Welcome to this day of learning, networking and mapping next stage actions for health equity at the TIES Conference Center, 1644 Larpenteur Avenue West in Falcon Heights! As a nonprofit committed to equitable and optimal health outcomes for all communities, the Alliance builds community and systems capacity for better health through the integration of CHW services across our health care, public health, oral health, behavioral health, and social services systems. This program contains our full agenda with plenary and breakout descriptions as well as keynote and breakout presenter biosketches. We appreciate our presenters’ time and expertise. Please join us in thanking our sponsors and be sure to visit our exhibitors who are identified in the program.

Many thanks to our Conference Planning Committee: Kimberli Barker, LaTanya Black, Francesse Estima, Angela Fields, Tonya Fitzgerald, Laura Guzman-Corrales, Vonyee Howard, Alissa Leroux-Smith, Helen Jackson Lockett-El, Shelby Maidl, Julie Mumm, Gary Oftedahl, Judine Pattinson, Mary Rapps, Kia Vue

Kudos for in-kind assistance: ALA in MN, Tonya Fitzgerald, HealthEast and Fairview Health Services, Alex Helfand

Visit our website for committee/interest group contacts, enewsletter sign-up, conference PPTs and more: www.mnchwalliance.org

CHW Circle: LaShawna McKinney, CHW Certificate Holder, Convenor
Education Committee: Julie Mumm, PhD, Co-Chair
Supervisor Roundtable: Jean Gunderson, DNP and Angie Stevens, CHES, Co-Chairs
Monthly Enewsletter: Julie McCarthy, MPNA, Publisher
Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance
2018 Statewide Conference
Please join us in thanking our sponsors and exhibitors!

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Twin Cities Medical Society
- Honoring Choices
- Physician Advocacy Network
UCare
U of MN Center for Leadership in Maternal and Child Public Health
Registration and Continental Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

OPENING PLENARY SESSION:  8:00-9:30 a.m.

Opening Remarks

Cathy Weik, Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance Board Chair
Greetings on behalf of board and conference overview

Toni Carter, Ramsey County Commissioner
Welcome

Tom Roy, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Corrections
Perspectives on New Horizons and Healthy Transitions and introduction to Keynote Speaker

Keynote and Q & A

Shira Shavit, MD, Executive Director, Transitions Clinic Network
Transforming the Healthcare System in Partnership with Justice-Involved Individuals

Shira Shavit, MD, is a Clinical Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California in San Francisco and the Executive Director of the Transitions Clinic Network. For over a decade, Dr. Shavit has been redefining national best practices for the care for chronically-ill individuals and communities impacted by incarceration. She currently directs the Transitions Clinic Network, a national network of community health centers which specialize in providing whole person care to chronically-ill people who are returning from incarceration. To support this goal, the Transitions Clinic Network trains and employs people with a history of incarceration as community health workers, creating opportunities for people with a history of incarceration to leverage their experience toward a career in the healthcare setting. The Transitions Clinic Network received the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Innovations Award in 2012 to expand the program nationally and it has since been implemented in 24 community health centers in 10 states and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Shavit also directs and sees patients in the Transitions Clinic program at Southeast Health Center in San Francisco's Bayview Hunter's Point neighborhood and the Medical Discharge Planning clinic at San Quentin State Prison. In addition providing clinical care to returning prisoners, Dr. Shavit has provided technical assistance to many counties and states to improve health outcomes, cut health care costs, and support healthy
integration of individuals returning home from incarceration. She is a recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader Award (2010). Dr. Shavit graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, completed her MD at Rush University in Chicago, and completed her residency training at the University of California, San Francisco.

Joining Dr. Shavit is CHW Joseph Calderon. Joe is a native of San Francisco. At the age of 23, he started serving a life sentence. After nearly 20 years incarcerated, he began to explore ways to give back to society upon his release. In 2013, Joe was appointed to the San Francisco Reentry Council by the Board of Supervisors and has continued in this role ever since now sitting on the Policy Subcommittee. He also served on the Equity Advisory Committee with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission with the mission of seeking equity for all people. He enrolled and graduated from the City College’s Post-Prison Health Worker Certificate Program and works as a community health worker with the Transitions Clinic in the Bayview. He has a passion for working with diverse and disenfranchised populations, leveraging his personal experience with incarceration to advocate for the ideals of social justice and community investment. Joe is currently working on a degree in Public Health.

Be the change that you want to see in the world.

Mahatma Gandhi
### New Frontiers Panel: Opportunities and Settings for CHW Impact

**Larpenteur Room**

**Mental Health:**
Angela Fields, CHW Certificate Holder
Jamie Andycha, MPH
People, Incorporated

**Oral Health:**
Prasida Khanal, MPH, BDS, Minnesota Dept of Health

**Public Housing:**
Deqa Adan, CHW Certificate Holder, Volunteers of America
Lara Pratt, MPH, Minneapolis Health Department

CHW services have been found to improve health knowledge, behaviors and outcomes related to prevention, primary care and disease management in areas such as maternal and child health, chronic conditions and infectious disease. This session will focus on newer areas and settings where CHWs in Minnesota are making a difference. We will learn about drivers and opportunities for CHW strategies in team-based programs in mental health and oral health. We will also learn successful efforts to embed CHWs in public housing. Presenters will share their lessons and insights on how to more fully integrate CHW services in these settings.

There will be time for a few questions following each topic. Following the third presentation, we will open the floor for more questions and discuss new horizons for CHW services.

### CHWs Beyond the Clinic Walls: Models, Tools and Results

**Grand Hall**

**CHW Home Visiting:**
Francesse Estima, CHW Certificate Holder,
Laura Guzman-Corrales, MPH
Hennepin Healthcare, Minneapolis

**CHW Hospital Pilot:**
Tara Nelson, CHW Certificate Holder, Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association,

Across the United States, community health workers typically spend most of their time working in homes and communities. In Minnesota, many CHW services have begun as clinic-based programs. This session will focus on the CHW role in home visiting, community outreach and hospital rounds. Presenters will discuss why these are important settings for CHW strategies, what skills and tools are useful and how the work is evaluated and making a difference.

There will be time for a few questions following each topic. Following the third presentation, we will open the floor for more questions and discuss next-stage work.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Rochester</th>
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| **CHW Community Outreach:**  
Bisharo Farah, CHW  
Natalie Marfleet, MBA  
HealthFinders, Northfield |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Next-Stage Minnesota CHW Field-Building: Policy and Action</th>
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<td><strong>Hamline Room</strong></td>
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| Introduction:  
Joan Cleary, MM |
| Infrastructure and Professionalization: Will Wilson, MPP,  
Minnesota Dept of Health |
| Trends and Lessons from the Field: Geoff Wilkinson, MSW, Boston University School of Social Work |
| Discussant: Kris Kelly, MN Recovery Connection |
| Minnesota is nationally-recognized for its CHW field-building accomplishments including a scope of practice; standardized statewide curriculum with an educational pathway; Medicaid coverage for diagnostic-related patient self-management services provided by CHW certificate-holders under clinical supervision; and the ongoing work of the Alliance and its partners to advance the field. Other states have moved forward to enact voluntary CHW certification through either governmental or private certifying bodies. What is missing from our state’s current CHW infrastructure and what are key considerations and steps for CHW certification? Building on guidance from the Minnesota Dept of Health and helpful national trends including the CHW certification development process in Massachusetts, we will identify key questions and some starting points for Minnesota. |
| This session will end with invitation for actions steps including sign-up by those who want to work on this issue this summer and fall in preparation for the next legislative session. |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transitions Clinic Network Workshop</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lexington Room</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Calderon, CHW</td>
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| Shira Shavit, MD,  
Executive Director  
Transitions Clinic Network |
| Building on the keynote presentation by Dr. Shira Shavit, this workshop will provide a deeper dive into the Transitions Clinic model, its replication and results. CHW Joe Calderon will share his training, role and reflections on what makes this work successful. Dr. Shavit will discuss key success factors for replication. Bring your questions for this interactive session and let’s explore interest in adopting this effective model in Minnesota. |
LUNCHEON PLENARY SESSION: 11:15 -12:30 p.m., Grand Hall

Buffet Luncheon, Networking and Exhibits

For those fasting, you are welcome to join others who are also fasting at several reserved tables in the Grand Hall, enjoy quiet in the adjacent Lexington Room or sit with other participants who are eating lunch. We wish you Ramadan Mubarak.

Program

LaTanya Black, CHW Certificate Holder, Alliance Board Member, Moderator
Introductory Remarks

Anne Ganey, MPH, Executive Director, MN CHW Alliance:
The Road Ahead: Outlook and Priorities

We'll celebrate our legacy and collective progress as well as identify current efforts and future opportunities to advance next-stage CHW field-building for success and sustainability.

Keynote and Q & A

Geoffrey Wilkinson, MSW, Boston University School of Social Work:
National Trends and Developments

Geoff Wilkinson is Clinical Associate Professor at Boston University School of Social Work and has been a CHW ally for over 15 years. He served as senior policy advisor to the commissioner and director of policy and planning for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health from 2007 – 2014, where he was founding chair of the Massachusetts Board of Certification of Community Health Workers. He also served as executive director of the Massachusetts Public Health Association from 2002 - 2007, where he worked closely with the Massachusetts Association of CHWs. Geoff is a steering committee member of the board of the National Association of CHWs and leads a HRSA-funded project to provide state-based technical assistance on CHW workforce development as a consultant to the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. He is also involved with a HRSA-funded project to engage CHWs in HIV/AIDS care and serves as an advisor to the national CHW Core Consensus (C3) Project. A lifelong social justice activist and former community organizer, Geoff is a native of Illinois with family ties in the St. Paul area.
2017-2018 Leadership Program Recognition

Lori Berg, Program Officer and Alicia Kunin-Batson, MD, Trustee, Bigelow Foundation, St. Paul

Congratulations to the Graduates of the Alliance’s 2017-2018 CHW Leadership Development Program:

Kimberli Barker             Alicia Brambila                 Jesus Calzas Milan
Francesse Estima        Angela Fields                    Cristina Flores
Adriana Guerra             Cesar Gutierrez-Garcia     Atasha Hayden
Vonyee Howard           Myra Huertes Bueno         Michael Jones
Sheree Mickelson        Shandy Mangra                    Lydia Nobello
Ashley Powell              Maria Torres DeRocha      Kia Vue

CONCURRENT AFTERNOON TRACKS (3):  12:45 – 2:45 p.m.

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<tr>
<th>Track, Faculty, Room</th>
<th>Session Descriptions</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHW/Frontline Worker Track</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Two back-to-back 1 hr sessions)</td>
<td>When you board an airplane, the flight attendant’s safety guidance calls for “putting on your own oxygen mask first before you help someone else.” What’s in your CHW tool kit to “keep the oxygen flowing,” prevent burn-out and promote resilience? This session will provide tips to recognize stress and trauma as well as practical tools for prevention and management. We will encourage participants to share their own self-care practices.</td>
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<td>12:45 p.m.: <strong>CHW Self-Care: Building Resilience</strong>&lt;br&gt;Foua-Choua Khang, CHW Certificate Holder, HealthEast &amp; Fairview Health Services&lt;br&gt;Amanda Wasielewski, MPH CHW Education Consultant</td>
<td>Historical and intergenerational trauma are realities for many who are served by CHWs. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and trauma have profound health impacts. Whether you are new to or familiar with this important topic, this interactive session will build knowledge and skills for recognizing and addressing trauma.</td>
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<td>1:45 p.m.: <strong>Knowledge and Skills for Trauma Healing</strong>&lt;br&gt;CHW Panel Discussion</td>
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<td><strong>Supervisor/Manager Track</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Two back-to-back 1 hr sessions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45 pm:</td>
<td>CHW Program Evaluation, Documentation and Measurement</td>
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<td>1:45 p.m.:</td>
<td>Billing and Contracting Clinic</td>
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<td>Emerging Topics Track (Two back-to-back 1 hr sessions)</td>
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**CHW Program Evaluation, Documentation and Measurement**

Great Hall

Onelis Quirindongo-Cedeno, MD, Mayo Clinic, Rochester
Karen Monsen, PhD, RN, University of Minnesota

No matter the organizational setting—clinic, community-based organization, oral health program, mental health agency, etc—CHW programs need to measure and demonstrate results. Learn about the findings from a comprehensive evaluation of the co-supervisory CHW model developed by Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association and Mayo Clinic, Rochester and how they are being used for next-stage work. This session will include an overview of the Omaha System as a documentation and measurement tool for CHW practice. We will also invite experience on using Pathways tools. Participants will discuss how to begin to share and report common indicators.

**Billing and Contracting Clinic**

Melissa Bailey, BS, Dakota County Public Health
Laura Ehrlich Sanka, MPH, Wellshare International

Discussant: Megan Ellingson, MHA, CHW Solutions

Diagnostic-related patient-management services provided by CHW certificate holders under clinical supervision are covered under Minnesota Health Care Programs. What services may be included and how can a provider successfully bill health plans and DHS-FFS? This “how-to” clinic will cover newer guidance and updates for CHW enrollment and claims. The session will also describe how a community-based CHW employer has set up contracting arrangements to be able to offer and bill for CHW services to MHCP clients. We will wrap up with a discussion of what needs to happen next to improve CHW sustainability.

**Emerging Topics Track (Two back-to-back 1 hr sessions)**

Larpenteur Room

12:45 p.m.: The Opioid Crisis & Narcan: What CHWs and Supervisors Need to Know

Peter Carlson, CMAP, MBA-C<br>North Memorial Health

Drug overdoses kill 115 Americans every single day and overdose deaths related to the opioid crisis are on the rise in Minnesota, impacting both rural and urban communities. This session will probe the reasons for this devastating trend, cover new guidance from the Surgeon General, describe the use of Narcan in emergency situations and outline how CHWs can help individuals and communities find resources and recovery.
1:45 pm: Regional CHW Organizing: Spotlight on Northeast Minnesota

Seiquayia Morris, CHW St. Louis County
Mary Rapps, MHA Generations Health Care Initiatives

Around the US, state CHW associations are building local and regional networks to link CHWs for professional development and field-building. For example, in Indiana, there is a CHW lead contact in every county. This session spotlights goals, activities and outlook for CHW organizing in Minnesota’s Arrowhead region that have grown out of the Community Wellness initiative. We will discuss how this approach might be applied in other parts of the state with CHW & ally leadership along with connection to the Alliance.

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION: 3:00-4:00 p.m., Great Hall

Joan Cleary, MM, Senior Advisor: New Horizons

Gary Oftedahl, MD, Alliance Board Member and Kairos Alive! Board Chair: Introduction to María Genné and Kairos Alive!
For more info, visit: https://kairosalive.org/

Program
Kairos Alive!
Celebrating the Power of Connection

Thank you for participating in our conference. We will follow-up with an online evaluation and look forward to your feedback which will help us plan our 2019 conference. Presentations will be posted on the Alliance’s 2018 conference webpage.

For more info: www.mnhwalliance.org
Conference Faculty

Deqa Adan, CHW Certificate Holder
Deqa is a Community Health Worker with Volunteers of America. She is certified in chronic disease self-management. Ms. Adan shares, “I have also worked for Southside Community Health Services as a community outreach coordinator where I organized empowerment and education sessions for women in the Somali community to create a better understanding of Public Health agencies and the community. I am very passionate about closing the health disparity gap in the East African community and want to help create more informed community members.”

Melissa Bailey, BS
Melissa graduated from Saint Mary's University with a BS in Business Administration. She has worked within the healthcare industry for over 20 years. Currently, Melissa is employed at Dakota County in the Financial Services department. She has been with the County for over three years as a Principal Accounting Technician. Preparing, submitting, and ensuring proper reimbursement for CHW claims have been noted as great accomplishments during her tenure with Dakota County.

LaTanya Black, CHW Certificate Holder
LaTanya provides outreach, advocacy, and representation in connection with her role as an Alliance board member. She brings valuable experience as a CHW, CHW supervisor, and business owner. LaTanya is a 2012 graduate of Summit Academy OIC's CHW Certificate Program and the Alliance's 2016 CHW Leadership Development Program.

Peter Carlson, CMPA
Peter Carlson manages the North Memorial Health Community Paramedic group and has an extensive background in pre-hospital emergency medical work. His time as a critical-care and emergency (911) paramedic led to interest in assisting in the development of a more proactive model in delivering care that is emergent, urgent and non-emergent in the pre-hospital (community) setting. Peter currently utilizes data sets, made available through claims data, to strategically and efficiently deploy care team members in order to shift and reduce utilization from high cost point of delivery to more appropriate access points. Processing the data through a team-based lens allows for a comprehensive care plan to be built and ultimately leads to integrated care for customers. Peter holds a BS in health care business and is a MBA candidate focusing on finance.

Toni Carter
Elected to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners by the voters of District 4 in 2005, Commissioner Carter’s priorities are to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of county services, eliminate disparities in outcomes for diverse populations, and raise grassroots awareness of county decision-making processes and systems. Her work on behalf of Ramsey County citizens includes local, statewide and national leadership. Commissioner Carter co-chairs the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Stakeholders’ Committee, chairs the Human Services and Workforce Committee, and serves on the leadership teams of Ramsey County’s Workforce Innovation Board, the Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative and the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood. She has received many awards for her work in the community and in arts and education including an Honorary Doctorate from Concordia University. Commissioner Carter is the first African American ever elected to a county board of Minnesota.
Joan Cleary, MM
As executive director emerita and senior advisor, Joan provides consulting and technical assistance services for the Alliance and assists with special projects. Over a career spanning three decades, she has pursued interests in health equity, community health and social justice through leadership roles and partnerships in philanthropy, state government and health services management. She is a graduate of Oberlin College and Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management.

Megan Ellingson, MHA
Megan Ellingson is a consultant and co-founder of CHW Solutions. She has worked for the Minneapolis Health Department and Allina Health. Megan has a master’s in health care administration and financial management from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Francesse Estima, CHW Certificate Holder
Francesse Estima is a Senior Community Health Worker for Hennepin County Medical Center at their Coordinated Care Clinic with the Healthy Communities Home Visiting CHW Program. Francesse conducts home visits for individuals with chronic conditions: Diabetes and Heart Failure. Francesse is a Jack of all trades; she holds a certificate as a TMA (Trained Medication Aide), HHA/CNA, Wellness Coordinator and Pharmacy Tech for Walgreens. Francesse also has an Associate in Culinary Arts from The Art Institutes International MN. Francesse participated in the Alliance’s 2017-2018 CHW Leadership Development Program. Francesse received her CHW Certificate from Summit Academy OIC in July 2014. Born and raised in Haiti, she took on the role of caring for her dying grandmother at a young age, so helping people is in her blood.

Bisharo Farah, CHW
Bisharo Farah has been a Community Health Worker at HealthFinders Collaborative for just over a year. She is passionate about supporting the health of the community in Rice County and recently received her Associate’s degree in Child Development.

Angela Fields, CHW Certificate Holder
Angela Fields joined People Incorporated Mental Health Services as a CHW in 2016. Ms. Fields has over 30 years of experience in the health care industry. For over three decades Angela has worked as an allied health worker in the areas of phlebotomy and blood banking, nursing and medication assistance with an extensive history in clinical laboratory and home health care. Angela received her Associates Degree in Human Services and her CHW Certificate from Minneapolis Community and Technical College. She completed the Alliance’s 2017-2018 CHW Leadership Development Program. Influential factors that led Angela to become a CHW are her innate ability to nurture and care for others, lived experiences, and strong interest in health care and social reform in conjunction with three decades educational training and healthcare background.

Anne Ganey, MPH
Anne Ganey provides management services to the Alliance in connection with her consulting, technical assistance and leadership development work as head of Spirited Journeys LLC. She brings deep experience in CHW field-building as one of the authors of Minnesota’s CHW curriculum, a CHW educator, trainer of CHW program faculty CHW supervisor and consultant. Anne’s expertise includes public health, nonprofit management, regional planning, development, partnership-building, and local government. She served as executive director of the Mankato YWCA and on the Mankato City Council.
Laura Guzman-Corrales, MPH
Laura Guzman-Corrales is currently the Healthy Communities Program Supervisor at Hennepin Healthcare. Through this role, she oversees a team of 6 home visiting community health workers who provide health education and connection to resources to patients with chronic disease. Prior to this role, Laura worked at the Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation as a Principal Project Coordinator, where she managed health services research projects including grant management, staff supervision, data analysis and reporting. Laura’s other professional experience includes development, implementation and evaluation of community health worker led public health programs at community clinics. Laura holds a Master of Public Health in Health Behavior from the University of North Carolina and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Hispanic Studies from St. Olaf.

Hawa Jama, CHW Certificate Holder
Hawa Jama is a CHW at HealthPartners where she provides home visits to underserved patients with chronic conditions who live in St. Paul. She previously worked at Hennepin County Medical Center. Hawa is a graduate of the Alliance’s 2016 CHW Leadership Development Program.

Kris Kelly, Minnesota Recovery Connection
Kris Kelly is Director of Programs for Minnesota Recovery Connection. She is a graduate of the Recovery Coach Academy and University of St. Mary’s where she majored in Human Services.

Prasida Khanal, MPH, BDS
Prasida Khanal is the State Oral Health Director at the Minnesota Department of Health and has years of experience in diverse roles. She is a foreign-trained dentist and has honors in master of public health. Prasida practiced as community dentist for three years in Nepal mostly serving in rural areas. She also worked to identify, develop and obtain grants from the World Health Organization, the Asian Development Bank and the Government of Nepal for multiple national oral health projects, in addition to supervising the team responsible for administering those grant projects. Additionally, Prasida has worked as a volunteer with the United Nations and a number of Minnesota nonprofits. She has received both public health and humanitarian awards. The Center for Health Care Strategies awarded her the State Oral Health Leadership Institute (SOHLI) fellowship to achieve broad improvements in oral health policy and delivery. Prasida envisions a statewide coordinated and systematic approach to improve the oral health of Minnesotans. She has the necessary leadership skills and policy knowledge to improve the oral health outcomes especially for the low-income children and adults through education and prevention of dental disease. She firmly believes in MDH triple aim of health equity and has been collaborating with ethnic and underserved communities to strengthen the dental public health system of Minnesota.

Foua-Choua Khang, CHW Certificate Holder
Foua-Choua has worked as a Community Health Worker for 4 years at HealthEast’s Roselawn Clinic, focusing on refugee and immigrant populations. She is now a program manager for the East Side Health and Wellness Collaboration. She partners with community-based organizations and has hired on 5 cultural brokers to work in an upstream approach in serving folks who live, work, play or pray on the East Side of St. Paul. Foua-Choua is a graduate of the Alliance’s 2016 CHW Leadership Development Program. She is pursuing a master’s degree in business administration.
**Natalie Marfleet, MBA**  
Natalie Marfleet is HealthRise Project Lead for HealthFinders Collaborative with clinics in Northfield and Faribault. She supervises the community health workers, Care Coordinator and Pura Vida staff. She has over twenty years of healthcare management experience.

**Karen Monsen, PhD, RN**  
Karen Monsen is an associate professor at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing where she co-directs the Center for Nursing Informatics. Her expertise is in public health nursing and nursing informatics, and her intervention effectiveness research employs diverse methods including text mining, theory-based analysis, data mining, visualization and longitudinal analysis. Dr Monsen leads Omaha System Community of Practice the Director of the Omaha System Partnership for Knowledge Discovery and Health Care Quality. She has worked extensively with health care agencies and systems regarding documentation issues and data management.

**Seiquayia Morris, CHW**  
Seiquayia works for St. Louis County as a community health worker. She moved to the Duluth area when she was 14 years old with her parents and 6 siblings. She shares, “I come from a big family and we always get together for birthdays, holidays, and other occasions. My mother passed away 6 years ago in June; she was the “rock” in our family. Being the oldest female in my family, I have taken on the responsibility of keeping us all together. I also have a family of my own--my husband who I’ve known for 12 years and our 3 children ages 6, 4, and 1. Family means a lot to me. I am blessed to be in this role because of who I am and the love I have for my people and our community.”

**Tara Nelson, CHW Certificate Holder**  
Tara Nelson is the Program Manager for the Community Health Worker Program at Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association (IMAA), Rochester since May 2013 and contracts with Mayo Clinic. This is a program which offers home visits to patients with chronic care conditions by providing assistance with health education, resources, and navigation through health systems. Tara is also a MNsure Certified Navigator and assists community members with enrollment and understanding assistance. Prior to entering the CHW field, Tara has worked in law enforcement through the Bureau of Prisons and Mayo Clinic Security. Tara earned her CHW certificate from Rochester Community and Technical College and is a graduate of the Alliance’s 2016 CHW Leadership Development Program.

**Gary Oftedahl, MD**  
Gary Oftedahl is a collaboration catalyst and consultant. He served as Chief Knowledge Officer at the Bloomington-based Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement from 2002-2014. He spent over 26 years at Olmsted Medical Center, Rochester as an internist and in numerous leadership positions, mainly focused on quality. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine. Dr. Oftedahl chairs the board of Kairos Alive! and serves on the board of the Minnesota CHW Alliance.
Lara Pratt, MPH
Lara Pratt is passionate about leveraging people, organizations, opportunities and funding to address community health. She has led the Minneapolis Health Department's Healthy Living Initiative for 12 years. The 10-person team’s most recent accomplishments include the nation’s first staple foods ordinance, successful integration of community health workers in public housing buildings, and passage of Minneapolis ordinances that reduce youth access to tobacco.

Onelis Quirindongo-Cedeno, MD
Onelis Quirindongo-Cedeno is a consultant in the Division of Primary Care Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic Rochester. She was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico where she completed her undergraduate and medical school education. She completed her Internal Medicine Residency training at Mayo in 2000. She participated in the 2007-2008 Cultural Competence Leadership Fellowship Program sponsored by the Health Research and Education Trust. Dr. Quirindongo-Cedeno is involved in teaching medical students, residents and faculty about cultural competence and physician-patient communications. Currently she is the physician leader for community engagement activities in practice and education for the section of Employee and Community Health at Mayo Clinic Rochester. At the present time she is leading Mayo Clinic initiatives related to the integration of Community Health Workers into Health Care Homes care teams. She also serves on the board of the Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance.

Mary Rapps, MHA
Mary Rapps is a Program Director at Generations Health Care Initiatives. Ms. Rapps earned her Master’s Degree in Health Care Administration from the University of Minnesota and worked as a Health Care Administrator for over 21 years. She is committed to improving the health of communities through innovation and collaboration with community members, public health, health care and service organizations. She has a passion for health equity and population health improvement. She serves on the board of the Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance.

Tom Roy
Minnesota Department of Corrections Commissioner since January 2011, Roy has spent his entire 42 year career on the front lines of corrections. Distinguishing himself by developing and ushering in innovative programming and best practices that focus on reducing recidivism. Commissioner Roy is tasked with the safety and security, operations and programming of 10 correctional facilities, as well as, supervision of those in the community. During his career, he has taken on numerous leadership opportunities where he has used his expertise and experience to enhance corrections programs and practices by serving on boards and advisory panels such as Co-chair of the Association of State Correctional Administrators Reentry and Community Corrections Committee, Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission, Governor’s Mental Health Task Force, Sex Offender Civil Commitment Advisory Task Force and the Sole Authority to Assign Parole to Life-sentenced Offenders as part of Life-Sentence Review Hearings.
Laura Sanka, MPH
Laura is the International Program Director at WellShare International. In the United States and Africa, she has worked with thousands of community health workers to build healthier communities. Ms. Sanka holds a Master of Public Health from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.

Marie Tran, CHW Certificate Holder
Marie has deep experience as a CHW and CHW supervisor with a focus on the needs of immigrants and refugees. She currently works for the Minnesota Department of Health Sage Program. She is a founding member of the board of the Minnesota CHW Alliance.

Amanda Wasielewski, MPH
Amanda provides training, consultation and development related to CHW education, continuing education and professional development. She has a background in CHW education and in public health with a focus on maternal and child health. For eight years she headed up the CHW Certificate Program at Summit Academy OIC. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota. She serves as a member of the Alliance’s Education Committee.

Cathy Weik, MAL
Cathy Weik is Senior Vice President for Administration and Compliance Officer for Stratis Health. She is board chair of the Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance. In addition, she has played leadership roles at the county and state level in workforce board governance and currently chairs the board of the National Association of Workforce Boards, Washington, D.C.

Will Wilson, MPP
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