

Community Health Worker Certification in Ohio

Key Facts from the 2018 Ohio Community Health Worker (CHW) Statewide Assessment



Certification Requires:

- 100 classroom hours
- 130 clinical experience hours
- 15 contact hours of continuing education
- Renewal of certification every other year
- Ohio laws for CHW certification are outlined in the Ohio Revised Code and regulated by the Ohio Board of Nursing
- Certification in Ohio has existed since 2005*

* It is **not** mandatory to hold a CHW certification in Ohio

84% of Certified CHWs were certified in the past three years

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Of the 252 CHWs whose certifications have lapsed since the first renewal, **more than half** had their certification lapse in 2017 alone

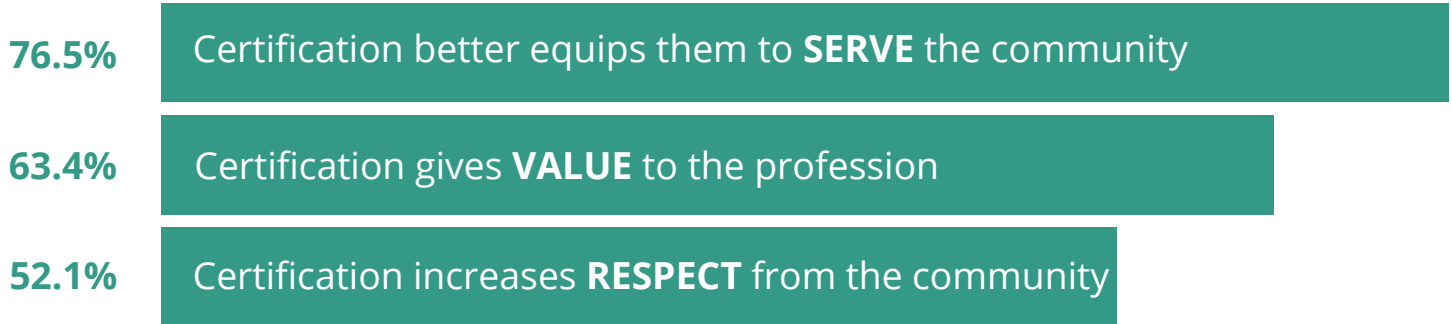
Reasons cited for lapsed certifications include:

- Did not know how to renew
- Did not know that they needed to renew
- Did not have enough continuing education credits
- Did not plan on being a CHW long-term

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8% of certified CHWs are **uncertain** if they will renew or do **not** plan to renew their certifications in 2019

TOP 3 ATTITUDES OF CERTIFIED & NON-CERTIFIED CHWs TOWARDS CERTIFICATION



BARRIERS TO CERTIFICATION

Examples of barriers to obtain CHW certification reported from key informant interviews, focus groups, and surveys include:



- Training programs are too long



- Training programs are too costly
- Not enough affordable continuing education opportunities
- Certification does not make a difference in terms of pay



- Location of training programs are not accessible for all CHWs
- Not enough accessible continuing education opportunities



- The process of certification renewal is not clear enough
- Some CHWs in Ohio are not even aware that certification exists



- Background checks prohibit some CHWs from ever getting certified