

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER INSTITUTE

communityhealthalignment.org

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

CHWs connect underserved communities to health and social service resources, improve quality and cultural competence of service delivery, and help health systems achieve a significant financial return on investment.



CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY HEALTH
ALIGNMENT

WHO ARE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (CHWs)?



Trusted, frontline public health workers with a deep understanding of the communities they serve.



Liaisons between health/social services and the community they facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural humility of service delivery.



Individual and community capacity builders by increasing health knowledge and self-efficacy through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, motivational interviewing, social support and advocacy.

CHWs IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES

(Including, but not limited to the following)



Hypertension



Diabetes



Cancer



Birth Outcomes



Asthma

Reduced Medicaid Spending by 23%

In rural Arkansas, CHWs focusing on older adults with multiple chronic conditions were able to reduce the annual Medicaid spending for these patients by **23.8 percent** and showed a return of investment of **\$2.92 per dollar invested** in the program.

Felix, H. C., Mays, G. P., Stewart, M. K., Cottoms, N., & Olson, M. (2011). Medicaid Savings Resulted When Community Health Workers Matched Those With Needs To Home And Community Care

Lowered ED Visits by 40%

In West Baltimore, CHWs working with low-income patients on diabetes management and education lowered ED visits by **40 percent**, showing an average savings of over **\$2,000 per patient**, per year.

Fedder DO, Chang RJ, Curry S, Nichols G(2003). The effectiveness of a community health worker outreach program on healthcare utilization of west Baltimore City Medicaid patients with diabetes, with or without hypertension.

Improved Blood Pressure Controls

A systematic review of 10 randomized controlled trials showed **positive improvements in blood pressure controls** with the presence of CHW in the program.

Brownstein, PhD, J. N., Chowdhury, F. M., Norris, S. L., Horsley, T., Jack, L., Zhang, X., & Satterfield, D. (2007). Effectiveness of Community Health Workers in the Care of People with Hypertension. American Journal of Preventive Medicine