

**Responses to a 2017 Survey on State Policies Regarding Community Health Workers:  
Home Visiting to Improve the Home Environment**

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP), with support from the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH), conducted a survey on state community health workers (CHW) policies to update NASHP's [State Community Health Worker Models Map](#). Most survey respondents were researchers from academia and non-profit organizations, leaders or staff of CHW associations, and state or local health department officials. This document presents a compilation of survey responses pertaining specifically to CHW home visiting activities to improve the home environment, such as to reduce asthma triggers or prevent lead poisoning. Some state Medicaid programs that do not directly pay for CHW activities may contract with managed care organizations that choose to pay for them. All state descriptions are based on survey responses, and have not been verified independently. Further, surveys and interviews were conducted between May and July 2017, and responses may not reflect the current landscape in each state.

For more information about healthy housing interventions, visit [www.nchh.org](http://www.nchh.org). For more information about the role of CHWs in states, visit <https://nashp.org/state-community-health-worker-models/>.

**ALABAMA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Alabama Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services.

**ALASKA**

According to the survey respondent, as of June 2017, there is active discussion in the state about CHWs working in people's homes to provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). No information was available on whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

**ARIZONA**

CHWs in AZ provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). According to the 2017 survey respondent, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services.

**ARKANSAS**

Many CHWs work in people's homes to provide preventive services related to improving the home environment. CHWs are trained using the [Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers](#) course offered through the [National Healthy Homes Training Center and Network](#). As of May 2017, the state has not

explored paying for healthy homes services under a Medicaid health home or 1115 waiver, according to the survey respondent.

### **CALIFORNIA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **COLORADO**

CHWs work in people's homes and provide preventive services related to the home environment (such as reducing asthma triggers or preventing lead poisoning). However, no information was available on whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **CONNECTICUT**

Some CHWs work in people's homes and provide preventive services related to improving the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers or lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Connecticut Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the 2017 survey respondent.

### **DELAWARE**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

CHWs conduct home visits to address various issues, including those related to improving the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). However, no information was available on whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **FLORIDA**

CHWs conduct home visits to address conditions such as asthma and may conduct [lead poisoning risk assessments](#) as part of the DOH [Healthy Start](#) program. As of June 2017, there is a project out of the DOH Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention to work with Medicaid managed care agencies to expand the use of CHWs in their asthma programming, including preventive services related to reducing asthma

triggers). As of May 2017, Medicaid does not typically pay for those services directly, according to the survey respondent.

### **GEORGIA**

Some CHW programs include home visiting as part of their activities, and CHWs provide preventive services related to improving the home environment for people with asthma. However, no information was available on whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **HAWAII**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services. The state's information was not updated in the 2017 survey.

### **IDAHO**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **ILLINOIS**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

### **INDIANA**

CHWs may provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Indiana Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services, and a preventive services Medicaid state plan amendment is in development, according to the survey respondent.

### **IOWA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Iowa Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services, according to the survey respondent.

## **KANSAS**

Some CHWs work in people's homes and provide preventive services related to the home environment, such as reducing asthma triggers or preventing lead poisoning. One CHW certification program includes home visiting in the core competency training and mentions lead poisoning and asthma triggers. CHWs in one region do home visits and go through a hospital-specific training regarding healthy homes. As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the survey respondent.

## **KENTUCKY**

Some CHWs work in people's homes and provide preventive services related to improving the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers or lead poisoning prevention). CHWs have been trained in techniques for reducing asthma triggers. As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the survey respondent.

## **LOUISIANA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

## **MAINE**

CHWs may provide health education related to the home environment in the home (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of July 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the survey respondent.

## **MARYLAND**

CHWs work in people's homes and provide preventive services related to the home environment, such as reducing asthma triggers or preventing lead poisoning. However, no information was available on whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

CHWs in MA provide preventive services to improve the home environment, including those related to asthma, lead poisoning, and falls prevention. As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the survey respondent.

## **MICHIGAN**

Many CHWs conduct home visits as part of their programs or job duties, and some provide preventive services to improve the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services; however, many managed care organizations have contracted with programs that do asthma trigger reduction work with CHWs as well as other work.

## **MINNESOTA**

Some programs use CHWs to provide preventive services to improve the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). These services can be [billed](#) as Medicaid medical expenditure as long as the services qualify as diagnostic-related patient education and the CHWs work under the supervision of a licensed medical professional. Beneficiaries can receive up to 12 hours of these services each month.

## **MISSISSIPPI**

CHWs provide education on prevention of asthma triggers or environmental hazards during home visits. As of July 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the survey respondent.

## **MISSOURI**

Some CHWs in Missouri work in people's homes, but no information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of July 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, and the state is investigating pursuing a preventive services Medicaid state plan amendment, according to the survey respondent.

## **MONTANA**

Some CHWs work in people's homes to improve the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and address social determinants of health by connecting complex care patients to housing, transportation, and food resources. As of July 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for these services; however, the state is working on models through a CPC+ pilot.

## **NEBRASKA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). Medicaid did not pay for

CHW services at the time of the initial survey; the state's information was not updated in the 2017 survey.

### **NEVADA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services, according to the survey respondent.

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

CHWs in NH conduct home visits and provide preventive services related to the home environment, such as reducing asthma triggers or preventing lead poisoning. As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for those services, according to the survey respondent.

### **NEW JERSEY**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services. A preventive services Medicaid state plan amendment is in process through the Rutgers CHW Advisory Council of the Talent Network as of June 2017, according to the survey respondent.

### **NEW MEXICO**

There are frontline CHWs that work with individuals in their homes and also do home visits. This includes preventive services to improve the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention), depending on need and risk. As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for these services, according to the survey respondent. [CHW salaries, training, and service costs](#) are managed care organizations' administrative costs and embedded in capitated rates paid to Medicaid managed care organizations.

### **NEW YORK**

As part of the state's [Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment](#) (DSRIP) program, 8 out of 25 participating [Performing Provider Systems](#) (PPSs) have implemented a [project](#) that expands asthma home-based self-management programs and includes home environmental assessments, remediation, and education. During a meeting in February 2017, five of those eight PPSs [reported](#) engaging CHWs to meet the goals of the project. Medicaid managed care organizations in NY can also choose to provide home-based asthma services and bill the services as administrative expenses.

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

CHWs in NC incorporate home visits into their activities, including those related to improving the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). There is no formal structure to reimburse CHW services in North Carolina, according to the survey respondent.

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Medicaid does not directly pay for these services, according to the survey respondent.

## **OHIO**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

## **OKLAHOMA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). Oklahoma Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services.

## **OREGON**

Some CHWs working in community-based organizations provide in-home services, including preventive services related to improving the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). CHWs are trained in lead prevention and asthma trigger reduction. These services can be reimbursed by Medicaid, according to the survey respondent, but CHWs must be certified by the Oregon Health Authority and supervised by a licensed health professional [in order for Medicaid to reimburse](#) for services provided.

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

CHWs may provide in-home services, including home health and safety assessments and prevention education. Medicaid is the largest source of funding for CHWs in Pennsylvania, according to the survey respondent. Medicaid managed care organizations consider CHW expenditures as clinical care costs.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

CHWs may provide in-home services, including preventive services related to home safety. Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services, although managed care organization may pay for them, according to a survey respondent.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

## **TENNESSEE**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.

## **TEXAS**

Certified promotoras in South Texas colonias provide education related to reduction of asthma triggers in the home. No information was available about whether Medicaid directly pays for those services, although Medicaid managed care organizations and some providers may pay for them.

## **UTAH**

Molina's CHWs assess members' needs through home visits and provide preventive services related to the home environment, such as reducing asthma triggers or preventing lead poisoning. Some accountable care organizations (ACOs) are covering the costs of home-based preventive services through administrative payments.



## **VERMONT**

CHWs may provide in-home services, including environmental assessments to identify ways to reduce asthma triggers and services related to lead poisoning prevention. No information was available about whether Medicaid directly pays for these services.

## **VIRGINIA**

Some CHWs in Virginia conduct home visits and provide preventive services. This includes preventive services to improve the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of June 2017, Virginia Medicaid does not directly pay for CHW services, according to the survey respondent.

## **WASHINGTON**

In general, CHWs may provide in-home services, including preventive services related to improving the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention). As of March 2016, trained CHWs provided environmental home assessments as part of an asthma home visiting program through the Tulalip Air Quality Program, supported by the Environmental Protection Agency and facilitated by the Tulalip Tribes Department of Environment. As part of the state's [Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment](#) (DSRIP) program, [Accountable Communities of Health](#) (ACHs) can choose to implement a project on chronic disease prevention and control and pay CHWs to conduct home visits for asthma services using DSRIP funding.

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

Targeted case managers may provide in-home services, but these do not typically include preventive services to improve the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention).

## **WISCONSIN**

CHWs conduct home visits and provide preventive services related to the home environment, such as reducing asthma triggers or preventing lead poisoning. As of June 2017, the state Asthma Program has written a [business case](#) and is working on Medicaid reimbursement for preventive services, according to the survey respondent.

**WYOMING**

No information was available about whether CHWs provide preventive services related to the home environment (e.g., reduction of asthma triggers, lead poisoning prevention) and whether Medicaid directly pays for those services.