

Virginia Center for Health Outreach (VCHO)
Supporting Community Health Workers' Contribution to Virginia Health Care
And Building a Community of Community Health Workers
Progress Report for July – September 2004

Communication

- Began planning third annual Virginia CHW conference for 275 CHWs to be held on November 16 and 17 in Richmond, Virginia
- Three issues of the VCHO supplemental newsletter, *The CHW ID*, mailed to all Virginia CHWs
- Quarterly issue of *The VCHO Advisor* newsletter mailed to more than 900 persons
- VCHO listservs proving effective vehicle for communication to and among its constituencies
- VCHO regional CHW coordinators using listservs to communicate with CHWs in their geographic regions
- Coordinated and facilitated all aspects of 2004 Outstanding CHW awards process
- Established communication process and managing all aspects of communication for the CHW study resolution process, including data collection and dissemination

Education

- 15 Virginia community health workers received certificates for successfully completing the VCHO continuing education unit on childhood obesity
- Coordinated and supervised development of a community lay outreach worker educational unit on communication skills for the Virginia Department of Health Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program
- Developed and constructed VCHO exhibit displays for each of VCHO's eight CHW regional network regions

Consultations

- Provided information about evaluating Hispanic community health worker programs to Chia Youyee Vang, President, CHIA Consulting, Inc., St. Paul, MN 55106

Funding

- Second VCHO special initiative funding cycle began August 1, 2004

Policy

- Planned and helped facilitate three statewide meetings to continue to respond to the requirements of the community health worker study approved by the 2004 Virginia General Assembly
- Coordinated, facilitated and participated in development of standardized CHW definition in response to the CHW study resolution

Coordination

- Initiated and coordinated the collection of CHW job descriptions and CHW program evaluations in response to the CHW study resolution
- Worked with the Virginia Department of Health and other agencies to begin ascertaining the number of CHWs employed by the state of Virginia
- Worked with Jacqueline Scott, Co-Director, Georgetown University Harrison Institute of Public Law, and senior law student interns to begin development of CHW study narratives

Research

- Surveyed all Virginia CHWs to collect CHW input about a standardized CHW definition for the state of Virginia and analyzed this data
- Surveyed all Virginia CHW programs to collect data to be used to address the requirements of the CHW study resolution