

From: Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance (MiCHWA) mitchkl@umich.edu
Subject: Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance: Update March 2014
Date: March 12, 2014 at 3:24 PM
To: carl@chrllc.net



To promote and sustain the integration of community health workers into Michigan's health and human service systems through coordinated changes in policy and workforce development

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Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance

Winter UPDATE

March 2014; Volume III, Issue I

We're off to a busy, busy start in 2014. We want to highlight a few things for all our partners and supporters, both local and national, to keep everyone in the loop.

- **MiCHWA's Working Groups** are off to a great start this year. Learn more about each group's 2014 objectives on their individual working group webpages, [accessible on our website](#).
- Conference season is just around the corner. Learn more about the **National CHW Unity Conference** happening May 20-22 in Baltimore Maryland.
- CHWs in Detroit are hosting a **social event** on Wednesday, April 2. More details can be found on [MiCHWA's News & Events page](#). CHWs, their co-workers, and their families are encouraged to come!

CHWs continue to be a hot topic at the state and national levels. New legislation has been drafted supporting the CHW workforce in several states including [Illinois](#), Maryland ([HB0856](#), [HB1257](#), [SB0592](#)), and [New Mexico](#), and federal agencies including the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#) continue to support CHW interventions.

National CHW Survey: Please Take!

We also want to encourage all CHWs in Michigan to complete the [National Community Health Worker Survey \(NCHWS\)](#). The NCHWS is the largest survey of CHWs ever conducted and has the potential to provide much needed information about the workforce. If you are a CHW, [please complete the survey now](#); if you know CHWs (who go by many titles, [including those found here](#)), please pass it along to them. This is vital to understanding who CHWs are and what they do in our state.

New & Upcoming Initiatives

MiCHWA is working hard on two big projects for this year. We are currently seeking funding to support

The CHW Sustainability Initiative, a project that creates a standardized, core competency-based CHW education program directly linked to employment and reimbursement opportunities. MiCHWA's [Program Evaluation Advisory Board](#) is also collaborating with the Michigan Department of Community Health to launch a statewide CHW Program Survey this summer.

[Continue Partnering with Us](#)

MiCHWA hopes to keep you in the loop as much as possible concerning relevant CHW research, data, and news. Articles from newspapers and magazines are posted to our [Facebook page](#). Our working groups are engaged in multiple activities related to [policy & financing change](#) and [standard CHW education](#). Our Web site and social media pages are updated daily with the latest [CHW news](#) and [CHW policy](#).

We hope you'll continue connecting with us this year. Thanks for your interest in and support of CHWs in Michigan! For more information about any of the items above or about MiCHWA, please contact Project Coordinator Katherine Mitchell mitchkl@umich.edu.



CHW Survey: Data gathered from the NCHWS will be 'open source' and available for states and CHW networks to use for planning and workforce sustainability efforts. This is why it is so important that *ALL CHWs in Michigan* complete the survey! Please spread the word.



Web Resources: MiCHWA's Web site is constantly updated with new resources including a [CHW 101 toolkit](#), [job postings](#), [videos](#) and [national news on CHWs](#). We also have a [calendar](#) full of CHW webinars, training opportunities, and MiCHWA meetings.



Know someone else that should be getting MiCHWA's UPDATE newsletter? Make sure they sign up through the [MiCHWA Contact Form](#).



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Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance
1080 South University Avenue, SSW 3759
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106

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