





## What is a Community Health Worker (CHW)?

A frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has a deep understanding of the community served. They serve as liaisons between health/social services and community members.

#### 10 Core Roles of CHWs

- Cultural mediation among individuals, communities, and health and social service systems
- Provide culturally appropriate health education and information
- Care coordination, case management,
- and system navigation Provide coaching and social support Advocate for individuals and
- Build individual and community capacity Provide direct service
- Implement individual and community assessments
- Conduct outreach
- Participate in evaluation and research





### CHWs have a great impact in our communities

Health Start CHWs saves us \$4,000 for the prevention of every very low birth weight birth in Arizona

Diabetes patients significantly lowered their blood pressure and glucose levels (HbA1C)

CHWs helped community members improve their health behaviors to lower their body mass index, blood pressure and cholesterol



\$2.92 cost savings for every dollar spent for managed health care coordination \$4.01 cost savings on every dollar for childhood asthma management by reducing urgent visit and hospital costs

> \$6.10 cost savings for every dollar of cost in providing selfmanagement education and care coordination for diabetics

# Let's Support Arizona CHWs!



Take steps to build and sustain the Arizona Worker workforce.

CHWs are not fully recognized as a professional workforce support to impact Arizona's at-risk and/or unreached populations.

### **During 2015 in Arizona:**

**OVER** were 1,000 employed throughout CHWs Arizona

CHWs served all

15 Counties and 19 Tribes in Arizona

### A 2015 survey of 364 licensed Arizona health providers found:

90%

say CHWs have had a positive impact on patient care

**70%** 

agree CHWs have contributed to preventing high risk or high health

would be more likely to utilize CHWs as part of the health care team if CHWs service were reimbursable by AHCCCS or third-party payers.