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**National Association of Community Health Workers and Partners In Health United States Host
2nd Annual Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill**

(March 7, 2024) **Washington, D.C.** - On March 12, more than 90 Community Health Workers, allies, and advocates from across the country will gather on Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress and legislative staff during the second annual federal Hill Day, briefing and rally. The advocacy day will be hosted jointly by National Association of Community Health Workers (NACHW) and the U.S. arm of Partners In Health (PIH-US) to bring critical awareness to the community health worker profession and workforce.

“NACHW’s 2nd Annual CHW Hill Day celebrates CHW professionals as a unique, trusted, community-based, cross-sector and proven workforce who help people in U.S. cities, rural towns, tribal nations, and territories to locate, understand and access clinical, behavioral, and public health resources that prevent disease and promote wellbeing. However, lack of sustainable financing, policies and infrastructure reduces the impact that our workforce can have on health status and outcomes. I am proud to celebrate the compassion, commitment, and capacity of community health workers today and everyday,” said Denise Octavia Smith, CHW and Inaugural Executive Director of NACHW.

Community health workers include [promotoras, community health representatives from tribal nations](#) and more than 95 other work [titles](#). Community health workers are frontline public health workers who are trusted members of the community or have an unusually close understanding of the community they serve. This trusting relationship enables them to serve as a link between health or social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery. Despite growing recognition of the critical role of community health workers in the U.S., the workforce has struggled with inadequate and unstable funding. The 2024 advocacy day aims to engage congressional leaders on key issues affecting long-term sustainability for the workforce.

"Community health workers are fundamental to building more equitable and resilient health infrastructure," says Katie Bollbach, Executive Director, PIH-US. "We are proud to partner with the National Association of Community Health Workers to champion solutions for the long-term sustainability and growth of this critical profession in the United States."

Community health workers, advocates, and congressional leaders and staffers, including [House Congresswoman Alma Adams from the 12th District of North Carolina](#), will participate in a briefing discussing community health workers and their impact across diverse communities in the United States. Hill Day participants will also meet with their legislators to educate and bring awareness to the urgent needs of community health workers.

Advocates will urge Congress to support the Community Health Worker Access Act, which would provide sustained funding for the community health workforce by improving reimbursement for community health workers in Medicaid and Medicare programs. They will also encourage members of Congress to support a resolution recognizing 2024 National CHW Awareness Week.

Last year, NACHW, PIH-US, Visión y Compromiso, Project CHAMPP, and seven other organizations convened the first-ever Congressional briefing on the community-based workforce. The groups brought over 40 CHWs, promotoras, and allies to Washington, D.C., to attend a panel and advocate on Capitol Hill.

For media inquiries, please contact Rebecca Gifford at rgifford@pih.org.

About National Association of Community Health Workers

The National Association of Community Health Workers (NACHW) was founded in April 2019 after several years of planning and organizing by Community Health Workers (CHWs) and allies across the United States. NACHW is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership-driven organization with a mission to unify CHWs across geography, ethnicity, sector and experience to support communities to achieve health, equity and social justice.

www.NACHW.org

About Partners In Health United States

PIH United States (PIH-US) is the U.S. arm of Partners In Health, a nonprofit, social justice organization. PIH was founded more than 30 years ago in Haiti and now works in 11 countries around the world, accompanying governments and communities to build stronger health systems and improve access to high quality care. PIH-US works shoulder to shoulder with public health departments, community organizations and advocates to achieve their long-term visions for healthier communities and more just systems. Learn more at www.pih.org/united-states.

