

A Symposium on

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS:

Their critical role in addressing health disparities – in health care and in communities

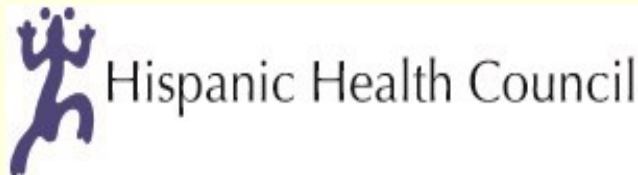
MAY 27, 2015 8:00 AM—2:00 PM

The Hispanic Health Council, and our core planning partners Yale School of Public Health and Southwestern AHEC, invite you to join us for this Community Health Worker (CHW) symposium. The symposium will focus on evidence for CHW contribution to health promotion and chronic disease management as well as resulting improved patient outcomes and cost savings. Community-based CHW services integrated into clinical health care teams and community settings will be spotlighted. The critical need for sustained funding of CHW services will be discussed, along with opportunities for sustained funding, and for clinic-community partnerships. Perspectives will be shared by leaders at the state and national level from policy making, health care provider and payer, research, philanthropy and advocacy sectors, along with organizations that operate CHW programs.



Health Care and Community Transformation: The Critical Role of Community Health Workers

Kevin Barnett, Dr.P.H., MCP
Senior Investigator
Public Health Institute



A Symposium on COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS:

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Agenda

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM: **Registration and Continental Breakfast:**

8:30 AM – 8:40 AM Welcoming Remarks

Jose Ortiz, M.S., M.B.A., L.A.D.C., Hispanic Health Council

8:40 AM-9:30 AM Keynote Presentation

Health Care and Community Transformation: The Critical Role of Community Health Workers

Kevin Barnett, D.Ph., M.C.P., Public Health Institute

9:30 AM -10:30 AM Panel: Community-Based, Evidence-Based CHW Models

Grace Damio, M.S., C.D./N, Hispanic Health Council

Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, Ph.D., Yale School of Public Health

Mary Scully, M.A., A.P.R.N, Khmer Health Advocates

Moderator: Meredith Ferraro, M.S., Southwestern Area Health Education Center

10:30 – 10:40 BREAK –

10:40 AM -11:40 AM Panel: State and Federal CHW Funding Opportunities

Mark Schaefer, Ph.D., State of Connecticut Office of the Healthcare Advocate

Kate McEvoy, Connecticut Department of Social Services

Betsy Rosenfeld, Region I, US Dept. of Health and Human Services

Moderator: Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, Ph.D., Yale School of Public Health

11:40 AM-12:35 PM Panel: Perspectives of Key Stakeholders

Marie Spivey, Ed.D., R.N., M.P.A., CT Hospital Association

Pat Baker, Connecticut Health Foundation

Christie Hager, J.D., M.P.H., Beacon Health Options

Moderator: Grace Damio, M.S., C.D./N, Hispanic Health Council

12:35 PM – 12:45 PM Concluding remarks

Meredith Ferraro, M.S., Southwestern Area Health Education Center

12:45 PM -2:00 PM

Networking Lunch

Overall Event Objectives

1. Build awareness among policy makers, health care leaders and employers, medical providers and funders about the evidence supporting the effectiveness and cost effectiveness community health worker (CHW) services.
2. Operationalize the definition of community health worker through evidence-based models that are clinic- and community-integrated in community settings, specialized to support specific health conditions and equipped to address social determinants of health.
3. Generate consensus among health care leaders about the need for sustained funding of CHW services and understanding of potential sources of such funding.
4. Distinguish the critical role of community-based organizations in CHW work.

Speaker Profiles



Jose Ortiz, M.S., M.B.A., L.A.D.C., joined Hispanic Health Council as President and Chief Executive Officer in 2011. Prior to joining the Hispanic Health Council, he was the director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. He has over thirty years of experience in the public segment creating programs that deliver high quality of care to underserved populations with mental health and substance abuse problems. He earned a B.A. in psychology from Charter Oak College in Hartford, an M.S. in community mental health from Trinity College in Vermont and, an M.B.A. from Sacred Heart University in Bridgeport.

Jose is also a licensed alcohol and drug counselor. Mr. Ortiz serves as Vice Chair of the Connecticut Commission on Health Equity.



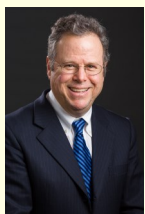
Kevin Barnett, Dr.P.H., M.C.P., is a Senior Investigator at the Public Health Institute, and has engaged in research in community benefit and health workforce diversity for over two decades. Partners have included the National Network of Public Health Institutes, the Health Research and Education Trust, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the HHS Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and foundations such as the Robert Wood Johnson

Foundation, the WK Kellogg Foundation, and The California Endowment. Kevin currently serves as the Principal Investigator of Alignment for Health Equity and Development (AHEAD), a national initiative funded by the Kresge Foundation to align and focus investments by hospitals, public health, and financial institutions in communities with health disparities. He also serves as the Co-Director of the California Health Workforce Alliance, as a faculty member for The Governance Institute, as a member of the Advisory Board for the Institute for Culturally Competent Care at Kaiser Permanente, as a member of the Board of Directors of Communities Joined in Action, and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Trinity Health System.



Grace Damio, M.S., C.D./N., is a public health nutritionist and Director of Research and Training at the Hispanic Health Council (HHC). She joined HHC in 1986 and currently oversees HHC's community-based research and cultural competence training. She has developed and overseen many of HHC's initiatives designed to reduce health disparities in the areas of health care access, chronic disease prevention and management, food security, nutrition education, maternal and child health and cross cultural training. Ms. Damio has been HHC's lead on the development and evaluation of community health worker service models. HHC's Breastfeeding: Heritage and Pride Peer

Counseling Program is recognized by the CDC and IOM as an evidence-based best practice. DIALBEST, a randomized controlled trial, tested the use of peer counseling to improve glycemic control among low-income Latinos, with very positive results, particularly in Hba1c reduction. Ms. Damio currently leads the peer coaching component of a CMS-funded/DSS-led smoking cessation incentive study. She has authored and co-authored many articles published in peer-reviewed journals. She serves on several local, statewide and national boards and committees related to addressing health inequities. Ms. Damio holds a B.S. in community nutrition from the University of Connecticut and M.S. in public health nutrition from Columbia University.



Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, Ph.D., is Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health, and Director of the Global Health Concentration and the Office of Public Health Practice at the Yale School of Public Health. His public health nutrition and food security research has led to improvements in breastfeeding protection, promotion and support programs, prevention of iron deficiency anemia among infants, and improvements in household food insecurity measurement, and community nutrition programs worldwide. His health disparities research involves assessing the impact of community health workers at improving behavioral and metabolic outcomes among Latinos with type 2 diabetes. He is a member of the IOM Food and Nutrition Board and he served on the 2010 and 2015 USA Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committees. He chaired the IOM Planning Workshop Committee "Updating the USDA National Breastfeeding Campaign" and served on the Committee to Reexamine the IOM Pregnancy Weight Guidelines. He is past chair of the American Society for Nutrition's Global Nutrition Council and President of the International Society for Research in Human Milk and Lactation (ISRHML). He has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Nutrition*, the *Journal of Human Lactation*, *Global Food Security* and the *Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition*. He received a B.S. in chemical engineering from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City and an M.S. in food science and a Ph.D. in nutrition from the University of California at Davis.

Mary Scully, M.A., A.P.R.N., is an Advance Practice Registered Nurse and the clinical director of Khmer Health Advocates torture treatment program. She holds a Master's Degree from Goddard College in Cross-cultural Mental Health. She did an internship in cross cultural mental health at the Gallup Indian Health Center where she worked as community health worker. She also worked in a refugee camp in Thailand in a supporting role where she trained and consulted with community health workers. She is a co-founder of Khmer Health Advocates and a founding member of the National Consortium of Torture Treatment Programs. She is the clinical director of the KHA torture treatment program which is a behavioral health home for victims of torture. In this capacity she directed the development of cross cultural multidisciplinary teams that have delivered care to more than 1500 survivors over a 10,000 square mile service area. She also directed the development of a telemedicine program that includes the use of videoconferencing and a bi-lingual electronic medical record and care management system.



Meredith C. Ferraro, M.S., has served as Executive Director of Southwestern AHEC since its inception in 1998. Her work focuses on program and systems development, recruitment of a diverse health professions workforce, promotion and training of the Community Health Worker workforce, and health care access, with a special emphasis on oral health. Her prior experience as a Physical Therapist and Certified Hand Therapist includes clinical practice, research and publications. She has served on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Hand Therapy*, and was co-editor of the 1998 Special Issue entitled: "*Tissue Repair: Recent Findings and Directions*". Other publications include: *Community Health Workers: Utilization to Addressing Disparities in Access to Health Care*, National AHEC Bulletin, Spring 2005, and on other topics including *Keeping Kids Smiling in Bridgeport, CT*, "*VDT Ergonomics - Upper Extremity Assessment Requires A Holistic Approach*" and *Hand Rehabilitation* in *Principles of Orthopedic Practice*, McGraw-Hill. Meredith received her BS in Physical Therapy from NYU, her MS in Health Sciences Education from Stony Brook University, and teaches at Housatonic Community College and has taught at Touro College and NYU.



Mark Schaefer, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist and the Director of Healthcare Innovation for the State of Connecticut. Dr. Schaefer previously served as the state's Medicaid Director at the Department of Social Services, where he led the design and implementation of the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership, a joint initiative with the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, to develop an integrated behavioral health service system for the Medicaid, HUSKY B, and Charter Oak programs. He also developed an array of health service delivery and purchasing reforms to improve care experience and quality, while reducing costs, including the person-centered medical home glide path program. In his current role, Dr. Schaefer is leading the state's multi-payer State Innovation Model (SIM) Initiative under the direction of Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman.

Kate McEvoy, J.D., is Director of the Division of Health Services at the Connecticut Department of Social Services, and is responsible for administration of medical, behavioral health, pharmacy, dental and transportation benefits for over 720,000 Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. She also oversees health policy aspects of Connecticut Medicaid's implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Administrative Services Organization contracts and associated special projects, including the Person-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) initiative, Rewards to Quit (incentive-based tobacco cessation program) and planning in support of the Demonstration to Integrate Care for Medicare-Medicaid Enrollees. She is responsible for oversight of diverse aspects of the Connecticut Strategic Rebalancing Plan, including the Money Follows the Person Program, State Balancing Incentive Payments Program, nursing home diversification and workforce initiatives. In these initiatives, Kate is particularly interested in the intersection of law and medicine with respect to person-centeredness, autonomy in decision-making and dignity of risk. Previously, Kate served as Assistant Comptroller/Policy Director, supporting Comptroller Kevin Lembo in a policy agenda that includes achieving improved health outcomes and cost savings in the state employee and retiree health plan through value-based design, and state budget transparency. Prior to that, she served for many years as Deputy Director of the Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut, Inc. as well as acting as legislative liaison for the Connecticut Association of Agencies on Aging. Kate is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Medicaid Directors and of the Reforming States Steering Group. She is a frequent lecturer on advanced health care directives, conservatorship, Medicare, home and community-based services, entitlements and health policy issues. She served as the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Elder Law Section of the Connecticut Bar Association, and periodically teaches as an adjunct at Quinnipiac School of Law. She is the author of the treatise, Connecticut Elder Law (Thomson/West, 2008) and numerous law journal articles. Kate is a graduate of Oberlin College with a B.A. in Economics and English and received her law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law. She is admitted to practice in Connecticut.



Betsy Rosenfeld, J.D. is a health care lawyer by training, and serves as the Regional Health Administrator (RHA) for the US Department of Health and Human Services in federal Region I (New England). AS a member of the US Senior Executive Service, Ms. Rosenfeld is the principal representative for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) for Region I, with responsibility for a broad portfolio of federal public health work in New England, including policy development and program management in areas such as the intersection of public health and health reform, the integration of primary care and behavioral health, women's health, health disparities, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, tobacco control and community resilience related to emergency preparedness and response. Ms. Rosenfeld was one of the founding members of the New England Public Health/Managed Care Collaborative and serves as the chair of the nationally recognized New England Asthma Regional Council (ARC). Her approach to public health in New England has been to undertake a strategy which ensures integration of population/community health interventions into the mainstream healthcare reimbursement system as part of the promise of the Affordable Care Act to support prevention and improve health equity. Ms. Rosenfeld has worked with partners in the federal, state, local, academic, health care provider and payer arenas to achieve improved health outcomes by better aligning the goals of the healthcare delivery system with the objectives of a robust, evidence-based public health approach. Her programmatic and policy work with the housing, environmental and transportation sectors represents a "health in all policies" approach which has enhanced health reform efforts across the region. Ms. Rosenfeld has received national recognition from US DHHS for her public health leadership in New England, her management of New England's federal family planning program and her response work during the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Ms. Rosenfeld earned her BA, *summa cum laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*, from Harvard College and her JD *cum laude* from Harvard Law School. Prior to her federal service, she practiced health care law at Ropes & Gray in Boston. She has taught public health practice at the Harvard School of Public Health and volunteered in a variety of settings, including on the Boston Bar Association's Children's Mental Health Committee and as Chair of the Board of the Center for Family Connections in Cambridge, MA.



Marie M. Spivey, Ed.D., R.N., M.P.A., is vice president of health equity for the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA). Dr. Marie Spivey joined CHA in July 2011 to lead CHA's Diversity Collaborative initiative, coordinating CHA's work with member hospitals, and providing outreach to communities and partners statewide, regionally, and nationally regarding our diversity and health equity activities. After beginning her career as an OR nurse at Mount Sinai Hospital in Hartford, her career evolved into becoming the Executive Director of a federally qualified health center; Bureau Chief of Community Health at the CT. DPH; Vice President, Community Relations at the CT. Health Systems, Inc.; and, then moved into the position of Vice President, Community Involvement for Hartford Hospital. As a loaned Executive for Hartford Hospital, Marie launched the Learning Corridor – a 16-acre educational campus of magnet schools in Hartford. Prior to joining CHA, as a Trustee on the Board of the CT Community College System, Marie initiated collaborative work with the community colleges and Capital Workforce Partners to specifically create a program in Hartford which enabled Certified Nursing Assistants to improve their academic skills and climb career ladders in health professions. Dr. Spivey is the immediate past chair of the Connecticut Commission on Health Equity and co-chaired the Health Disparities and Health Equity Advisory Committee for Sustinet. She was appointed to serve on Governor Malloy's Transition Team in the Healthcare Working Group, and is currently a Visiting Professor, at the University of Connecticut Health Center, Center for Public Health and Health Policy. Since joining CHA, she has been appointed to the US DHHS National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA) in the New England Regional Health Equity Council and serves as Co-Chair of that Board. Dr. Spivey received her Associates Degree in Nursing and RN from Greater Hartford Community College, prior to completing a B.S. degree in Human Services from Southern New Hampshire University, and an M.S. in Public Administration and a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership degrees, both from the University of Hartford.



Patricia Baker was named president & CEO of the Connecticut Health Foundation (CT Health) in March 2002 after serving as executive director since CT Health was established in July 1999. Immediately prior, Patricia served as the national program director for the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation and as director of Connecticut government programs at Oxford Health Plans. The long-time women's health advocate also served as executive director of Planned Parenthood of Connecticut, associate executive director of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, and executive director of The Women's Center in southeastern Wisconsin.



Christie Hager, J.D., M.P.H., a public health lawyer, is the Senior Vice President for National Client Partnerships, New England Region, at Beacon Health Options, a national, 45 million-member managed behavioral health organization. She came to Beacon after serving in the Obama Administration as Regional Director of Region I of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, where she oversaw the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in the six New England states, on behalf of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Previously, she was Chief Health Counsel to the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives during the development, drafting, and first three years of implementation of the Massachusetts health reform law enacted in 2006. Christie's first post-graduate position was Research Assistant to the editorial leadership at the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and she has held research and administrative positions at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in the Division of Public Health Practice, and the Schneider Institute for Health Policy at Brandeis University's Heller School, where she was appointed the first Senior Fellow. She has served as Chair of the American Public Health Association's Health Law Forum, and as President of the Massachusetts Public Health Association. She is also a former Staff Vice-Chair of the Health Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures. Christie is a former Co-Chair of the Health Law Section of the Boston Bar Association, and past Chair of its Ad Hoc Committee on Health Reform. Christie has held research positions on the staff of the Massachusetts House of Representatives Joint Committee on Health Care and on the editorial staff of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and appointments on the faculties of the UConn School of Medicine and Suffolk University Law School, where she has taught courses on health law and state health policy. Her work has appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *American Journal of Law and Medicine*, and *Journal of Legal Medicine*. Chris holds an A.B. from Smith College, a M.P.H. from the Boston University School of Public Health, and a J.D. from the UConn School of Law. She is admitted to the practice of law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Registration

This event is free of charge. In order to register, please visit the following link:

[COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS: Their critical role in addressing health disparities](#)

About the Hispanic Health Council

The Hispanic Health Council is a nationally recognized community-based organization, whose mission is to improve the health and social well-being of Latinos and other diverse communities. HHC has a 37-year track record of pursuing achievement of this mission through the use of four core strategies: community based research, evidence-based direct services, provider training and policy advocacy. HHC is a statewide organization headquartered in Hartford with satellite locations in Hartford, Meriden and New Haven. HHC conducts community-based participatory research to engage community members in identifying community needs and developing solutions related to health disparities and social determinants of health. Recent work conducted with academic and clinical partners include: development, testing and dissemination of successful interventions using Community Health Workers (CHWs) to promote healthy behaviors in areas ranging from breastfeeding to diabetes management; and development and testing a community-wide solution to neighborhood food insecurity—the Hartford Mobile Market. Cultural competence training is one of HHC's signature initiatives; HHC has trained more than 2,500 health care, human service and community health worker providers, using its comprehensive, participatory curriculum.

Driving Directions to:

The Mark Twain House & Museum **351 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105**



From Springfield and Points North

Take I-91 South to I-84 West in Hartford. Take Exit 46, Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right (north) onto Sisson. Continue four blocks to the end of Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right (east) onto Farmington Avenue. Continue three blocks (approx. 2/10 mile) on Farmington and look for the sign on the right at the entrance to the museum's free parking lot. **Note:** The entrance to the parking lot is one block before The Mark Twain House.

From New York City, New Haven and Points South

Take I-91 North to I-84 West in Hartford. Take Exit 46, Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right (north) onto Sisson. Continue four blocks to the end of Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right (east) onto Farmington Avenue. Continue three blocks (approx. 2/10 mile) on Farmington and look for the sign on the right at the entrance to the museum's free parking lot. **Note:** The entrance to the parking lot is one block before The Mark Twain House.

From Waterbury and Points West

Take I-84 East to Hartford; take Exit 46, Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right onto Sisson. Continue four blocks to the end of Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right (east) onto Farmington Avenue. Continue three blocks (approx. 2/10 mile) on Farmington and look for the sign on the right at the entrance to the museum's free parking lot. **Note:** The entrance to the parking lot is one block before The Mark Twain House.

From Boston and Points East

Take I-84 West to Hartford; take Exit 46, Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right onto Sisson. Continue four blocks to the end of Sisson Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right (east) onto Farmington Avenue. Continue three blocks (approx. 2/10 mile) on Farmington and look for the sign on the right at the entrance to the museum's free parking lot. **Note:** The entrance to the parking lot is one block before The Mark Twain House.

For Passengers with Limited Mobility or LOADING DOCK (65 Forest Street Entrance)

Follow the above directions, but continue east on Farmington Avenue and go past The Mark Twain House. Take your first right onto Forest Street and look for the sign on the right for the entrance to the Museum Center's rear parking lot.