



# **Community Health Worker (CHW) Resources and Recommendations for the Public Health Infrastructure Grant**

***Prepared by:***

***The National Association of Community Health  
Workers (NACHW)***

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## **Purpose**

*Beginning in 2024, the National Association of Community Health Workers (NACHW) partnered with the National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI) on their technical assistance to public health departments and public health institutes across the country who received CDC's Public Health Infrastructure Grant. Below, please find key resources and recommendations generated from the expertise of CHW Networks, CHWs, and public health departments across the country.*

*Through this partnership, NACHW developed two resources, recommendations for Public Health Departments, and a research report on the development of those resources. These three resources compile resources and recommendations for three major components of all CHW Programs, CHW Data, creating CHW programs, and working with CHW Networks.*

1. [HOW-TO: Principles and Strategies to Develop an Equitable Community Health Worker Workforce Study](#)
2. [TOOLKIT: Recommendations and Resources for Public Health Departments Contracting with Community Based Organizations \(CBOs\) and Community Health Worker Networks](#)
3. **FULL REPORT: CHW Network Leader Recommendations for Public Health Departments**

### ***CHW Network Leader Recommendations for Public Health Departments***

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
<b>Category 1: Workforce Development</b>	Recommendation 1: Build infrastructure with community health workers (CHWs), Community Health Representatives, health navigators, and Promotores.
	Recommendation 2: Create pathways for career advancement, improve job satisfaction, and address low pay.
<b>Category 2: Equity in Organizational Competencies</b>	Recommendation 1: Increase CHW wages to address barriers like transportation and food security.
<b>Category 3: Community Partnerships</b>	Recommendation 1: Equip public health staff to foster community collaborations.
	Recommendation 2: Engage non-traditional collaborations to partner with resources and advocacy in public health initiatives.
	Recommendation 3: Invest in local capacity-building through CHW networks and community-based organizations.
<b>Category 4: Leverage covid-19 lessons for CHWs roles in emergency preparedness</b>	Recommendation 1: Engage CHWs and networks in designing public health initiatives.
	Recommendation 2: Ensure representation of CHWs and community leaders in public health governance.
	Recommendation 3: Increase support for CHWs to enhance local services like shelters and food pantries.
<b>Category 5: Communications</b>	Recommendation 1. Translate public health materials into the languages spoken in priority communities.
<b>Category 6: Policy Development</b>	Recommendation 1: Incorporate CHWs into initiatives addressing SDOH.
<b>Category 7: Leadership</b>	Recommendation 1: Center and integrate CHWs' lived experiences and leadership abilities into public health strategies.
	Recommendation 2: Involve CHWs, community organizations, and various

	agencies in program development to ensure inclusive and effective policies.
<b>Category 8: Funding Community-Based Organizations</b>	Recommendation 1. Provide infrastructure support for CHW employers to access diverse funding.
	Recommendation 2. Federal and state governments must ensure consistent, adaptable public health funding.
	Recommendation 3. Encourage braided funding models to sustain CHW financing.
	Recommendation 4. Ensure living wages for CHWs using CDC and federal funds.
	Recommendation 5. Fund and preserve nonprofits serving vulnerable populations.
	Recommendation 6. Fund state-level CHW associations to enhance their programs and influence policy.