



# Advance CHW Project

End of Year Report

1/24/24



## WHY DO CHWS HAVE TO LEAD?

- CHW Leadership is essential to the profession and identity of the role. Only other CHWs fully understand what it takes to fulfill the role.
- Often the CHW role description is written by governing bodies that do not have a thorough understanding of the day-to-day activities, the characteristics of a CHW, and the personal responsibility of the CHW to the community.
- CHWs thrive with autonomy to direct their own capacity.
- CHWs seek knowledge and take deep investigations into comprehending community, and individual barriers, and solutions.



# NACHW SHARES ADVANCE CHWS PROJECT DATA SHARED DURING HILL BRIEFING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.



**Congressman Raul Ruiz, MD** ✓

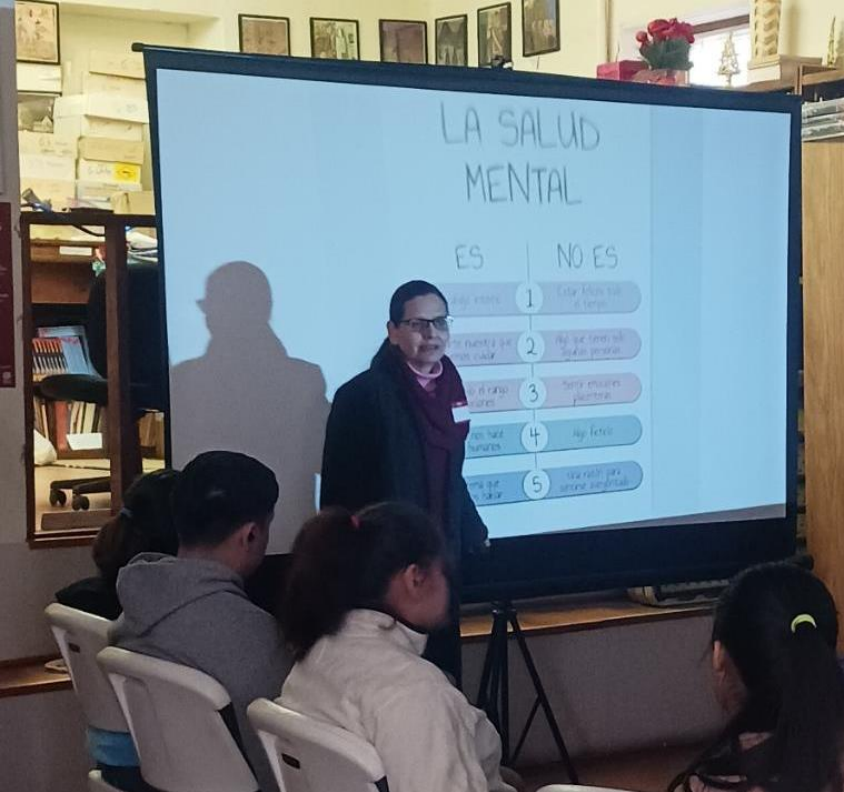
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Thank you to **Partners In Health**, the **National Association of Community Health Workers**, and **Visión y Compromiso** for joining me this week to discuss how we can work together to improve access to health care in our communities.



## 110 Hill Staffers and Legislators Received NACHW Materials!!!

- **NACHW sent a delegation of Community Health, Workers, promotoras, and allies from across the country to host a Hill briefing at the capital on March 8!**
- **NACHW distributed the Advance CHW Project infographics on CHW Diversity, Pay Equity and Career Gateways during Hill briefing and visits.**
- **Congressman Ruiz was the host of the briefing. This national work will reverberate into each of our leaders' states and be supported by the meetings that are funded by J&J they are to lift policies, that protect, respect, and authentically partner with our profession.**



# MARIA, YOUTH EMPOWERMENT:

- March 27<sup>th</sup> Mental Health First Aid Youth training in San Elizario, TX by NACHW J&J Leader Maria Covernali,
- Provided in culturally and linguistic appropriate language
- Attended by school grade youth under 18
- Youth received certificates of completion for this course.
- Reports from youth mentioned a new understanding of emotions and how to recognize warning signs of suicide.

**Calling CHWs That Live/Work in Fulton County Georgia!!  
Reply By: 04/7/23**

**CHW LED COMMUNITY GARDEN INITIATIVE,  
IMPROVING FOOD INSECURITIES ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!  
\*SOUTH FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA\***

What You Will Learn

- How to grow plants from seed
- How to start your garden indoors
- The best time of year to plant the fruits and veggies you love!
- Composting
- Gardening on a budget
- Preparing meals with your harvest
- Engage & empower community members through facilitating in-person workshops, cooking demos & gardening
- How to grow herbs & Spices & how to use them medicinally

Please [Scan](#) to [Register](#) or [Click the Link Below!!](#)

**SCAN ME**  
<https://qrco.de/bdpsiX>

**SOUTH FULTON**  
Master Gardeners

*Visitors & Friends*

**BACK TO THE GROWL**

**SPRING OPEN HOUSE**

**APRIL 29, 2023**  
9am - 2pm

**FREE WORKSHOPS, AND GARDEN TOUR**

4300 Herschel Rd  
College Park, GA 30337

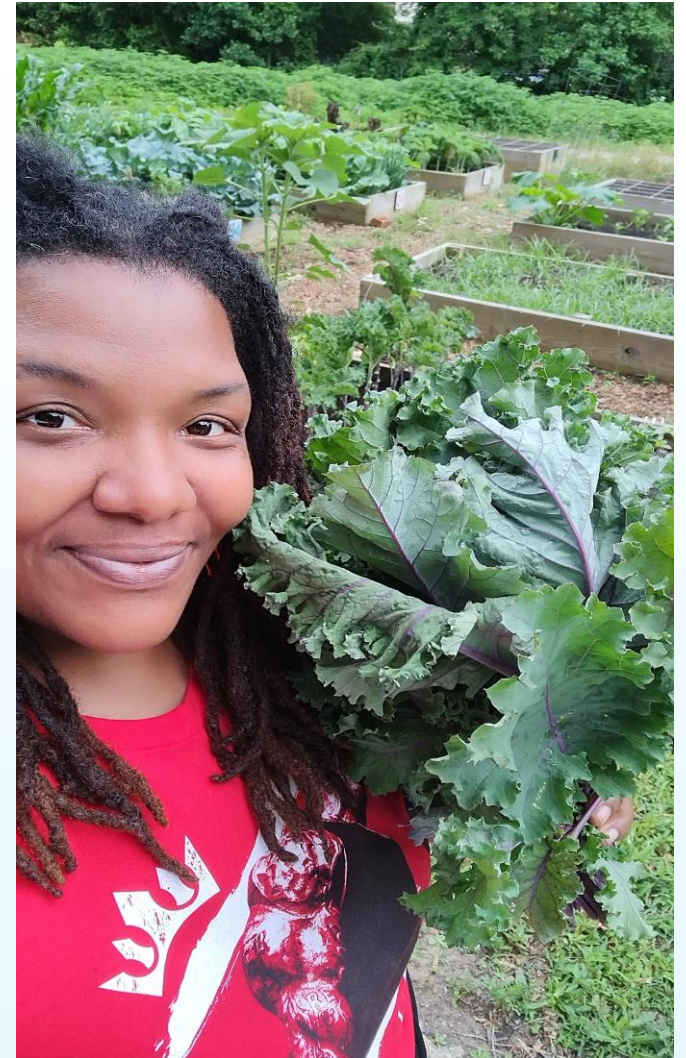
SouthFultonMasterGardeners.com

# DANINA, CHW LEAD COMMUNITY GARDENING INITIATIVE

- NACHW J&J Leader Danina Battle has outreached to other CHWs to pilot a CHW Lead Gardening Initiative
- Improving food disparities in South Fulton County, Georgia.
- Held an open garden/house tour for community members and a CHW Garden Weekend Workday.
- Addressing social determinants of health in this training including, sustainable, affordable and home-grown food sources, alleviating food deserts, and working with the young farmers association.
- Values incorporated in this training include self-empowerment, unity, and social justice.

## Danina Harvesting Healthy Food & Leadership

**“Leadership is about collaboration and inspiring others to do their best work. I aim to be direct and collaborate with my team members by delegating tasks, leading by example, and making sure they know I care. Before the beginning of this CHW Community Pilot Project, I didn't really consider myself to be a "leader", I just enjoyed what I had been doing for the community for so many years. I never thought that I could lead anyone. Leaders have followers, right? I didn't have a slew of college degrees or public accolade or an entourage of associates. When I was offered this opportunity, I was scared and uncomfortable! The first thing that came to my mind was "What if it doesn't work?" "What if I don't do a good job?" I'm just speaking from my heart as I write this. I am truly grateful for NACHW and their team.” -Danina Battle**



# NACHW INVADES CONNECTICUT STATE CAPITOL FOR CHW HEALTH EQUITY



- Tues April 6<sup>th</sup> Connecticut State Capitol Hosts CHW Health Equity Solutions
- NACHW Executive Director Denise O. Smith and J&J Leader Dianne Jones were in attendance and folks were stopping by our NACHW information table!
- NACHW distributed J&J Advance CHWs Project infographics on CHW Diversity, Career Gateways and Pay Equity

400 Attendees  
Received NACHW  
Materials!!!

# PROMATORES UNITE in TX!

- NACHW Advance CHWs Project leaders Lucy Nguyen, and Maria Covernali gathered in Austin TX on Fri. April 14<sup>th</sup> for the Día De La Mujeres Promotora/CHW Day Event.
- Over 100 CHWs and Healthcare workers were in attendance
- NACHW Leaders spoke listen about the National CHW Survey and received infographics and handouts.





# Lucy's Hope for the Future of Austin, TX

“My hopes are that more bilingual AAPI community members will be attracted to the CHW role due to more awareness and education. They will then be able to not only serve the communities but also advocate for their Well-being and access to care as CHW leaders. I want to see that there is not only one Burmese CHW serving every Burmese person but 10 in just this one community to ensure more sustainability in the work.”

- Lucy Nguyen

# ANDREA, COMMUNITY CHAMPION in MICHIGAN



- NACHW Advance CHWs Project leader Andrea Krotzer presented at the Gulf Shore Alabama CHW Day on Friday April 14th, 2023.
- Connecting with other CHWs and uplifting NACHW
- Andrea's Red Rover project trained 25 CHWs as community champions and promoted social justice and self-determination.

# Advancing Leadership from Andrea, Midland, MI

“Leadership, to me, is a multifaceted concept that involves inspiring, guiding, and empowering individuals or groups towards a common goal or vision. It's not just about being in a position of authority; true leadership is marked by the ability to communicate effectively, foster collaboration, make tough decisions, and lead by example. It's about recognizing the unique strengths and weaknesses of team members and leveraging them to achieve shared objectives. Leadership also requires empathy, the capacity to listen, adaptability, and a commitment to personal and professional growth.

My growth as a leader has been a continuous journey. I've honed my communication skills, both in listening and speaking, to connect with people on a deeper level. I've also developed a more strategic mindset, learning to set clear goals, plan effectively, and make data-informed decisions. Furthermore, I've embraced a growth mindset, seeing failures as opportunities to learn and improve rather than setbacks” –Andrea Krotzer

# GARY, DRIVING CHW WORKFORCE ADVOCACY in MICHIGAN

- NACHW Advance CHW project Leader Gary Ringer is an advocate for CHWs to begin their career in the workforce.
- He assisted 120 CHWs in signing up for CHW training in Michigan on April 26<sup>th</sup>!



# Gary's Aspirations for Healthy Homes, Detroit, MI

“We are looking to expand our current Carbon Monoxide Awareness Initiative to include greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and emphasize the link between housing and health. Yes, carbon monoxide (CO) does contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, albeit indirectly. It's not a major greenhouse gas on its own, like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), or nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O). However, it plays a significant role in the chemistry of the atmosphere and can affect the concentration of these other greenhouse gases.

Building operations and construction-related activities are responsible for approximately 39% of humanity's global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.” –Gary Ringer

# Preparing the next generation of CHWs in TX!



- Youth CHW training being hosted by our NACHW Advance CHWS project Leader Maria Covernali,
- 25 Youth enrolled in this training are receiving supplemental CPR Certification along with their required learnings for CHW in El Paso, TX

# TAKE A SEAT AT OUR TABLE

- NACHW Advance CHW project leaders Dianne and Dean hosted a planning and partnership meeting to advance The HOPE Center Health Hub for returning citizens.
- Bringing partners to the table to discuss sustainability while working to address formerly incarcerated individuals needs as a public health disparity and cultivate CHW solutions,
- NACHW E.D. Denise Smith along with Allison Joslyn NACHW'S Data and Evaluation Manager met in person at Philips Metro Church in Hartford, CT. Mikayla Trujillo, Leadership Development Manager/ J&J Manager joined virtually to support.



Partners include NACHW, Hartford Hospital, Columbia University and Phillips Metropolitan Church Health Ministry.

## Highlights from the “Hope Center” in Hartford, CT Dean & Dianne Jones

**"Creating culturally competent guidelines to creation of specialty components add-ons to the standard CHW certification program. The marginalized population is unfamiliar with the health disparities which then requires to put in place a broader health education informational systems which creates a big challenge to advancing health equality" -Dean Jones**





- Dean Jones, NACHW Advance CHWs Project Leader, supports Community Food Outreach in the food deserts of Hartford Connecticut with the HOPE Center Health Hub
- Reaching underserved populations and families through January, February and March 2023.
- These food distributions upheld values for unity, and social justice.

# FILLING THE MEAL GAP in Connecticut



# VIDA VIVRANT! LIVING LIFE in CALIFORNIA

- NACHW Advance CHWs project Leader, Rosa Perez, taught the Vida Vivrant Nutrition and Physical Activity class
- Participants learn to recognize body movements as an essential value in overall wellness
- Over 50 participants to date!
- Values of this training include self-determination and self-empowerment.
- 2 trainings were held in the month of April in San Bernadino, California.



# Vive Vibrant-Rosa Perez, San Bernadino CA

## Our Success!

“Live Vibrant Program, program has been very successful because we managed to reach the goal and empower people in the community to make positive changes to prevent obesity and increase knowledge of Nutrition and Physical Activity. We began with training for health promoters to have the necessary tools to go out into the community to do outreach, look for allies, open doors, and make MOUs for different places that required it—increasing food security and reducing hunger, and having access to sites to do physical activity. Who did you interact with? In this program, I began to interact with the Mayor of the city and the directors of food banks so that they could donate fruits and vegetables to the people who participated in the classes.” –Rosa Perez

# Unity 2023 Recap

- **NACHW brought the Advance CHW project leaders to Texas and presented on:**
- **Iron sharpens Iron- Phillip Cooper, Mikayla Trujillo**
- **ZUMBA! Physical Activity & Nutrition for CHW Self-Care- Rosa Perez**
- **V.P. of Training and Master CHWI- Andrea Krotzer**
- **Let's Play in the Dirt: Addressing Social Determinates of Health One Garden at a Time- Danina Battle**
- **Building a Language Access Plan from the Ground Up- Lucy Nguyen**
- **Met for leadership development, project check-ins, mentoring and to plan for 2024 projects**

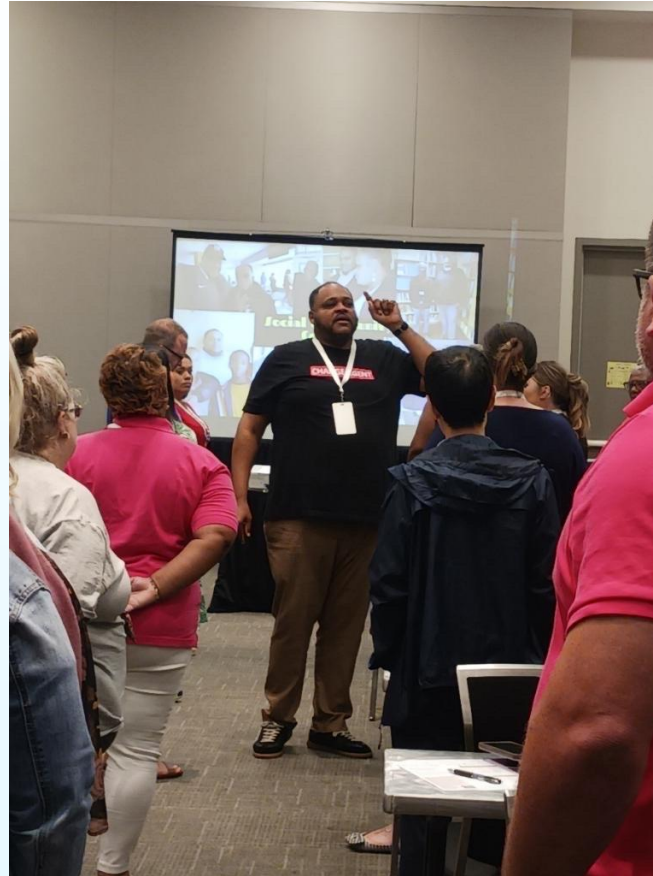
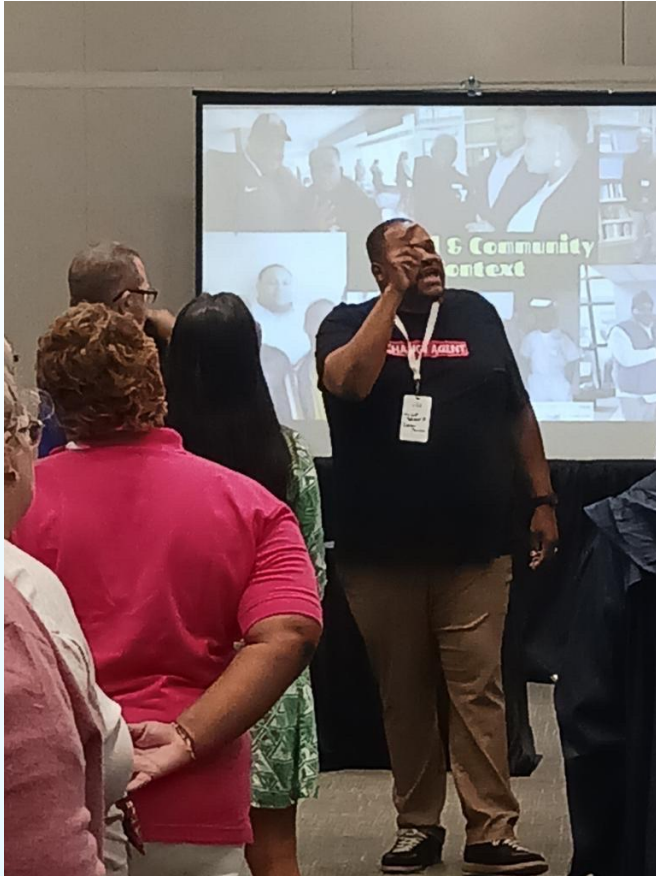




# J&J CHW Leaders Welcoming us to UNITY 2023

# Iron Sharpens Iron- SDOH Unity Session

## Dean Jones in Action raising his voice for those with lived experience in our communities!



# Nikki St Germain Regional Affinity Group at Unity Recap

- “Host a roundtable for the state of New Jersey at the NACHW Annual Meeting and Unity
- Conference;
- - I was present at the 2023 NACHW UNITY conference and facilitated a regional affinity group for HHS
- Region 2 CHWs and allies in New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and USVI. CHWs and allies discussed ways
- they could collaborate across municipalities, sectors, and organizational structures to uplift the workforce
- for National CHW Awareness Week 2023 and beyond. A total of 32 CHWs and allies participated in the
- group session with 7 representing Puerto Rico, 7 representing New Jersey, and 18 representing New York.
- This facilitation occurred on 8/4/23 at 9 am CDT.” –Nikki St. Germain

# Unity Gala J&J Leaders Group Photo (Mikayla's fave)

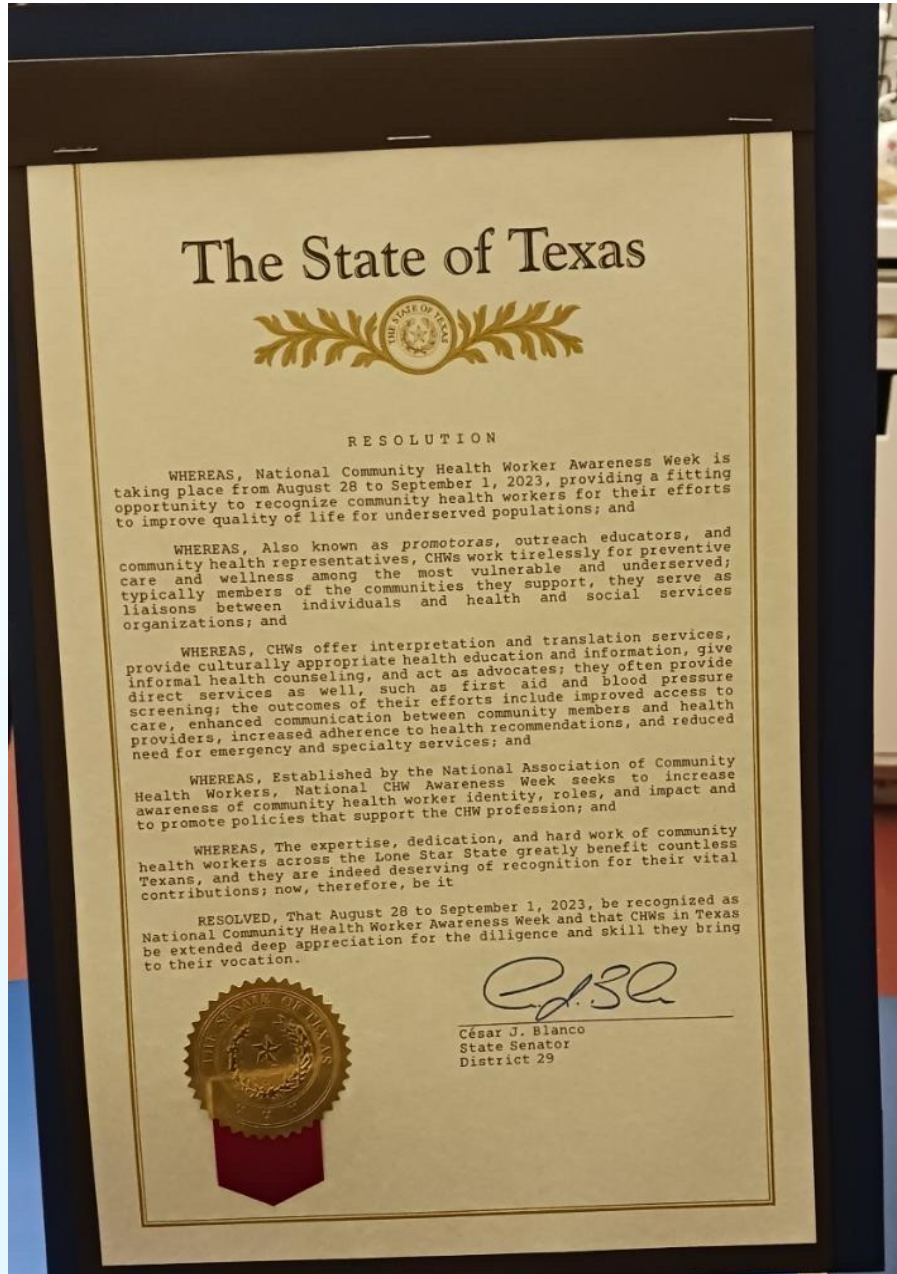




# Rosa Perez educating our communities on Nutrition and physical wellness



# Maria amplifying the CHW voice during CHW Awareness Week, El Paso, Texas



# Leadership means to Maria, El Paso, TX

“Leadership to me is empowering myself to empower others, I learn about myself and who I can be an advocate for my community and for the most vulnerable people, who need decent houses, Education, Health prevention on chronic diseases, such as Breast Cancer, Prostate cancer, Diabetes, Domestic Violence,

Mental Health ( Depression, Anxiety,) infrastructure, such as safe drinking water, Sewer electricity, natural gas, sidewalks, and good roads, also leadership can help to build your capacity to understand the necessity that we are dealing day to day with our young people, immigrants, farm workers, and their families.

I'm going to continue day today with my leadership journey because I feel that I need to be more focused on my youth population.” –Maria Covernali

# Lucy creating a CHW force of Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders at a CHW Convening at the Congressional House in DC



# Mikayla and Maria at the Familias Triunfadoras annual fight against Domestic Violence & Breast Cancer Conference



# California Regional Meeting

Rosa Perez demonstrates her leadership and Power Analysis Expertise with 50 CHWs and Promotores from across the Inland Empire of San Bernadino, California



# California Regional Meeting- Power Analysis- Equipping CHWs with tools to inform policy



# California Regional Meeting





# San Bernadino Power Analysis Grads!



# Maria helping every child feel special for the Holidays in El Paso, Texas



# Leadership means Sacrifice: Nikki St Germain, NJ

“Leadership means serving, sacrificing, and putting others' needs before your own to ensure that a collective goal is accomplished. When I think of servant leadership, that is the style that I aspire to embody.

Throughout the J&J project, I've learned so much about myself as I've supported my fellow CHW leaders and colleagues. Many of the lessons are rooted in encouragement to do more for my community, thinking outside of the box, and how to best elevate my lived experience authentically.

Supporting the J&J project has "refocused my lens" as a visionary and change agent in a unique way.

Supporting leaders that are leading in their communities offers a birds eye view into the fires that are flamed behind the scenes. Supporting Mikayla Trujillo was one of the most amazing experiences as I watched her carry many things at one time. Obtaining the unique perspective of a Program Manager overseeing various grant projects led by people with different personalities across different time zones was one I'll never forget! My intent was to lighten her load as much as possible and tackle any low-hanging fruit for the sake of her well-being and the project.

I've learned that there's power in creating space for people to "just be" and being present for leaders.

Through this project, I've also learned that there's room at the table for those who are CHWs to CHWs. This is a powerful peer-to-peer relationship that's needed to ensure that leaders don't pour from an empty cup and have access to resources that they provide to others. My leadership journey continues through personal and professional development. I hope to seize additional opportunities to support established and aspiring CHW leaders. The lessons learned from this project have humbled me in a way where I deeply value the role of folks providing back end support. Leaders that support leaders keep things going!” –Nikki St Germain

# Thank You, J&J, for Your Partnership



**Mikayla Trujillo-Baxter, PSW/CCHW,  
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Program Manager, NACHW**

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**<https://nachw.org/advancechwsproject/>**