

Oklahoma Public Health Association
Community Health Workers Section

IN ACTION

**SINCE 2019,
THE CHW SECTION:**

Adopted a definition of Community Health Workers that is aligned with the American Public Health Association:

A community health worker is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker 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 community health worker 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

Established the Wellness Now Coalition's Community Health Worker Workgroup.

The Workgroup aims to train, support, and deploy CHWs (including volunteers interested in becoming CHWs) to identify root causes behind health conditions (i.e. SDOH) that impact communities of untapped potential; build community member capacity to address SDOH; and motivate community members to become Community Champions and create sustainable change.

Partnered with the Oklahoma State Department of Health to support drafting of the "Community Health Worker Act."

In collaboration with the Oklahoma State University Nutritional Sciences Department, launched the first statewide Community Health Worker Forum 2020.

Continues to partner with Tulsa Health Department, Universities and Career Technical Centers, to develop a standardized Community Health Worker Training aligned with the recommended C3 CHW roles and competencies.

**...AND WE'RE NOT
FINISHED YET!**

Our section strongly recommends using roles and competencies outlined by the C3 Project, to align with CHW workforce development in Oklahoma.
<https://www.c3project.org/resources>

To support the CHW workforce in Oklahoma,
or if you need resources,
help with integration strategies,
or technical support,
email oklahomachws@gmail.com

