

FACT SHEET:

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN NORTH DAKOTA

HCR No. 3015

What does House Concurrent Resolution No. 3015 do? Allows for a feasibility study to be conducted on the certification and reimbursement of CHWs in the state of North Dakota.



Why is HCR No. 3015 necessary?

CHWs have a diverse skill set and can help deliver health services to all individuals including underserved and rural communities. By helping reduce unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits, they will also help decrease health care costs.

Benefits of adding Community Health Workers (CHWs) in North Dakota

- Liaison between community and health care providers
- Deliver care in rural, urban, and underserved communities
- Improve care quality, decrease costs, and make the health system better
 - o Community Paramedic program at Sanford in ND saved \$1.1 million in 9 months
 - o Molina Healthcare in New Mexico saved \$2 million in one year for 448 patients
- Decrease unnecessary hospitalizations, urgent care and emergency room visits
- Provide health education about nutrition, maternal and child health, etc.
- ♣ Do home visits and help patients self-manage their care
- ♣ Assist with crises such as Sars-CoV-2 Pandemic
 - o Services range from complex medical care at home, to providing groceries and medications
 - o Keep patients out of hospitals and reduce community spread
- Encourage people to use preventive services and help manage chronic conditions
- ♣ Medicaid can be used fund CHWs in several different ways
 - o Preventive services reimbursed if recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner
 - o If ND wanted to move forward a Medicaid state plan amendment (SPA) would be necessary