

CHW Academy Newsletter



From Left to Right: (Top row) Carlos F., Marisol D., Janet R., Giselle R., Janelle F., Alexis R., Rocio B., Irma V., Emily V., (Second row) Perla B. (program coordinator), Natalie G., Cassidy C., Deana A., Llanet R., Silvia M., Alex S. (program coordinator)

Letter from the Editors

Hello, everyone! We are so excited to be releasing yet another issue of our CHW Academy Newsletter this year. This issue features an insight into some of our current events and initiatives. Here is an overview of what to find in this edition:

Cohort 8, PhotoVoice, and CHIS:

We are excited to give you a sneak peek into what our current cohort has been doing for these last few months. From starting their internships, using their creative photography skills, to learning about health data tools - Cohort 8 has been up to a lot! Read all about it in this issue.

Common Indicators

CHWA director, Dr. Sheba George, provides a comprehensive summary about one of the more recent developments within community health work. Read more about common indicators used to measure and evaluate CHW outputs and impact within communities on p. 6!

Career Development:

Alexander S. (CHWA program coordinator) shares some tips for how to freshen up your LinkedIn Profile. The CHWA would also like to share potential job opportunities as well as training opportunities to strengthen those resumes! Find those at the end of this issue.

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Meet Cohort 8

15 CHW Interns Across LA County

The CHW Academy was thrilled to welcome and connect with our current group of CHW trainees. These trainees are spread across various clinical sites in the Los Angeles area, including federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), hospitals, and other community health clinics.

The CHW trainees provide a wide range of services at their respective locations including health insurance and social service enrollment, maternal and pediatric care coordination, health education, health screenings, and referral making.

Get to know some of these CHW interns!



Spotlights:



Cassidy C.

Internship Site: Torrance Memorial Medical Center

"I am passionate about patient empowerment through medical literacy and advocacy."



Marisol D.

Internship Site: Providence St. Joseph Medical Center

"I have learned that being a CHW is more than just providing resources, it's also about reassuring patients, having compassion, and being able to lend an ear to better understand them."



Silvia M.

Internship Site: Providence San Pedro

"I have learned how important is to use motivational interviewing to encourage patients to continue or improve in change behavior."



Llanet R.

Internship Site: Torrance Memorial Medical Center

"I am passionate about implementing cultural competence and humility within community health work to allow for more engagement from patients wanting to better their health."



Natalie G.

Internship Site: Providence San Pedro Mobile Clinic

"I am passionate about ways in which I, as a CHW, can improve the lives of other people, including finding the right resources for my community."



Irma V.

Internship Site: PRIME Medical

"As a CHW, I am passionate about real world impact."

What does it mean to be a CHW?: A PhotoVoice Project



What does it mean to be a CHW?

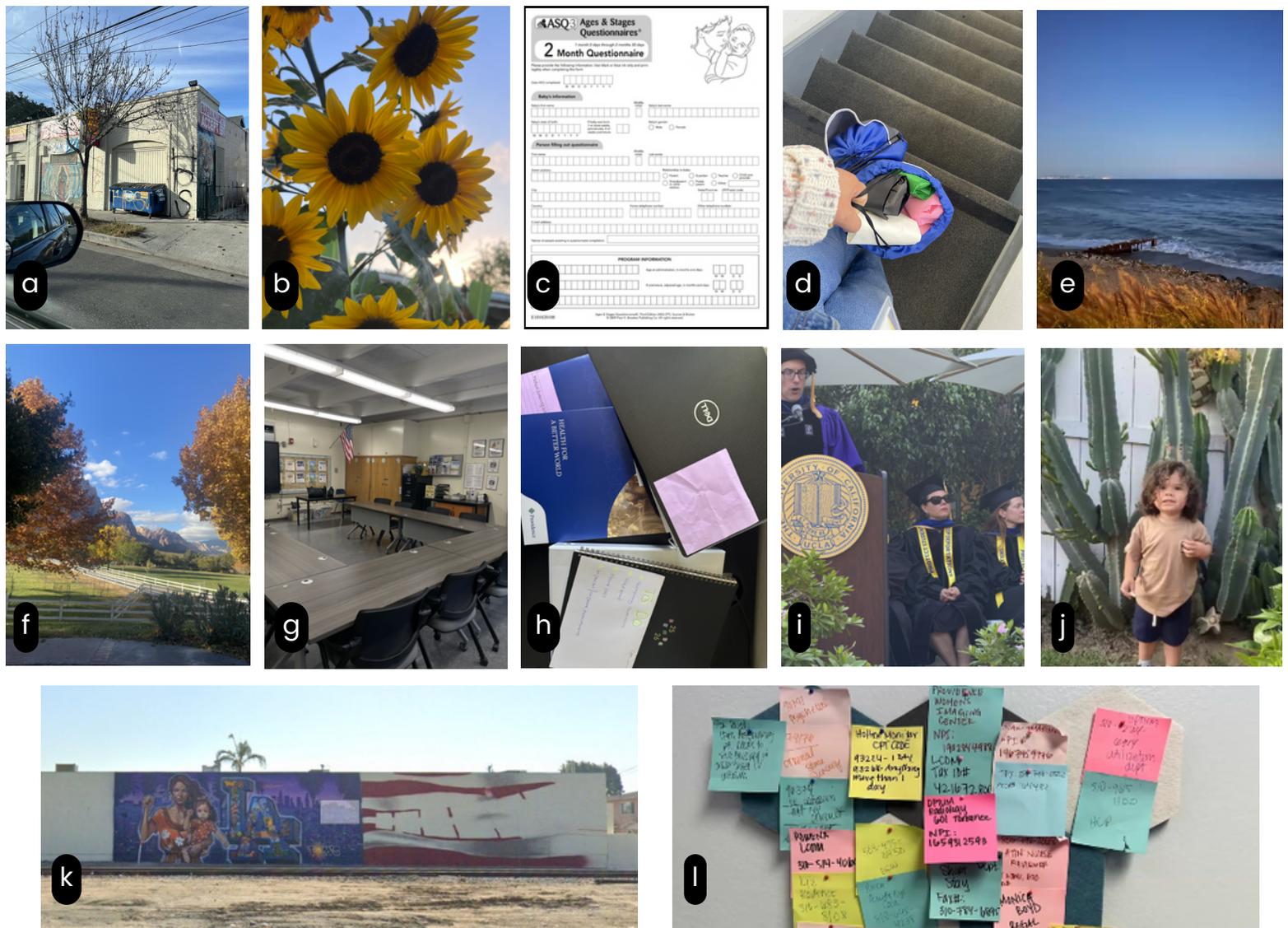
As an activity during a training session, the CHW trainers asked the cohort to describe CHWs in one word. The word cloud created by their various answers (Fig. 1) showed just how much a CHW does and the roles they play within the community and healthcare system.

We thought, "What if we tried to describe a CHW with an image?"

Through PhotoVoice*, the Cohort 8 CHWs tell the story of the various roles, skills, and values of CHWs.

Fig. 1 Cohort 8 Discussion Question: In one word, describe CHWs.

Find corresponding captions on page 4.



What does it mean to be a CHW?: A PhotoVoice Project

a This is our community, with the Virgen de Guadalupe, graffiti and a sign saying "We accept EBT." This neighborhood might be a little scary. As CHWs, we might be scared when we reach out, but when we do, we feel appreciated and welcomed. We might face many challenges but our mission is bigger.

b As Community Health Workers we don't just support individual patients. We help entire communities grow, thrive, and become healthier together.

c This questionnaire is a tool to not only assess the questions or topics on the paper, but serves as a doorway to assess patients on a broader, more impactful level.

d Dropping off condom bags to the Wilmington Community Health Clinic. Promoting safer sex practices and ensuring judgement free access to essential health resources.

e This picture exemplifies a CHW helping a patient because as patients, dealing and interacting with medical settings can be intimidating - similar to feeling like drowning. Then the bridge portrays a CHW with assisting the patient in not feeling like they are alone by building a relationship and forming those connections to allow better navigation for the patient in the medical setting.

f When looking at this view, it feels like a breath of fresh air. This picture captures the essence of a CHW to me because when a patient's health concerns are being heard and taken seriously, when someone is listening to me it's like a breath of fresh air.

g I work primarily within the health education department so I spend most of my time teaching nutrition classes to anyone within the community. For me, this photo captures part of what it means to be a CHW. A classroom is a space of learning, connection and empowerment. It represents a space to grow, as

CHWs use their knowledge to serve as bridges between the community they serve and the healthcare system.

h This is a picture of what my desk would look like when in office. I tend to have a lot of documents on hand for patients and myself. I have my work laptop prepared with certain windows open to make steps easier and prepare myself for the patient, allowing the process to be smooth and simple. This picture exemplifies CHWS due to the process of steps and structures some CHWS do to ensure better outcomes and some expectations for the day.

i At the UCLA 2025 Commencement at UCLA for the Institute of Society and Genetics, some faculty wore a stole that says "Protect Students, Stop Deportations" in solidarity with the communities and families that are detrimentally affected by the mass deportations led by the Trump administration. The Keynote Speaker was a Latina physician, Zaira Chavez Jimenez, MD, soon to be one of 2% of Latina surgeons in America.

j This is my nephew. In the program Partners for Healthy Kids - we advocate for pediatric health and as a CHW, I remind myself that every child is someone's loved one.

k This picture reminds me of how [Latinx] communities are deserving of the same healthcare access as anybody else. CHWs play a perfect role in bridging that gap and making sure that resources are available to everybody, not just any group in particular. This is a fairly new mural that was painted about 3 minutes from my house, and when I pass by it, I am reminded of the beauty of diversity in our communities.

l This is one of my boards at work. This is where I put my direct contacts that I need most often for insurance authorizations, different healthcare plans, or codes that I may need.

CHWA Workshop Series: CHIS

On June 17, 2025, the CHWA hosted a workshop about the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS).

What is CHIS? CHIS is the nation's largest state health survey. It provides reliable data on the health and healthcare needs of Californians from children to adults. It includes a wide range of topics such as health conditions, health behaviors, healthcare access, and social determinants of health. Conducted continuously and administered every two years since 2001 (and annually since 2011), CHIS is a collaborative effort led by UCLA's Center for Health Policy Research.

CHIS turns data into powerful stories that inspire action—whether it's shaping policy in the California State Capitol or driving change at the grassroots level in local communities.



Why is CHIS Important? CHIS is important because it provides timely, accurate, and representative data about the health and health care experiences of Californians. Here is why it matters:

Guides Health Policy and Programs

Brings Awareness to Health Disparities

Provides Local and Statewide Data

Supports Research and Evaluation

Informs Public Understanding

Empowers Communities

To learn more about CHIS, you can visit their website here:

<https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/our-work/california-health-interview-survey-chis>

Measuring the Impact of CHWs

Common Indicator Project: How CHW Programs can use Common Indicators in their Practice

1. What are Common Indicators?

Common indicators, as shown in Table A, are shared tools available to all organizations that use CHWs to help them measure:

- What CHWs are doing
 - How well they're doing it
 - How their work is helping patients or people in communities to have better outcomes
- They were created with the help of CHWs and other partners to measure CHW roles, skills, and impact.

2. How are Common Indicators used?

These indicators are used to evaluate CHW programs—basically, to check if they're working well and making a difference. Table A lists both process and outcome indicators.

◆ Example of a Process Indicator- "CHW-facilitated referrals" "How many referrals to social services did the CHW make this month?"

👉 This shows what the CHW did.

◆ Example of an Outcome Indicator- "Participant social support" "Did more patients get connected to social services after CHW referrals?"

👉 This shows the result of the CHW's work.

3. Why do Common Indicators matter?

If all the clinical programs that use CHWs use these same common indicators to evaluate their programs, we would be able to compare the information from across different types of clinical programs to learn where and how CHWs make a difference and where we might need to improve their use.

4. Why are they helpful to CHWs?

- They show how CHWs improve health outcomes
- They give CHWs the credit they deserve
- They help programs get support, funding, and grow
- They protect the CHW role and make sure it's understood and valued.

Table A: Five Priority Indicators

Process Indicators	Outcome Indicators
CHW compensation, benefits, and advancement	Participant self-reported health status
CHW enactment of the 10 core roles (from C3 Council)	Participant health and social needs
CHW-facilitated referrals	Participant social support
CHW involvement in decision and policy-making process	Participant empowerment
CHW Integration into teams	Policy and systems change (program level)
Supportive and reflective supervision	Policy and systems change (state level)

Learn more:
<https://www.chwcre.org/promotion-of-common-indicators>



CHWs unite through L.A. Consortium



El Sol has convened a CHW Consortium to strengthen and elevate the workforce, as well as achieve better health outcomes in Los Angeles County.

The Consortium began with members of Los Angeles County's Dept. of Health, Dept. of Mental Health and Health Services Dept. and their community partners. It intends to convene an additional 150 to 200 community-based organizations. Achievements so far include convening workgroups on sustainability, workforce development, technology and data, policy and advocacy and emergency response and infrastructure.

This work was made possible through the support of Blue Shield of California Foundation, The California Endowment, The California Wellness Foundation, and Cedars-Sinai.

Learn about the Consortium

<https://lachwconsortium.org/about-us/>

Instagram @la_consortium

LinkedIn: LA-County-CHW/P/R-Consortium

Join El Sol's Free CHW Hub

Sign up now at <https://chwlearninghub.org/home>

- ✓ Printable and interactive tools for education, wellness, and outreach
- ✓ Creative games and templates to support CHW skill-building and community engagement
- ✓ 24/7 AI-powered support to help you navigate and find what you need, anytime



El Sol is a pioneer in CHW programs in the Inland Empire, focusing on identifying, training, deploying, and supporting CHWs.

Professional LinkedIn Profiles



CHW Academy alumni, Samantha, poses for a LinkedIn photo in professional attire against a neutral background.

Eight Steps to Create a LinkedIn Profile

<p>✓ 1. Sign Up</p>	<p>Go to linkedin.com, click “Join now,” and enter your name, email, and password or download the LinkedIn App</p>
<p>✓ 2. Add Basic Info</p>	<p>Enter your city, region, and choose your industry (e.g., Public Health, Nonprofit, Healthcare).</p>
<p>✓ 3. Upload a Photo</p>	<p>Use a professional headshot with good lighting, a clear background, and a friendly expression</p>
<p>✓ 4. Write a Headline</p>	<p>Create a brief, impactful headline (e.g., *Community Health Worker</p>
<p>✓ 5. Write a Summary</p>	<p>Share a short paragraph about your background, goals, and passion (3–5 sentences).</p>
<p>✓ 6. Add Experience</p>	<p>Include job titles, organizations, dates, and 2–4 bullet points with strong action verbs.</p>
<p>✓ 7. List Education</p>	<p>Add school names, degrees, certifications (e.g., CHW Academy), and graduation dates.</p>
<p>✓ 8. Add Skills</p>	<p>Choose 5–10 relevant skills (e.g., Patient Navigation, Bilingual Communication, Community Engagement).</p>

Upcoming Career Development Workshops:

<p>July 11</p>	<p>Cover Letters + Requesting Letters of Recommendation 11:30 am</p>
<p>July 25</p>	<p>Linked In Connection Building 11:30 am</p>
<p>August 8</p>	<p>Skill Gap Assessment + SWOT Analysis 11:30 am</p>
<p>August 22</p>	<p>Interview Prep + Mock Interview 11:30 am</p>

[Click to Register!](#)

Resources and Opportunities

Training Resources

Community Health Worker Diabetes Education Program

Description: With four modules, this short continuing education (CE) program aims to increase CHWs' understanding of diabetes and diabetes management, so you feel empowered to provide your community with the guidance to best manage their condition.

FREE - on-demand web training

[American Diabetes Assoc. Institute of Learning](#)



MHALA Wellness and Behavioral Health Specialist Certificate Program

Description: Participants will receive training on working with clients in both behavioral health and medical care environments, on preventive healthcare, on understanding the integration of physical and mental health, and on addressing health disparities and barriers to receiving care.

[Mental Health America of Los Angeles](#)



Job Openings



Health Advocate/Community Health Worker

Click here to learn more and apply!



Community Health Worker Supervisor, Homeless Healthcare Collaborative

Click here to learn more and apply!



Community Health Worker

Click here to learn more and apply!



Heluna Health

Senior Community Health Worker - Call Center Agent

Click here to learn more and apply!



Community Health Worker Supervisor

Click here to learn more and apply!



Community Health Worker

Click here to learn more and apply!

Stay Connected!

FOLLOW THE CHW ACADEMY ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND MORE!



Become a Community Health Worker (CHW) in healthcare

CHW ACADEMY
 Providence Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Are you between the **ages of 18 - 24** and looking for training in healthcare?

Apply Today!
 Full-Time Paid Training
 Starts: Monday, Aug 4, 2025

Description:	Requirements:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help people understand health services and save money • Help people access health services • Learn skills to assist the healthcare team and improve patient care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit your application and resume • High school diploma or GED required • Bilingual English/Spanish highly preferred • Reliable transportation is needed • Commitment to 40 hours/week for 16 weeks

For more details and to apply, visit:
<https://forms.office.com/r/ZTCqM1yQFh>
 For questions, email: Lucero.Silva@providence.org

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY TO JOIN COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER ACADEMY COHORT 9!](#)

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