



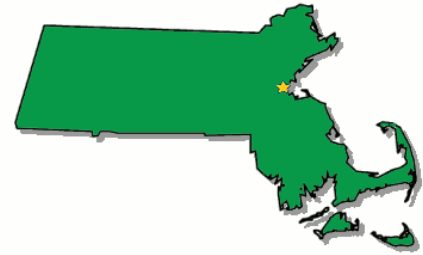
Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance (MiCHWA)

LESSONS FROM OTHER STATES

Massachusetts & Minnesota

Massachusetts^{1,2,3}

- Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers (MACHW) formed in 2000 to do education, research, policy development, and advocacy
- Study of CHWs and recommendations to build a sustainable CHW workforce mandated in MA Health Reform in 2006
- There are over 3,000 CHWs in MA working in a variety of settings with several different titles
- CHWs are still paid through unsustainable federal and state grant mechanisms; however, implementation of Massachusetts health care reform has helped integrate CHWs into more sustainable systems, including patient centered medical homes
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health CHW Advisory Council convened
 - In 2010, the Office of Community Health Workers was established at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to continue CHW efforts, including certification, policy advocacy, and an awareness campaign for the CHW role
 - In 2010, CHW Credentialing Commission bill becomes a law, establishing a state-level CHW board within the state's public health department in 2012



Minnesota^{1,4}

- Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance formed in 2005 to create standardized training and curriculum standards for CHWs
- In 2006, a statewide certification system was implemented
- In 2007, Minnesota legislature approved the direct hourly reimbursement of CHW services under Medicaid
- In 2008, CMS approved a Medicaid State Plan Amendment allowing hourly payments for CHW up work under the supervision of Medicaid-approved providers



¹ Rosenthal EL, Brownstein JN, Rush CH, et al. Community health workers: part of the solution. *Health Affairs*. 2010;29(7):1338-1342.

² Mason T, Wilkinson GW, Nannini A, Martin CM, Fox DJ, Hirsch G. Winning policy change to promote community health workers: lessons from Massachusetts in the health reform era. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2011;101(12): 2211-2216.

³ Community health workers in Massachusetts: improving health care and public health. Massachusetts Department of Public Health website. <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/com-health-workers/legislature-report.pdf>. Accessed February 17, 2013.

⁴ Cleary J. Systems-level CHW approaches: Minnesota CHW field development – lessons from a multi-sector partnership. Talk presented during the CDC Division of Community Health Webinar; January 30, 2013.