

# COMMUNITY HEALTH WORK

## What do you do?

- **Regional Definition** coined by St Louis CHW Coalition ([STL CHWCo](http://STLCHWCo.com) | [stlchwcoalition.org](http://stlchwcoalition.org)): Trusted and reflective system intermediaries who work across sectors to build self-sufficiency within a client, patient, or neighbor through activities such as advocacy, outreach, and addressing social needs.
- **American Public Health Association definition:** A community health worker 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.

## Overall education:

Prerequisite	
Classroom Instruction	16-20 weeks
Service Learning	60+ hours completed independently within the community
Online Coursework	10+ hours completion of online coursework weekly
<b>CHW Certification (CHW)</b>	
Statewide Application	Application submitted to Missouri Credentialing Board to receive statewide credential.
<b>CHW Statewide Credential (CHW-C)</b>	
Continued Education Units	CHW-C's must submit 20 contact hours of education; 6 of those hours must be Ethics.
<b>Renew CHW Statewide Credential (CHW-C)</b>	

## What people do after school?

- Work in a variety of settings including regionally, within the state and across the nation:
  - Grassroot Organizations
  - Health
  - Justice
  - Education
  - In Community
  - Policy and Activism

## 3 main things that profession does:

In the context of their role in treating diabetes, their key functions with patients are:

- Patient Education
- Diet Intervention
- Physical Activity Encouragement
- Wellness Coaching
- Social Support to improve diabetes testing and monitoring.
- Medication adherence & Weight management

## Profession's National Association

- National Association of Community Health Workers (NACHW)  
<https://nachw.org/>
- American Public Health Association (APHA) CHW Member Section:  
<https://www.apha.org/apha-communities/member-sections/community-health-workers>