

STATE OF CONNETICUT
State Innovation Model
Community Health Worker Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
Thursday, July 21, 2016
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Location: Hartford Room, CT Behavioral Health Partnership, Suite 3D, 500 Enterprise Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Members Present: Yolanda Bowes (Chair), Juan Carmona, Michael Corjulo, Darcey Cobbs-Lomax, Grace Damio, Tiffany Donelson, Loretta Ebron, Terry Nowakowski, Lauren Rosato, Milagrosa Seguinot, Mayce Torres

Members on the Phone: Liza Estevez, Chioma Ogazi, Thomas Buckley, Peter Ellis, Robert Zavoski

Members Absent: Migdalia Belliveau, Ashika Brinkley, Linda Guzzo, Jacqueline Ortiz Miller, Nicholas Peralta

Other Participants: Tekisha Everette (phone), Meredith Ferraro, Bruce Gould, Maggie Litwin, Katharine London, Jenna Lupi, Geralynn McGee, William Tootle, Stanley Zazula

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Yolanda Bowes served as Chair and called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were submitted for discussion.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: to approve minutes from 6/14/16 – Yolanda Bowes; seconded by Loretta Ebron.

Vote: all in favor.

4. Review of Committee Goals

Bruce Gould thanked members for their service and reviewed the key aims of the committee. The first is to define the scope and breadth of the CHW profession, which it will need to do broadly enough so as to both include all of the services that CHWs provide (chronic-disease self-management, navigation, health-insurance literacy, etc.) and ensure that whatever definition and scope of practice it adopts remains relevant even as the state's healthcare system changes rapidly. The committee, he said, is not responsible for determining what each payer may or may not pay for or how precisely an organization might employ CHWs. Decisions about such matters remain within the purview of payers and employers, and questions therefore about what payers might cover should not influence deliberation over the definition and scope of practice.

The second aim of the committee is to look into the issue of certification (to certify or not, to make it mandatory or voluntary, etc.) and recommend to the SIM Steering Committee the best course for Connecticut to take. The first phase of the committee, Dr. Gould explained, will focus on these two

policy-infrastructure pieces (scope and certification). In the second phase, the committee will take on the third task of helping develop resources for CHWs and toolkits for employers and payers to assist them with integrating CHWs into service delivery and reimbursement practices.

5. CHW Roles and Skills—Worksheet Summary & Discussion

Katharine London recapped last month's meeting on roles and skills and reminded the committee that it is fine to adopt the C3 Project roles and skills without modifying them at all. She then presented various changes that committee members had recommended through the worksheets that were provided prior to the meeting. Members discussed the recommendations and ultimately agreed to make minor changes to the sub-roles of C3 roles 2, 3, 6, and 7 and to the sub-skills of C3 skills 1, 3, and 9. The recommended changes can be found here.

6. Introduction to Certification

Ms. London previewed some of the questions about certification that the committee will take up at the next meeting in August.

7. Wrap Up and Next Steps

Jenna Lupi explained that the convening of the definition design group was postponed so that it could be informed by today's discussion of roles and skills. She will reach out to those who had volunteered at the last meeting to participate in the design group. She also alerted members that they will be receiving certification worksheets similar to those sent out for roles and skills.

Tiffany Donelson asked that the committee be sent both a copy of the certification presentation from the CHW symposium in May and examples of CHW curricula to help members prepare for the meeting on certification next month.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.