

2/16/2024

Dear Lake County,

Do you know what a Community Health Worker (CHW) is or what their role is in our community? CHWs are frontline health workers and trusted community resources. They facilitate access to services and improve service delivery quality and cultural competency. Services CHWs provide include outreach, housing navigation, enhanced care management, nutrition education, advocacy, translation/interpreting, health care navigation, social support, informal counseling, tracking progress, etc. These CHWs usually share ethnicity, language, socioeconomic status and experiences with the community members they serve. Hope Rising is working to ensure all agencies around the lake understand the value of a CHW, train and recruit more CHWs, and build a collaborative network to be utilized by all.

Where are some of the places CHWs work in Lake County?

- Adventist Health Clear Lake
- Hospice Services of Lake County
- Lake County Tribal Health Consortium
- North Coast Opportunities
- etc...

"The CHWs for Adventist Health Clear Lake have changed the lives of our community's most vulnerable patients. CHWs have been introduced into the Adventist Health Care system to serve as a bridge between health care and social determinants of health. Our CHWs are flexible, open-minded, knowledgeable, not afraid, resourceful, dedicated, passionate, empathetic, have lived experience and are advocates. We live, eat, play, shop and worship in our communities and this allows CHWs to secure, preserve and develop trust with patients making CHWs trusted change agents."-Angela Kester, Community Health Worker Coordinator

Sincerely,

The Hope Rising team

HOPE RISING LAKE COUNTY

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