## **QC Connect Quarterly**

# NEWSLETTER

EN CITY

ommunity Connect Coalition

### March 2024 | Quarter 3

### Unify. Equip. Empower.

Our mission at QC Community Connect Coalition is to unify, equip, and empower Community Health Workers to serve Mecklenburg County communities by unifying the workforce across organizations in a collaborative forum.

"Our coalition stands as a beacon of hope, working to ensure that CHWs receive the respect, resources, and acknowledgment they rightfully deserve." — CHW, Charlotte, NC

## 2024 Meeting Schedule

February 6th @ 11 AM - 12:30 PM

April 2th @ 11 AM - 12:30 PM

June 4th @ 11 AM - 12:30 PM

August 6th @ 11 AM - 12:30 PM

October 1st @ 11 AM - 12:30 PM

December 3rd @ 11 AM - 12:30 PM

#### \*Locations TBD\*

## **Resource Roundups!**

Did you have the chance to join us during our first ever resource round up this quarter? If not, be on the lookout for one in the future! Queen City Community Connect Coalition's Resource Roundup sessions are designed for CHWs to foster resource-sharing and collaboration. During our Resource Roundup sessions, CHWs can share valuable resources they've discovered. Additionally, CHWs can express their resource needs in hopes to create a collaborative exchange that strengthens and empowers CHWs to better serve their communities! Check out our website for our next session!

QCCommunityConnect.org



# **QUEEN CITY** CONNECT QUARTERLY

# CHW Access Act: Your Voice Matters Too!

By: Brittany Weatherall

Exciting developments are underway in the CHW Workforce! On March 11th, 2024, Senator Bob Casey introduced the new Community Health Worker (CHW) Access Act. This bill aims to enhance community health workers' ability to bridge gaps in health outcomes by improving Medicare coverage for their services, including personalized support for illness prevention and recovery. Additionally, the bill encourages states to cover services provided by community health workers under their Medicaid programs.

By broadening access to community-based services, Medicaid expansion facilitates better healthcare outcomes for individuals and communities. Contact your legislators to show your support for the CHW Access Act!

#### **Contact your Legislators**

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Looking for opportunities to expand your knowledge and skillset? Check below!

- Introduction to Health and Wellness
  <u>Coaching for CHWs</u>
- Care Management for CHWs

- <u>Resource Coordination for CHWs</u>
- At-Risk Youth Care Management



**CHW N' Action** By: Brittany Weatherall

#### **Educational Webinar Series**

Community health workers (CHWs) are an essential workforce known for bridging gaps in their communities and reducing health inequities. However, their roles and contributions are often misunderstood. To address this gap in understanding, we are excited to announce the CHW N' Action Webinar Series. Mecklenburg County Public Health Department, South Piedmont AHEC, and the Center for Community Health Alignment have joined forces to present a series of live webinars aimed at educating healthcare, public health, and social care professionals on the vital roles CHWs play and how to effectively integrate them into their teams.

Join us for the remainder of our three-part series featuring expert presentations and panel discussions with CHWs and Promotores making a difference in their communities. Our first module covered CHW fundamentals, the second delves into innovative approaches to address health disparities, and the last explores social determinants of health (SDoH) in Mecklenburg County. Don't miss out on this insightful series bringing awareness to the CHW profession and workforce!

#### **Event Schedule:**

Health and Racial Equity - April 10, 12:00-1:00PM Addressing SDoH - May 8, 12:00-1:00PM

**Register Now** 

# COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER INITATIVE

# **QC CONNECT QUARTERLY**

# CHW Advocacy Day!

The North Carolina Community Health Worker Association (NCCHWA) invites you to join on May 15th from 9AM-5PM at the State Capitol in Raleigh! We will be educating our legislators, sharing our stories, and highlighting the needs of our community.

**Interest Form** 



"Empowerment goes hand in hand with equipping our community health workers to serve their communities" — CHW, Charlotte, NC



# **CHW Spotlight**

In each edition of our newsletter, we will recognize the incredible efforts of our CHWs who are at the forefront of creating positive change in our communities.

#### Harold Quirama

In this quarter's spotlight, we are thrilled to feature Harold Quirama. His impact has been profound and evident as his support extends across various services; from utility bill assistance to employment opportunities, free internet, health insurance, legal aid, free tax preparation, transportation, a school for children, and providing essentials such as clothing, diapers, wipes, and formula.

The community recognizes Harold through numerous "word of mouth" referrals, a testament to the significant and lasting difference he consistently makes in the community he serves. Harold's compassionate approach, holistic support, and dedication to health equity make in an invaluable asset in our community. Click <u>here</u>!

# Got something to share?

Interested in contributing to the QC Connect Quarterly?

- Highlight your programs/services at your organization for a future meeting/newsletter edition!
- Highlight any organizational events or opportunities that expand the CHW workforce!
- Highlight your team and/or team member for doing extraordinary work in Mecklenburg County!

Publishing Criteria: Must pertain to the CHW workforce and contribute to QC Community Connect Coalition common agenda and values.

Please submit all content to Brittany Weatherall at Brittany.Weatherall@mecknc.gov