

## **Funding for Community Health Workers in Minnesota**

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are a health equity workforce. CHWs can be employed in many different settings and as part of interdisciplinary care teams. In dental settings, CHWs can work as outreach workers, clinical leads, health educators, care guides, and perform a variety of tasks including providing health education, system navigation, bridging and mediating between systems and communities to improve health, health screenings and social determinant of health support.

The Community Health Worker Training Program (CHWTP) is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and awarded to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) in partnership with the Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance (MNCHWA), the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) and accredited institutions who offer the Community Health Worker (CHW) Certificate. The aim of the CHWTP is to strengthen and diversify the CHW workforce by offering a scholarship program for the CHW Certificate and a Registered Apprenticeship Program in partnership with DLI.

**Scholarship:** Applications for scholarships for the CHW Certificate program fall classes will open on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 on the [MNCHWA website](#) and can cover up to \$3720 of the CHW Certificate tuition and fees and the cost to join the CHW Registry upon completion of the certificate. For more information, email Angela Fields at [scholarship@mnchwalliance.org](mailto:scholarship@mnchwalliance.org).

**Apprenticeship:** Any organization who employs CHWs can become a registered apprenticeship site with DLI. Apprenticeship provides structural support for the organization and facilitates the creation of mentorship and training opportunities which contribute to higher performance and lower turnover. The CHWTP also offers the opportunity for CHW apprentices to apply for an additional stipend during their apprenticeship. If your organization is interested in hearing more about registered apprenticeship for CHWs, please reach out to Vonyee Howard at [apprenticeship@mnchwalliance.org](mailto:apprenticeship@mnchwalliance.org).

For more information on the CHWTP, please see the [MNCHWA website CHWTP page](#).