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Approved

Indiana Certification of Training Vendors
Certifying Community Health Workers in Indiana

Document

February 22, 2017, Indiana –

The Indiana Community Health Workers Association (INCHWA) is bringing together those in the community that work daily to encourage the health and well-being of their neighbors. Although they are called by many different job titles and roles, Community health workers (CHWs) are always trusted members of their community - sought after sources of information and assistance by those in need. Often unnoticed, they play a vital role in today's healthcare system. The work of CHWs has been documented and proven effective in breaking down cultural barriers for clients and healthcare providers. Their ability to provide education and resource assistance has led to improved health outcomes for patients and cost savings to healthcare providers.

INCHWA is uniting those that recognize the importance of community health workers in today's healthcare system and giving them a voice to promote their presence and their value as a Community that Cares. INCHWA's mission is to advance the CHW profession through relevant healthcare strategies, education, advocacy and a unified voice. INCHWA's goals are to:

- Promote the CHW and their role on the healthcare team,
- Educate CHWs, healthcare professionals, employers, community members, and stakeholders; and
- Advocate with local and statewide policy makers of the value and CHWs and certification.

In support of these goals, the Indiana State Health Department has funded INCHWA's efforts to develop a process for certification and cultivate a network of community health workers as a workforce.

INCHWA is announcing that effective February 22, 2017 INCHWA will begin to CERTIFY curriculum of training vendors that has been formally reviewed for alignment to national and State standards. These vendors will be recognized as qualified to certify individuals who successfully complete the curriculum and testing requirements of their curriculum as certified community health workers (CCHWs). Vendors must meet certification requirements outlined in the certification process and must enforce continuing education requirements to maintain active certification.

Curriculum submission months are as follows:

- February (Review timeframe March –May) – Results sent out in mid-June
- May (Review timeframe June –August) – Results sent out in mid-September
- August (Review timeframe September –November) – Results sent out in mid-December

We invite interested training vendors to contact INCHWA for application and curriculum requirements.

Contact us at CERTADMIN@INCHWA.org.