

Community Health Workers in a Dental Setting

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Why CHW in Dental Settings?



CHW represent the communities they serve



Increase access to care



Trusted



Speaks the language



Cultural competence



Improve patient satisfaction and self-care

CHW Certificate Scholarship

Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Health

The goal of this grant is to better meet the needs of under resourced communities in Minnesota by training new Community Health Workers

Current and incoming CHW Certificate students are eligible to apply for a scholarship that covers tuition and some related costs for up to one year of their CHW Certificate program, up to \$3,720 per student

CHW Certificate Scholarship

No scholarships to individuals who hold higher U.S. health care licensure with 4 years or more education (e.g. MD, RN, LSW/LICSW, MSW) and/or do not intend to work as a Community Health Worker in Minnesota

Five Minnesota schools offer the CHW Certificate Program

Community Health Worker (CHW) Toolkit

A GUIDE FOR EMPLOYERS

Oral Health CHW Job Description

Through education and preventive services Ready, Set, Smile prepares and empowers all children in our community to care for their oral health and gives them the opportunity to be free of dental disease.

We're looking for an energetic, passionate and dedicated person to connect with children, families and schools in our community to empower them to care for their oral health through learning and doing.

Too many children have poor oral health that affects their ability to learn and develop in optimal ways.
You can be the difference!

ready, set, smile™
dentistry & education







Ready, Set, Smile

- As the CHW who joins our team, you will learn from us how to teach children about oral health, develop relationships with families, and nurture partnerships with schools. You will learn how to plan and prepare for clinics, how to assist dental providers with charting, how to help our patients feel comfortable and cared for, and how to safely manage the information we collect.
- We go where the children and families are in their schools. We ask that you have a driver's license and transportation to get to our schools and early childhood learning centers. We pay mileage costs.

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Minnesota
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Success with CHWs: Oral Health Road Map

"The dental CHW is integrated into clinic operations. She works with every other provider daily. We need a fleet of CHWs."

Greater Minnesota
health center

"CHWs are a perfect bridge between parents and providers, and between medical and dental. Oral health and overall health go hand-in-hand, and CHWs are an ideal way to tie them together."

Twin Cities dental care
provider

"Yesterday a CHW helped with a client who was crying uncontrollably. The CHW helped calm her and found a dentist who could do the work that day."

Greater Minnesota
health center

"As a prevention model, CHWs would really change dentistry. This would be switching the model. What we have now is far too costly."

State dental policy maker



Become a Community Health Worker in a Dental Setting



Dental Clinics Need You Now
Free Training
Rewarding Career



What is a Community Health Worker?

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are trusted, knowledgeable frontline health personnel who bridge cultural barriers, expand access to coverage and care, and improve health outcomes.

CHWs provide outreach,
health education, care
coordination and advocacy
for underserved patients of
all ages.



What does a Community Health Worker do in a dental setting?

CHWs in a dental setting change
lives



Community Health Workers are Integrated into Oral Health Care Teams

- CHWs become part of the dental team with dental assistants, dental hygienists and dental therapists (DTs), advanced DTs and dentists.
- A CHW brings a special perspective to the team, focusing on the lived experience of underserved populations.

CHWs in Dental Settings

- Case management: Connecting clients with health care providers, assuring treatment plans are completed.
- Health education: Provide learning experiences on dental prevention and treatment plans
- Coordinating Care: Help clients listen to and reassure clients, lessening fear and calming clients.
- Fluoride varnish application



Interested in Becoming a CHW in a Dental Setting?

- Learn on the job with Children's Dental Services
- Start anytime!
- Contact Sadiya Khan, Outreach Manager, Children's Dental Services
skhan@childrensdentalservices.org





Minnesota
**Community
Health Worker**
Alliance

Links

- [Minnesota Oral Health Coalition](#)
- [MOHC YouTube Channel](#)
- [Minnesota Community Health Workers Alliance](#)
- [CHW Toolkit for Employers](#)
- [Children's Dental Services](#)
- [Ready, Set, Smile](#)
- Contact [Nancy Franke Wilson](#)

Thank you!



Fluoride Varnish Training
and Parent/Guardian
videos in 21 languages

All available on the
Minnesota Oral Health
Coalition [YouTube Channel](#)