
42 U.S. Code § 280g-11

Awards to support community health workers and community health

(a) In general

The Secretary shall award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to eligible entities to promote positive health behaviors and outcomes for populations in medically underserved communities by leveraging community health workers, including by addressing ongoing and longer-term community health needs, and by building the capacity of the community health worker workforce. Such grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements shall be awarded in alignment and coordination with existing funding arrangements supporting community health workers.

(b) Use of funds

Subject to any requirements for the scope of licensure, registration, or certification of a community health worker under applicable State law, grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements awarded under subsection (a) shall be used to—

- (1) recruit, hire, train, and retain community health workers that reflect the needs of the community;
- (2) support community health workers in providing education and outreach, in a community setting, regarding—

(A) health conditions prevalent in—

- (i) medically underserved communities (as defined in section 295p of this title), particularly racial and ethnic minority populations; and
- (ii) other such at-risk populations or geographic areas that may require additional support during public health emergencies, which may include counties identified by the Secretary using applicable measures developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or other Federal agencies; and

(B) addressing health disparities, including by—

- (i) promoting awareness of services and resources to increase access to health care, mental health and substance use disorder services, child services, technology, housing services, educational services, nutrition services, employment services, and other services; and
- (ii) assisting in conducting individual and community needs assessments;

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