



HCGC Welcomes First class of Central Ohio Pathways HUB Certification Program Participants

March 16th marked the first day of classes for HCGC's Central Ohio Pathways HUB Certification Program. The program welcomed 17 participants, who will take part in three classes per week for twelve weeks.

Throughout the first eight classes, participants and certification staff instructors have covered a variety of topics including, but not limited to:

- . The role of CHWs in health and healthcare models
- · Understanding implicit bias
- · CHWs and the Social Determinants of Health
- Homelessness and Housing in Central Ohio

Certification program participant, Tifani Kendrick wrote of the program:

"I am still discovering what it means to be a Community Health Worker. Getting trained in the HUB through my position at Urban Strategies and connecting with the enthusiasm of the HCGC team certainly helped me develop a curiosity for exploring its meaning. From what I have observed and interpreted, being a CHW is an opportunity to serve as a life-line to community members who often go unseen, unheard, and feel disconnected from opportunities to lead healthy thriving lives. A CHW has the privilege of leaning into the people in our communities and saying - We see you. We care. You are not alone. We are here to help."

The first iteration of the program is comprised of participants who are currently working at the ten existing care coordination agencies (CCAs) in the Central Ohio Pathways HUB, allowing any care coordinators currently working in the HUB to attain their CHW certification while they continue working at their respective CCA. Future sections of the program will be opened to individuals who are not currently working at a HUB CCAs.

For information on being a participant or course instructor in the program, please contact HUB Education Director, <u>Dr.</u> <u>Tanikka Price.</u>

Next CHW Monthly Meeting



Thursday, April 8, 2021 9:00-11:00 AM Supervisor Sign-Off Time 11:00-11:30

Webinar: Dial-in information to come via email from HUB Staff.

Insights from the HCGC Blog



Community Health Workers at the Center of Catalyzing Action to Address Health and Social Inequity for Central Ohio's Most Vulnerable Populations

The month of March marked the two-year anniversary of The Central Ohio Pathways HUB (the HUB), a nationally certified care coordination model for Franklin and contiguous counties that is managed by the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus (HCGC). The HUB model is utilizing 11 care coordination agencies (CCAs) that employ over 40 Community Health Workers to assess

medical, behavioral, and social risks for our most vulnerable neighbors and connect them with community resources to mitigate those risks. The HUB has served more than 2,500 clients, of which 80 percent represent minority or foreign-born populations.

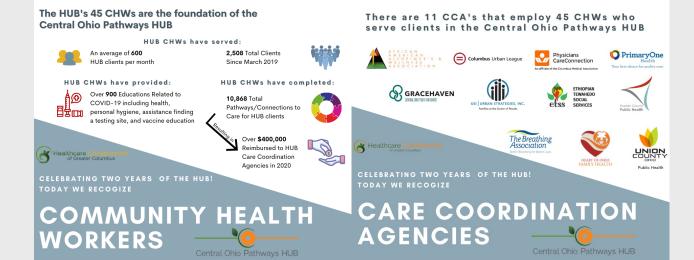
Addressing Disparities Among Vulnerable Populations Amplified During Pandemic

While vulnerable populations disproportionately experience disparities and inequity, the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified disparities among underserved communities in the region and in communities where the HUB is currently serving clients. HUB CHWs have provided over 900 educations related to COVID-19 to their clients since the onset of the pandemic. There has been an exponential growth in education pathways regarding COVID-19 related measures, such as understanding stay-at-home orders, mask mandates, navigating telehealth appointments, and what to do if clients or their family members become ill. Now, more than ever, CHWs are finding themselves advising and connecting clients to important information on health insurance enrollment (including Medicaid), unemployment benefits, career education, food assistance, and guidance on attending prenatal and other preventative healthcare appointments.

"We are grateful to our local and state officials who have called for a renewed focus on racial, cultural, and economic disparity in light of how COVID-19 is disproportionately affecting people," said Carrie Baker, HCGC President and CEO. "We are committed to providing the data necessary to increase equity, while simultaneously preparing our community health workers to support and protect our growing number of clients."

In addition to educating clients, CHWs have also been working to educate and connect Central Ohio's most vulnerable citizens with information on receiving a COVID-19 vaccination. At each encounter, CHWs are discussing the COVID vaccine with their client, providing evidence-based education to dispel unfounded myths, and assisting clients in finding a vaccine locations, appointments and transportation when needed.

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Upcoming Events at HCGC



Health Equity and Research in Practice Virtual Convening #2

Friday, April 16 10 AM - 12 PM

Register: http://www.hcgc.org/events.html

Featured Presenters and Topics:

Addressing Maternal Mortality:

Shawnita Sealy-Jefferson, PhD, MPH,
Ohio State University College of Public
Health, Associate Professor, College of
Epidemiology and Founder, Director, and
Principal Investigator

Chronic Disease in Vulnerable
Populations:

Jill A. Marsteller, PhD, MPP, Professor of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Mental Health Considerations in Vulnerable Populations:

Amy Herschell, Ph.D. Senior Director, Research Strategy and Outcomes Management, University of Pennsylvania Medical Center

Considerations for At-Risk Populations Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic:

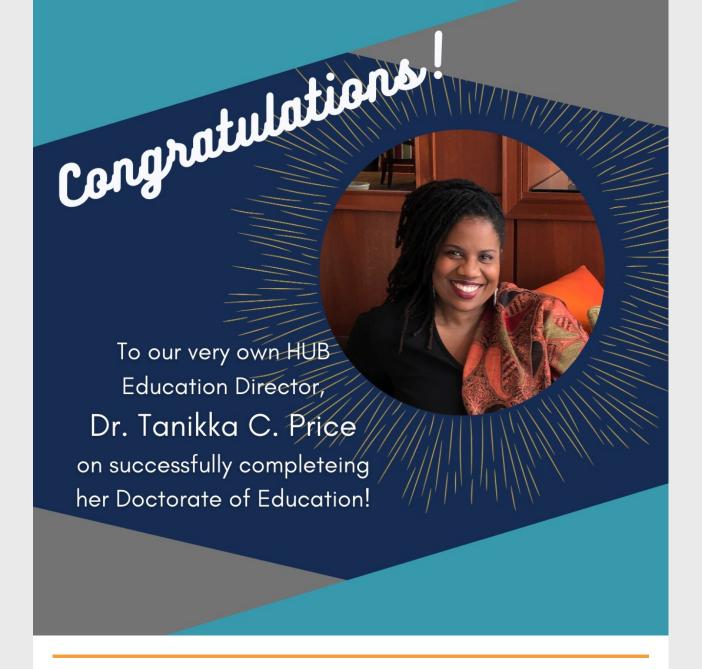
Glenn Martinez, PhD, MPH, The Ohio State University, Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures;

Jessica Zimmer, MD, The Ohio State University
Medical Center;

Marilyn Sampilo, PhD, MPH, Cleveland Clinic, Center for Pediatric Behavioral Health

This webinar series was funded through a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award (EACC-18489).

Register on our Website



Monthly Meeting Resources

Following each Monthly Meeting and Regional Learning Session, the agenda, speaker information, slide deck and other relevant resources are uploaded to the HCGC website for your reference.

View Resources



For a Calendar of Events visit: www.hcgc.org/meetings--events

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