



Who, What, When, Where & Why:

Building a Successful Asthma CHW Home Visiting Program

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Program Objectives



Participants will be able to identify the key components necessary for creating and sustaining a successful CHW asthma home visiting program.

Participants will be able to define the CHW role, function, results and value during this age of health reform with a focus on asthma.

Participants will be able to identify the who, what, when/where and how of developing a CHW asthma home visiting program in their communities.



What is a Community Health Worker?



History of CHWs

- Role dates back to the 17th century
- Began as a societal position
- Appointed by the community
- Role was to ensure access to healthcare, information, resources and care.

Am J Public Health 2008 January; 98(1):11-14

APHA Definition of a Community Health Worker



Catheline Legagneur, CHW
Boston Medical Center
leaving BMC for a home visit.



Bonita Quick, CHW
Boston Medical Center
leaving BMC for a home visit.

American Public Health Association:

- > Is a trusted member of, or deeply understands, the community served
- > Is a liaison between health and social services and the community
- > A CHW builds individual and community capacity through:
 - Outreach
 - Community education
 - Informal counseling
 - Social support
 - Advocacy

www.apha.org

What Is Distinctive About CHWs?

- Do not provide clinical care
- Relate to community members as peers rather than purely as clients
- Rely on *relationships and trust* rather than clinical expertise
- Expertise based on *shared culture and life experience* with population served
- Generally do not hold another professional license

CDC, Promoting Policy and System Change to Expand Employment of Community Health Workers; http://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/pubs/chw_elearning.htm

CHWs and Asthma

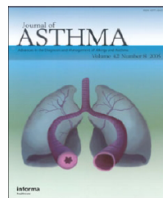
Found effective in improving chronic disease outcomes such as in diabetes and heart disease

Also effective in improving asthma outcomes for children (Postma article)

-Review of 8 publications of CHW multi-trigger home-based education

-All focused on low-income urban communities

-Overall, studies support effectiveness of CHWs in improving asthma symptoms and reducing urgent care usage



Journal of Asthma

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.informaworld.com/smp/title-content=713597262>

Community Health Workers and Environmental Interventions for Children with Asthma: A Systematic Review

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Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics 2009

Created a distinct occupation code for CHWs which states:

- 1. Assist individuals and communities to adopt healthy behaviors.*
- 2. Conduct outreach to implement programs in the community that promote, maintain, and improve individual and community health*
- 3. Provide information on available resources, provide social support and informal counseling*
- 4. Identify and advocate for individuals and community health needs*

<http://hrsa.gov/ruralhealth/pdf/chwtoolkit.pdf>

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act



Community health workers are recognized as important members of the health care workforce.

Evidence shows they can improve health care access and outcome; strengthen health care teams and enhance the quality of life for people in poor, underserved and diverse communities.

Health Aff July 2010 vol. 29 no. 7 1338-1342

Massachusetts Comprehensive Outreach Education Certificate Program



Developed and implemented for
Mass DPH
by
The Boston Public Health
Commission



Massachusetts CHW Training



Training emphasizes three skills

- Conducting educational sessions at community sites to various cultural groups
- Expanding proficiency to provide information and referrals on a range of health topics
- Shaping health messages by the community's language and cultural traditions

Massachusetts CHW CORE Training



Seven core trainings aim to improve the Community Health Worker's skills in areas crucial to achieving positive outcomes

1. Introduction/Assessment Techniques
2. Public Health
3. Leadership Skills
4. Cross Cultural Communications
5. Community Organizing
6. Outreach Education I
7. Outreach Education II

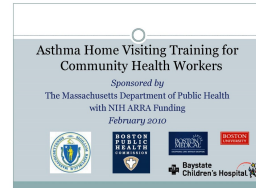
Massachusetts Asthma Training and Support Overview

- Comprehensive Outreach Education Certificate Program
- 4 Day Asthma Home Visitor Training
- 2 day “refresher” training annually
- Quarterly in-person support meetings

Under Development

- Mentorship component
- Observation-based skill assessment

Sponsored by MDPH through the BPHC



Massachusetts Asthma Home Visiting Training

- Basic anatomy and physiology of asthma
- Recognizing asthma control, or lack of control
- Medications and delivery devices & Asthma Action Plan
- Preventive care - Flu shots, well visits
communication with medical home

Massachusetts Asthma Home Visiting Training

- Assessing parent expectations and understanding of asthma personal goals and readiness to change
- In-home assessment for asthma triggers
- In-home remediation strategies (IPM, smoke free rules, housing rights, social service interventions) and u intervention products.
- Motivational Interviewing techniques, principles and tools and Incorporating MI in home visiting with families.*

*Includes role play exercises and hands on training

Massachusetts CHW Supervision

Supervision addresses three different areas:

- Quality Assurance
- Communication and information
- Supportive Environment
- RN, MD, MPH

Massachusetts CHW Supervisor Training

Sponsored by MDPH/BPHC

2 day Supervisor Training

- The role of the CHW
- CHW scope of practice
- Motivational Interviewing
 - role play & modeling
- Asthma basics/NAEPP guidelines review
- Observation visits for QA
- Integration
 - Knowledge, team, DPH, EMR
 - Avoiding “mission creep”
- Monthly supervisor support calls

Funding CHW Programs

- > Grants**
- > Community Benefits**
- > Medical Home Dollars**
- > Insurance**



Margie Lorenzi, Boston Children's Hospital; Zifeng Zou, Tufts Medical Center; Nathalie Bazil and Josephine Santana, Boston Public Health Commission; Joy Gonzalez, Neighborhood Health Plan; Kathy Monteiro Williams, Boston Children's Hospital



How can your asthma care team benefit from adding a Community Health Worker?

Break Out Session

Break Out Session



Who Your patient

What Intervention a CHW could help you with

When/Where You would deliver the intervention

Why What goal you would like to achieve/metric change

Questions & Wrap Up

