

## **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS and SAVE THE DATE**

**Community-Engaged Approaches to Addressing Mental Health and Other Non-Communicable Diseases**  
**The Community-Based Primary Health Care (CBPHC) Working Group of the International Health Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA) presents a VIRTUAL workshop. This is just before the APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, USA**

**Date: Thursday, November 9, 2023**

**10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

### **Summary**

The CBPHC Working Group is excited to announce an opportunity for community health workers (CHWs) and students at all levels, to submit abstracts for presentation at the CBPHC Pre-Conference Workshop. Past workshops have focused on the CBPHC Working group's goal of increasing knowledge about practices and policies that support domestic and international primary health care at the community level. The topic this year is mental health and other non-communicable diseases.

### **Workshop Overview**

Global health used to be dominated by infectious disease – its prevention and treatment. Infectious diseases and epidemics have continued but more recently, chronic disease, non-communicable diseases, and mental health – their identification, treatment, and prevention – have become increasingly important. Different countries and regions are in different stages in this cycle – some still mostly focused on infections, others more concerned with non-communicable diseases and mental health. These are not rigid divisions, but shift with time and locations and conditions.

### **Workshop Objectives**

1. Identify important skills and resources for communities increasingly trying to identify and treat non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health conditions.
2. Present an opportunity for individuals from different countries and regions to exchange lessons learned – successful and not – for expanding or changing available services, working with interdisciplinary teams and varying resources, finances, and training.
3. Provide an opportunity to showcase projects and research related to community-based strategies to address NCDs and mental health, while allowing for discussion on how to bring services to scale.

### **Abstract Focus**

The CBPHC Pre-Conference Workshop will explore the current status, challenges and opportunities to improve community mental health and other non-communicable diseases and disorders. What coalitions, collaborations and partnerships have been effective in supporting community efforts? How can CHWs and healthcare providers, program planners, policy-makers, advocates, donors, civil society, NGOs, universities, ministries of health, agriculture, education, and the military partner to improve health? Which advocacy methods are the most useful for creating effective change policies to improve community health?

This participatory and interactive workshop will bring together a diverse group of national and international experts. Abstracts that reflect this focus will be invited to give a lightning presentation—5 minute talk with 5 minutes for questions/answers.

### **Abstract Composition Guidelines**

Abstracts should illustrate efforts to achieve intentional collaboration in a CBPHC setting despite typical or unexpected challenges, or should be examples of effective practices. They may be case studies or research focused. The ideal abstract would include information that other workshop participants could use in their own settings.

Abstracts should include:

The question or problem being addressed

Methods

Results and evaluation

Conclusion and discussion

Future considerations including scaling up and sustainability

A case study still should include a problem or question, how the problem was identified and approached, results and evaluation of that action, discussion, and future considerations, including scaling up and sustainability.

The abstracts will be evaluated and selected based on cohesion with the workshop topic, proper format, relevancy of the problem being addressed, reasonable methods, appropriate conclusions, discussion of significance, and future considerations.

Word count-300 words, not including the title.

**Submit your abstracts to Sandy Hoar (hoar@gwu.edu) no later than October 31, 2023.**

If submitting an abstract, please save the date, **November 9, 2023.**

Please keep in mind that submitting an abstract does not guarantee its inclusion in the workshop. All presenters will need to register for the workshop.

Membership in APHA, CBPHC, and attendance at the full APHA conference is encouraged but not required to present or attend the workshop.

You must register for the CBPHC Pre-Conference Workshop in order to present. You can do so by logging into APHA or creating an account before being directed to the registration form:

<https://secure.apha.org/IMIS/AnnualMeeting>. Once you log-in with your account information, click on "LI, Pre-Meeting, Optional Events and Merchandise" on the panel on the left side of your screen. Scroll down to and click on "I would like to register for Pre-Meeting Events." Click the checkbox next to "International Health Workshop: Community-Engaged Approaches to Addressing Mental Health and Other Non-Communicable Diseases (Digital)" and then click "Next" at the bottom of your screen. Finally, click "Save/Checkout" at the bottom of the next screen.

Please send an email to Sandy Hoar, hoar@gwu.edu if you are interested in possibly submitting an abstract, to receive updates, or for any questions.