

Changes requested:

1. Add language relating to community health representatives:
 - a. Definition,
 - b. Certification;
2. Amend list of members of the community health worker task force;
3. Incorporate sections of 1029 which would allow implementation;
4. Amend appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. A new chapter to title 43 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

1. “Community health representative” means an individual certified through the Indian Health Service to provide community-based and medically guided health care, which may include traditional Native concepts.
2. “Community health worker” means an individual certified under this chapter to provide preventative health services to a community.
3. “Department” means the department of health and human services.

Title.

An individual may not use the title of either “community health representative” or “community health worker” unless that person is certified as such in accordance with this chapter.

Scope of Practice – Community Health Worker.

A community health worker provides preventative health services to prevent disease, disability, or other health condition or their progression for an individual with a chronic condition or at risk for a chronic condition who is unable to self-

manage the chronic condition or for an individual with a documented barrier that affects the individual's health. This section does not authorize a community health representative or community health worker to practice within the scope of practice of another regulated profession, such as nursing, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, or psychology.

Certification.

1. The department shall establish a method of reviewing Indian Health Service certification for an applicant seeking certification as a community health representative.
2. The department shall establish certification standards for an applicant seeking certification as a community health worker.
3. In implementing this section, the department may:
 - a. Adopt rules;
 - b. Charge a fee for certification or recertification;
 - c. Contract with a third party; and
 - d. Require an applicant to meet education and experience requirements.

SECTION 2. COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TASK FORCE – REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.

1. During the 2023-24 interim, the department of health and human services shall establish and provide staffing and administrative services to a community health worker task force.
2. The community health worker task force shall consist of:
 - a. One member representing the Medical Services division of the department, appointed by _____;
 - b. One member representing the Public Health Division of the department, appointed by _____;
 - c. One member representing local public health units, appointed by _____;
 - d. One member representing community health workers, appointed by _____;

- e. One member representing community health representatives, appointed by _____;
 - f. One member representing hospitals in this state, appointed by a statewide association representing hospitals;
 - g. One member representing federally qualified health care centers, appointed by a statewide association representing federally qualified health care centers;
 - h. One member representing emergency medical services, appointed by a statewide association representing emergency medical services.
3. During the 2023-24 interim, the community health worker task force, in collaboration with the department of health and human services, shall:
- a. Develop a data-driven poan for community health worker scope of work, education and training, certification and regulation, medical assistance, reimbursement, and a North Dakota community health worker collaborative;
 - b. Develop a plan for a North Dakota community health worker collaborative;
 - c. Provide to the department of health and human services a proposal for a Medicaid state plan amendment or waiver to include community health workers and community health representatives;
 - d. Provide the department of health and human services proposed administrative rules for the community health worker scope of work, education and training, certification and regulation, medical assistance reimbursement, and a North Dakota community health worker collaborative; and
 - e. Collaborate with existing clinical, public health, home, and community-based service systems.

**SECTION 3. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES –
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS – MEDICAID STATE PLAN**

AMENDMENT. During the 2023-25 biennium, the department of health and human services shall seek a Medicaid state plan amendment to authorize the reimbursement of

certified community health workers and community health representatives. Upon amendment of the Medicaid state plan, the executive director of the department of health and human services shall certify this fact to the legislative council.

SECTION #. APPROPRIATION – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER TASK FORCE. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of health and human services for the purpose of contracting with a third party to assist the community health worker task force with data collection, meeting facilitation, and report development for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.