

# Community Health Worker Training

Behavioral Health Focus, April 2024

This accelerated job training prepares individuals to practice the Missouri core competencies for Community Health Workers (CHWs) and work as behavioral health focused CHWs within healthcare and social service organizations. CHWs are trusted members of the community who assist individuals and communities in adopting healthy behaviors through service coordination, advocacy, and capacity-building strategies. Program graduates will be eligible to apply for the Community Health Worker credential through the Missouri Credentialing Board.



## Program Highlights:

The behavioral health-focused CHW program combines classroom instruction with community-based service-learning. Classroom instruction covers topics such as the role of community health workers, public health, health equality, cultural humility, mental health, trauma, substance abuse, violence prevention, crisis intervention, health outreach, client-centered counseling, care management, and home visits.

Service-learning allows students to apply classroom concepts and practice the Missouri CHW core competencies in a behavioral health capacity within the communities they will be serving. Students design their service-learning experiences based on their interests, community, and personal learning plan. Service-learning experiences include resource gathering, networking, outreach, and workplace learning.

- MO CHW Core Competencies ...
  - Professionalism and conduct
  - Self-awareness
  - Service coordination and system navigation
  - Education to promote healthy behavior change
  - Advocacy
  - Individual and community capacity building
  - Effective communications strategies
  - Cultural responsiveness
  - Documentation and reporting
  - Use of public health/community health concepts and approaches
  - Individual assessment
  - Community assessment

## Tuition:

Tuition, learning materials, and supplies are provided by the Health Resources & Service Administration Behavioral Health Workforce Education & Training (HRSA-BHWET) grant.

## Training Schedule:

**April 9, 2024-Aug. 22, 2024**

### Classroom

- Tuesday and Thursday from 6-9 p.m.
- Live virtual classroom instruction in Zoom.
- Mandatory in-person orientations on April 9 and April 11 at [STLCC-Forest Park](#).

### Service Learning

- 60+ hours with a behavioral health focus completed independently within the community.

### Online Coursework

- In addition to classroom and service-learning hours, students should expect to spend 10+ hours completing online coursework weekly.

## Current Eligibility:

Enrollment for the CHW program is highly selective and seats fill quickly. To be considered, candidates must:

- Be at least 18 years old and have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Submit an application, resume, and cover letter and be selected to interview.
- Demonstrate academic and career readiness.
- Demonstrate a passion for serving the community.
- Be employed, or commit to being employed, within the behavioral health workforce.

## How to Get Started:

1. Apply online at [stlcc.edu/CHW](https://stlcc.edu/CHW). The application deadline is March 10 or when seats fill.
2. Submit a tailored resume and cover letter documenting your experience and passion for community health, as well as your experience and interests in the behavioral health workforce.
3. Candidates will be notified by March 24 if they have been selected to interview.

*This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1,213,026 with 0% financed with non-federal funds. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).*

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