

Community Health Worker Workforce Initiative

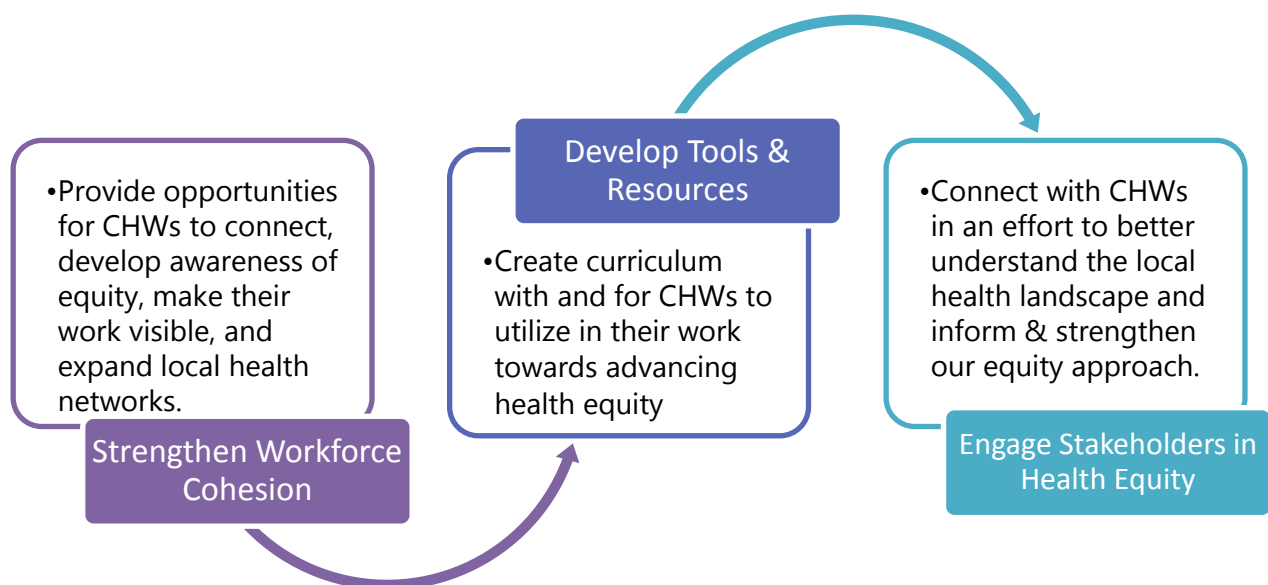
Strengthening Local Neighborhood Health Networks to Impact Population Health Outcomes In NYC

Improving population health requires coordinated efforts and programming to advance health equity and enhance social cohesion. Integrating Community Health Workers as part of the Center for Health Equity's neighborhood-based strategies to improve health outcomes is a vital component of our work.

The **mission** of this initiative is to strengthen the role of CHWs to advance health equity in the communities they serve. Through a collective learning approach, we aim to elevate workforce value and facilitate capacity building.

This moves us towards a **vision** where CHWs are recognized for their role in advancing equity in NYC's most underserved neighborhoods.

The CHW Workforce Initiative uses the following strategy to increase workforce visibility and capacity:



The CHW definition utilized in our work is the following:

"A community health worker is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the community health worker to serve as link/liaison/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery. A community health worker also builds individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support and advocacy".

-American Public Health Association, 2009

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We look forward to staying connected and building with you in your work.