WHAT WORKS
Innovation Worksheet for CHWs

Below are some suggested questions to guide you in developing an innovation plan. This is for your own reference to help identify areas where you may need more support or next steps. Not all questions will be relevant to each CHW or innovation or idea.

MY INNOVATION IDEA

PHASE 1: DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT - BEFORE LAUNCHING THE INNOVATION

What is the need in the community that I want to address?

What are the changes I hope to see?

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How have I learned about the needs and desires of community members?

Do I have community buy-in for the innovation?

Which community voices am I most aware of? Are any missing?

PARTNERS AND ALLIES

Who are trusted allies, partners or champions that can help advocate, provide support, or help obtain funding? *Examples: other CHWs, other providers, organizational leaders, researchers, policy makers, funders.*

What are some ways I can build support and relationships with allies and partners?

What are the funding needs for each phase of the work?

What do I need to learn or do to obtain funding?

SKILLS AND TRAINING

What skills or training do you need? *(e.g., grant writing, financial management, policy advocacy)*

How can you get these skills? *(reminder: local and state CHW Networks and Associations often offer training opportunities)*

PHASE 2: IMPLEMENTATION - "THE WORK" OF THE INNOVATION

Who will be "doing the work" of the innovation?

What challenges do I anticipate?

How can I prepare to address these challenges?

How will I sustain operations and funding while carrying out the work? *Examples: volunteer assistance, support from partners.*

EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION

How will I know what the impact of the innovation is? *Examples: satisfaction surveys, asking community members for feedback, collecting data, partnering with a researcher*

How will I let people know about this work? *Examples: sharing with CHW Networks and Associations; writing blogs, articles or other materials; talking to people in the community about it; building a website*