



# Successful Strategies of the Puzzle

**APHA 2007**

**New Minnesota Legislation, Sustaining the  
role of Community Health Workers**



## What is a Community Health Worker?

*CHWs come from the communities they serve and bridge the gap between cultures and the health care system*

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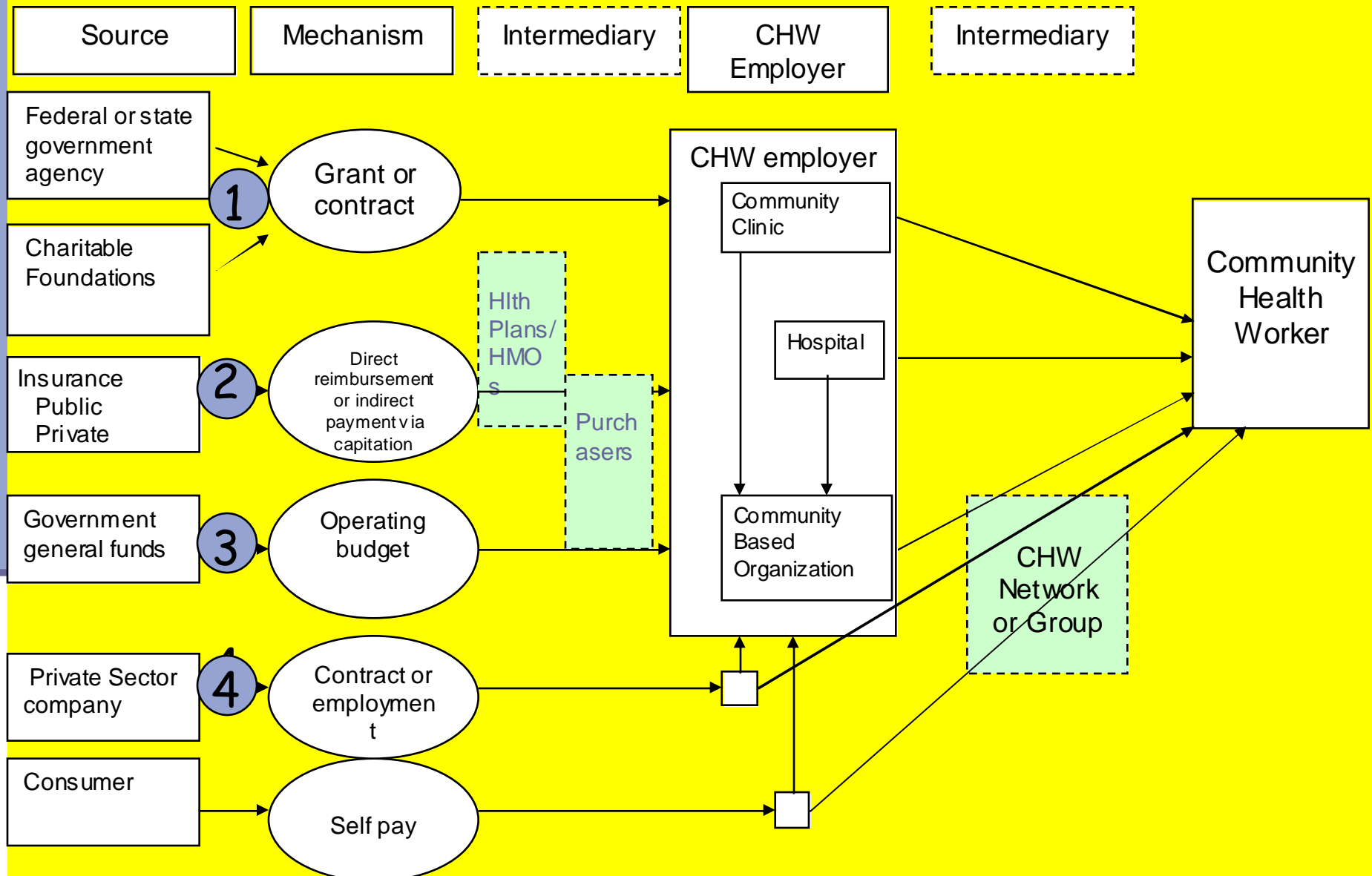
# What is a Community Health Worker (CHW)?

- CHWs are from the communities they serve;
- Help build trust around health at the grassroots level;
- Link community members to information and resources;
- Provide direct services;
- Promote wellness by providing culturally appropriate health information to clients and providers;
  - Health promotion and disease prevention
  - Assist client's in managing their chronic illness
- Help bridge the gap between cultures and the health care system;
- Help clients navigate the health care system and other community services to overcome access barriers.

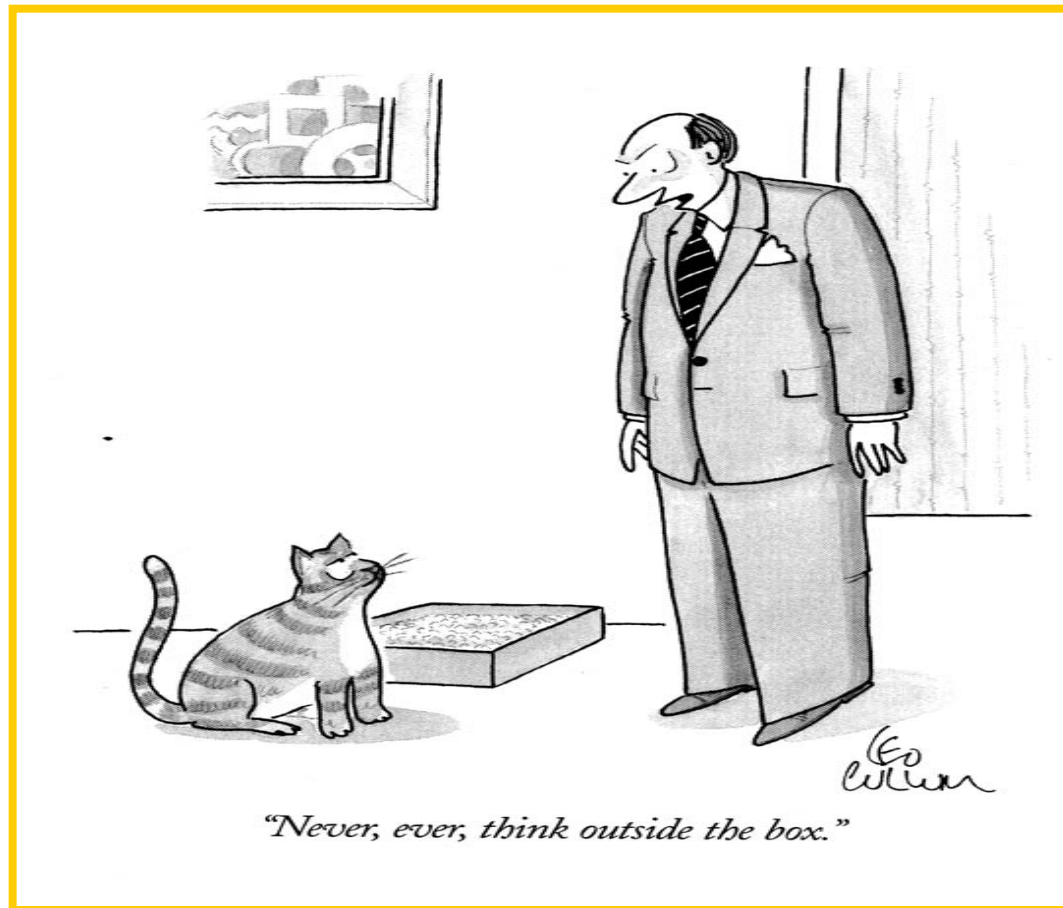
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# CHW Potential Funding Flow Chart



# Innovative Policy Strategy



# Where Are The Jobs?



# Different Job Titles

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- Community Health Worker
- Community Health Representatives
- Promotoras
- Outreach Worker
- Family Resource Worker
- Community Health Specialist
- Health Advocate or Patient Advocate
- Community Advocate
- Peer Health Promoters
- Deaf Community Health Worker



# Assessment, Evaluation and Tool Development



Fact Sheets  
Power Point  
Presentation



Role Description  
curriculum



Video  
Posters



List of  
Employers  
Legislation



Job  
Descriptions

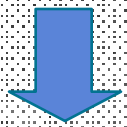


Workforce  
Analysis

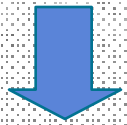


**The Research:**  
***Impact of Community  
Health Worker Visits***

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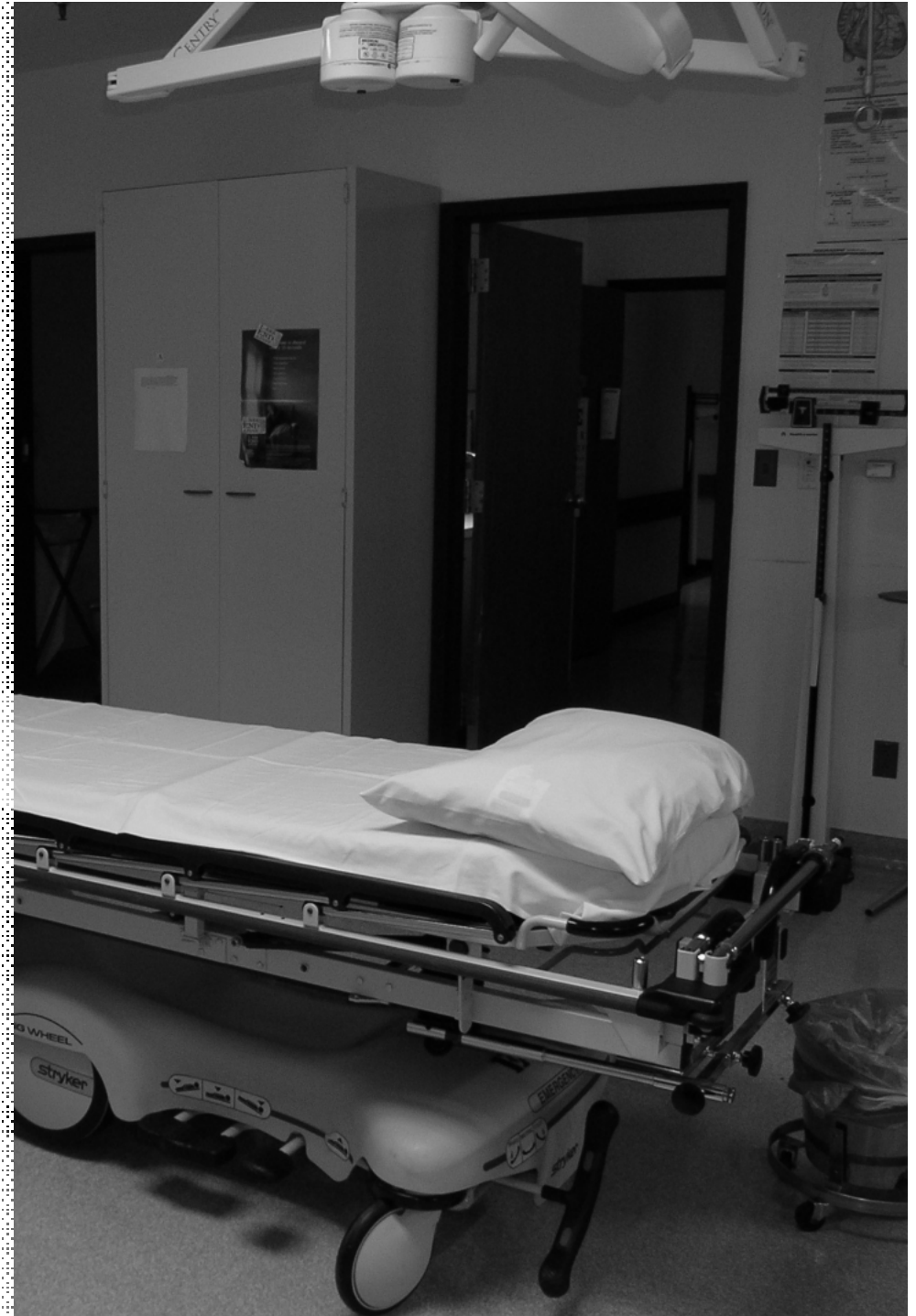
**Emergency  
visits**



**Emergency  
admissions**



**Medicaid  
reimbursements**



# Partnership



# Minnesota CHWs reduce health costs, and improve patient care.

## Examples & Stories

### CHWs



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# Minnesota Legislation 2007

- Community health worker. (a) Medical assistance covers the care coordination and patient education services provided by a community health worker if the community health worker has:
  - (1) received a certificate from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System approved community health worker curriculum; or
  - (2) at least five years of supervised experience with an enrolled physician, registered nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse.Community health workers eligible for payment under clause (2) must complete the certification program by January 1, 2010, to continue to be eligible for payment (b) Community health workers must work under the supervision of a medical assistance enrolled physician, registered nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse.



**Health-e-Access  
University of Rochester Medical Center**

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# What CHW Legislation Means for MN and the rest of the Nation.

- Medicaid, GMAC and MN Care
- Certification vs. Standardized Training and Curriculum
- Federal Approval from CMS
- Next Steps
  - Research
  - Tracking
  - Medicare
  - Non-DHS Organizations





**Thank you**  
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