



Program #40038C - Training Community Health Workers for Immigrant and Refugee Community 7/21/2015

Department: Health Department **Program Contact:** Noelle Wiggins
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

This program provides culturally-centered initial certification training for a maximum of 25 Community Health Workers from African immigrant and refugee communities. It also provides, via a community based organization (CBO), compensation (stipends or salaries) for a smaller number of CHWs who have completed the training course. Finally, it provides support for supervision at the CBO.

Program Summary

African immigrants and refugees represent the fourth largest immigrant community in Multnomah County. Refugees and immigrants from Africa bring with them substantial strengths and assets, including familial, regional and national networks; high levels of formal education; and health promoting behaviors. However, many refugees and immigrants from Africa have also experienced substantial trauma as a result of war, years spent in refugee camps, dangerous journeys to the US and other factors. Once here, African immigrants and refugees face significant barriers to health and wellness, including racism, non-recognition of educational credentials, and poverty. These factors work together to create health inequities for African immigrant and refugee communities.

This program will respond to these inequities by providing training and support for Community Health Workers from African immigrant and refugee communities. During early months of the program, staff from the Community Capacitation Center (CCC) will spend time with staff from a culturally specific CBO serving these communities to understand the communities and help to identify appropriate co-facilitators. CCC and CBO staff will jointly adapt the CCC's 90-hour basic certification curriculum to community strengths and needs. Members of African immigrant and refugee communities will co-facilitate all sessions in the training, which will be provided for a maximum of 25 participants. Academic credit will be available through a partnership with Portland State University.

After the training is complete, compensation will be provided to a smaller number of CHWs through the CBO. In addition, support will be provided to the CBO to defray the cost of a part-time supervisor for the CHWs. With compensation and adequate support and supervision, CHWs will be able to play a range of roles in their communities, including conducting one-on-one home visits, leading support and education groups, and bringing groups together to identify and address their own most pressing health issues. Support will be provided by the CCC for program development and training of the CHW supervisor.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Purchased	FY15 Estimate	FY16 Offer
Output	Number of CHWs trained	N/A	N/A	N/A	25
Outcome	% of participants in training courses who report increased ability to promote health	N/A	N/A	N/A	95%
Output	Number of community members served by a CHW	N/A	N/A	N/A	450

Performance Measures Descriptions

Percentage of participants in training courses who report increased ability to promote health is defined as participants who rate this item one or two on a post-evaluation survey. A score of one is the highest score. Community members served is equal to the total number of unduplicated encounters between CHWs and community members in either group or 1-on-1 settings.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

New regulations require that Community Health Workers participate in an approved training curriculum in order to be included in a state registry. CHWs' inclusion in the state registry qualifies their employers for Medicaid reimbursement for CHW services.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2015	2015	2016	2016
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$140,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: