

**Foothill College**  
**Community Health Worker Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting Date: from June 16, 2021 from 12:00-2:00pm**  
**Meeting Location: Zoom**

**Call to Order:** Rebecca Ryan called to order the regular meeting of the Foothill College Community Health Worker Advisory Board meeting on June 16, 2021 at 12:02pm.

**Roll Call:** There were sufficient members for a quorum.

**Members Present:**

1. Rebecca Ryan (Foothill College)
2. Teresa Ong (Foothill College)  
Ram Subramaniam (Foothill College)
3. Kurt Hueg (Foothill College)
4. Mike Gonzalez (Santa Clara Family Health Plan)
5. Jesse Tarango (Community Health Partnership)
6. Kelly Chew (Second Harvest of Silicon Valley)
7. Rhonda McClinton-Brown (Santa Clara County Public Health Department)
8. Leigh Howell (FHDA Foundation)
9. Nancy Nguyen (Former CHW; UCLA MPH graduate)
10. Adam Guttentag (Heluna Health)
11. Shirley Treanor (Foothill College)
12. Sally Baldwin (Foothill College)
13. Cathy Draper (Foothill College)
14. Adaline Roll (Student)
15. Hannah Finegold (Student)
16. Jorel Sarmiento (Student)

**Members Not Present:**

17. Thuy Nguyen (Foothill College)
18. Nanette Solvason (Bay Area Community College Consortium/Health Workforce Initiative)
19. Dolores Alvarado (Community Health Partnerships)
20. Roosevelt Charles (Foothill College)

**Background:** The CHW Certificate program is currently in the development phases. We have successfully submitted the Intro to CHW course to Foothill for review. We anticipate the first Intro to CHW class will be held in Fall or Winter 2022 and the certificate approved in 2023.

**Meeting Outline/Notes:**

1. Reviewed agenda
2. Introductions and greetings from all board members; networking
3. Reviewed the Purpose of CHW Certificate Program; solicited feedback
  - a. Rhonda McClinton Brown (audio): CHWs serve as liaisons and are trusted members of their community; trained in health services but bring to the table their own expertise.

- b. Jesse Tarango (audio): In the CHW course they teach, encourage CHWs to leverage their cultural familiarities with their populations; part of trust. Make connections – whether language, origins, relating.
- c. Cathy Draper (audio): Pare it down to start out with CHW are trusted members of the community they serve and fill out the rest of the purpose. Focus – these are members of their community important for any program they serve. Within dentistry/DH, traditional concerns that these CHW, the model proposed by ADA, was really of a care provider; infringing on scope of practice for dental hygiene and other allied providers. CHW is NOT a health care provider but role as a liaison is important.
- d. Rhonda McClinton-Brown (via chat): Representatives and trusted members of communities who serve as liaisons. The important part of CHW is that they are experts in the lived experiences and perspectives of the vulnerable communities intended to serve.
- e. Cathy Draper (via chat): CHWs are trusts members of the communities that they serve
- f. Teresa Ong (via chat): I like this phrase from NIH about CHWs: CHWs are frontline agents of change, helping to reduce health disparities in underserved communities.
- g. Shirley Treanor (via chat): They need to help break through the health desert that is found in many underserved communities.
- h. Leigh Howell (via chat): Does the work include advocacy?

#### **4. Review Certificate Path/Course Design; solicited feedback**

- a. Shirley Treanor (audio): When you did your needs assessment, what was the projected enrolment? Entering in? Want to put the PH schedule to maximize enrolment. (Response: We do not have a number. Goal to fill the classes – hope to get 25-35.)
- b. Ram Subramaniam (audio): Possible that people who are taking PH degree may try to get certificate due to overlap; his guess/ideal situation. Having the classes that are lining up with the PH degree and CHW certificate is how they would plan the schedule.
- c. Cathy Draper (audio): Asked if there as an orientation to CHW class. How to get people that are interested before they sign up – looking at some sort of orientation that would be open to anyone considering pathway. (Response: No separate 1-credit class but having an orientation in Fall and Summer would be helpful; working with Roosevelt in counseling would be ideal). Having HLTH 101 in Winter helps to continue recruitment in Fall.
- d. Jorel Sarmiento (audio): Suggested having peer mentors/students in recruitment planning, creating videos, etc.
- e. Rhonda McClinton-Brown (audio): What about immigrant communities that they would like to go to CC if they want to get a certificate; how would it work with people who don't speak English? (Response: There may be opportunities for

having an ESL instructor within their course. Grant potential; not conclusive if this is viable for Foothill but worth looking into).

- f. Teresa Ong (audio): Lots of moving parts for the college. CHW as a pathway. Teresa represents many workforce boards; looking at contextualized ESL pathways. Once up and running, would like to build in contextualized ESL. Working with Foothill and Catholic Charities to create pathways that will help those exact populations; serving refugee families who want college but don't have English skills. Want them as they have language and trusted members of community; ideal CHW. Second moving part will be connecting to CC.
  - g. Hannah Finegold (audio): Her experience is that she was unaware as a student of certificate programs and wants to encourage this to be readily pushed to students to increase awareness.
  - h. Ram Subramaniam (audio): Certificates are usually published to department websites but there should be ways to broadcast wider. Situations where students have complete entire certificate or degree but they don't know until they leave the college.
  - i. Sally Baldwin (via chat): Health 20 is 5 units
  - j. Shirley Treanor (via chat): We can include the need for Community Health Workers in our HLTH 20, Public Health course. It fits into the curriculum well.
  - k. Adam Guttentag (via chat): Please excuse my ignorance of the quarter system. When I was a college student, I had a life-changing internship that was originally planned for the summer but pushed back to the fall because of the needs of the employer. I agree the internship should follow the core courses, but I wonder if a student would miss out if they complete the required courses but cannot do the internship until the fall. Employers tend to have shifting budgets and timelines that do not necessarily take the quarter system into account.
  - l. Kenneth Horowitz (via chat): This program needs an ethnic studies component
5. **Held three breakout sessions using interactive google slides: CHW considerations and insight from our partner organizations and students.** The slides can accessed for your records [here](#).
6. **Reviewed next steps**

**Approval of the Agenda:** Rebecca Ryan called a vote to approve the agenda. Cathy Draper made a motion to approve, Teresa Ong seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved.

#### **Next Meeting:**

Poll results indicate that members are flexible with Zoom or in-person meetings, December or January meetings work best at the late/morning/lunch time. As a result (taking into consideration the December calendar for Foothill College and holidays in January), the next CHW Advisory Board meeting will be scheduled for **Weds, January 26, 2022 at 12:00pm** through the following Zoom link: <https://fhda-edu.zoom.us/j/6181050325>