

National Organizing For CHW Sustainability

Families USA Conference Washington, DC

Wandy Hernandez

Co-Founder, Illinois Association of Community Health Workers

Co-Chair, National Association of Community Health Workers

Associate Program Director, HealthConnect One

Vital Element: National Association of Community Health Workers

- ▶ *Advance the CHW workforce maintaining the integrity of our work*
- ▶ *CHW organizing tends to assume a local character/focus on local priorities*
- ▶ *Growing interest in the CHW workforce*

National Association of Community Health Workers Progression & Celebrations

- ▶ *Recruited and engaged CHW leaders representing most of the country*
- ▶ *Held bi-weekly meetings for two years with significant board member participant*
- ▶ *Developed organizational capacity, including board structure, responsibilities, authority, voting, and membership descriptions*
- ▶ *Developed strategic plan including communications and dissemination and regional organizing efforts*
- ▶ *Launch!*

Strategies & Challenges: National Association of Community Health Workers

- ▶ *Hold board meetings*
- ▶ *Follow quasi-parliamentary procedure*
- ▶ *Build consensus on all matters*
- ▶ *Inclusive of many work titles under which CHWs are employed/deployed*
- ▶ *Developed vision and mission statements to guide our work*
- ▶ *Developed organizational values to guide our conduct within the organization and interactions with others*
- ▶ *Attentively seeking to include CHWs that work outside of the formal healthcare systems*
- ▶ *Soon endorse/prepare policy positions as we find relevant to our mission and vision*

How to Advocate CHWs Efforts Nationally?

- ▶ *Improve individual and community capacity results from CHW intervention*
- ▶ *Robust evidence base demonstrate improved understanding and prioritizing disease management in patients*
- ▶ *CHWs help address the social determinants of health so other members of the healthcare team can work at the top of their own licenses.*
- ▶ *CHWs show large improvements in behavior changes for prevention*
- ▶ *Robust business case shows return on investment*

Engage with Us...

- ▶ *Join our mailing list...<https://goo.gl/forms/3y4wzU2MMw09iLKU2>*
- ▶ *Watch for information on regional organizing efforts*

Thank You-Let's Keep in Touch

Wandy Hernandez, NACHW Co-Chair

Associate Program Director

HealthConnect One

wandyhdz@healthconnectone.org

Sergio Matos, NACHW Co-Chair

Founder and Executive Director

***Community Health Worker Network of
NYC***

sergio@chwnetwork.org

Katie Sutkowi

NACHW Consultant

katherinesutkowi@gmail.com