

Special Announcement: COVID-19 Resources

Dear Colleagues;

We are eager to announce some new coronavirus resources for our public health and health care colleagues. Today we launched our **Community Health Worker (CHW) COVID-19 Online Training** to support this essential and critical workforce. We gathered input from over 250 CHWs across the U.S. on crucial topics, needs, and appropriate delivery methods during this pandemic. The nation's CHW workforce can help stop the spread and devastating impact of COVID-19 through culturally appropriate prevention, contact tracing, compassionate support to clients and families in quarantine and understanding the mental health and anxieties in our communities. We hope you'll explore this training and share with your colleagues.

The Northeast Telehealth Resource Center (NETRC) has also received enhanced funding to serve as the **Coronavirus Telehealth Resource Center** here in the Northeast region. As you can imagine, the demand for telehealth technical assistance and resources has skyrocketed over the course of a few weeks, and this additional support through the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) will help the NETRC team ramp up capacity to assist regional stakeholders in leveraging technology to address acute needs related to COVID-19, and to ensure continued access to care.

Please see more info about our COVID-19 resources below and be sure to reach out if we can be of assistance with your efforts to protect and maintain the health of your communities during this challenging time.

Best Regards,
Danielle Louder & Elizabeth Foley
Co-Directors, MCD Public Health

Community Health Worker COVID-19 Online Training

MCD Public Health is pleased to announce the launch of our new **Community Health Worker COVID-19 eTraining module**. MCDPH wants to ensure all communities across the United States including those facing significant health inequities have the resources to protect themselves and stop the spread and devastating impact of COVID-19. Community health workers (CHWs) are essential public health professionals and need trustworthy and culturally appropriate COVID-19 information and tools.



Our comprehensive interactive CHW COVID-19 eTraining module covers crucial topics for CHWs including:

- Various roles CHWs can take in combating the spread of the coronavirus
- How to talk with community members about COVID-19
- Disease spread and how to prepare and protect themselves, their family and their homes
- Common symptoms, testing options and how to safely connect clients to health care services
- Steps to take when sick and caring for someone who is sick
- Myths, facts and reducing COVID-19 stigma
- Managing stress, anxiety and how to practice self-care

The **CHW COVID-19 eTraining** module is **free of charge** and currently offered in English with Spanish, Portuguese, Lingala, and Arabic versions coming soon. You can preview a demo of the English version here **[CHW COVID-19 DEMO](#)**

MCDPH is also home to the **Community Health Worker Online Training Program**. The training program has reached over 35 states and 3000 users from health departments, health systems and community-based organizations. The training covers chronic disease management including high blood pressure, pre-diabetes, diabetes, asthma, breast cancer, cervical cancer and colorectal cancer. All content is offered in both English and Spanish. Participants receive a certificate of completion with some states offering continuing education credits. For more information contact Robin Hetzler **rhetzler@mcdph.org** 207-622-7566 ext. 226.

Northeast Telehealth Resource Center awarded federal funds to combat COVID-19



technical assistance and resources for telehealth implementation, with the NETRC team responding to an increase of more than 830%.

On April 22, the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) awarded more than \$11.5 million from the CARES Act to the 14 Telehealth Resource Centers (TRCs) to provide support as they combat COVID-19. Since the onset of the pandemic, the TRCs have seen a massive increase in the volume of health systems and providers needing

With these new funds, the NETRC will be able to increase its capacity to provide hands-on technical support across the eight state region, in areas such as technology assessment and selection, payment policy and reimbursement, legal and regulatory considerations, telehealth workflow design and implementation, training and education for healthcare providers and students, and strategic planning for future integration of telehealth services.

MCD and the NETRC are proud to be a part of nationwide efforts to support our health systems and workforce in using telehealth to battle COVID-19, and to maintain access to care during these challenging times. **[Click here](#)** to learn more.

More on MCD's COVID-19 Work

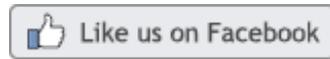
MCD's mission has never been more critical than during the current COVID-19 pandemic. We are deeply concerned about the threat the coronavirus poses to the health and well-being of the global community, to the people we serve as well as to our staff, our partners, and their families and friends. The COVID-19 pandemic stands as a stark reminder of the need for universally accessible public health services capable of effectively preventing, containing and ultimately mitigating the global impact of

infectious diseases, including emerging zoonotic diseases, in a timely and impactful way.

Visit MCD to learn more about our COVID-19 work.



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