guia%20Curricular.pdf>

NCHAWS National, Regional and State Reports

- Reports : <http://azprc.arizona.edu/resources/reports>