WARWICK AREA FARMWORKER ORGANIZATION
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER PROGRAM

Warwick Area Farmworker Organization has enlisted community members in the role of Community Health Workers (CHWs) for over 30 years. The Community Health Workers are recruited and trained to deliver important topics on health through small educational sessions to the community. Access to medical services will be a major function of the CHWs with linkages to Sun River Health.

What is a Community Health Worker? Definition from the American Public Health Association Definition of CHW: A Community Health Worker is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to facilitate access to services and improve the quality of life. A Community Health Worker also builds individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support and advocacy.

WAFO Community Health Workers:

• Serve as a care partner, helping the community members navigate the health care system, including getting appointments
• Provide health education
• Connect community members with community resources

What Are the benefits of working with CHWS? Community Health Workers can improve health outcomes, reduce disparities, and save money by helping people navigate the health care system, find resources and live healthier lives. They are able to explain complex medical information in a simple way so that community members can improve their health behavior.

Trainings offered to the WAFO Community Health Workers:

• National Council for Well-Being: Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
• MHP-Comprehensive Core Competencies of Community Health Workers
• Agricultural Safety for Adults and Children
• Prenatal Care and Healthcare during Childhood and Women's Health Care
• Self- Management of Chronic Disease including Diabetes

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