

MXC Community Health Worker (CHW) Program

Opioid-Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP) Focus

Background

The Community Health Worker (CHW) program at Malcolm X College focuses on competencies essential for primary and preventive healthcare. Using the foundation of the existing CHW program, Malcolm X College introduces a specialized focus on the opioid crisis, substance abuse, and mental health with a spotlight on supporting youth and families.

The Opioid-Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP) prepares students with entry-level knowledge, skills, and expertise to provide services to youth and families impacted by opioid use disorders (OUD), other substance use disorders (SUD), and mental health diagnoses.



Malcolm X College is now offering an additional opportunity for students to become a Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) or Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS). This optional program will provide students with lived experience opportunity to gain a credential in recovery support.

Opportunities for Partners

We're looking for organizations to partner with us in two ways.

Field Experience

Become one of our partners, providing students the opportunity to grow their skills through hands-on real-world experience.

- Completed in one semester (12-14 weeks)
- 80-hour hands-on-opportunity
- Mentorship and skills enhancement
- Meaningful projects
- Guided by core competencies
- Supported by MXC Fieldwork Coordinators

How Field Experience Partnership Works

1. Meet with Malcolm X College staff to discuss the program
2. Set mutual expectations for the field experience
3. Initiate affiliation agreement
4. Students are placed with your organization

Apprenticeship

Add CHWs to your team by adopting the apprenticeship model, including competency building and mentorship.

- One-year commitment (minimum)
- Offer full-time or part-time paid job
- 2,000 hours of structured on the job training
- 144 hours of related technical instruction (MXC CHW Program)
- Driven by CHW core competencies
- Provide mentorship and professional development
- One pay increase at competency milestone
- Potential for full time employment afterward

How an Apprenticeship Partnership Works

1. Meet with Malcolm X College staff to discuss the program
2. Define apprenticeship pathway
3. Initiate affiliation and DOL agreements
4. Hire MXC CHW graduates

The Department of Labor (DOL) provides additional benefits to organizations who employ registered apprentices.

- Employer can receive tax credit starting at \$3500 per apprentice, with an additional \$1500 per apprentice who resides in an underserved neighborhood
- Apprentice receives a national, industry-recognized credential
- Federal resources, recruitment incentives, and technical assistance available

City Colleges of Chicago offers DOL navigation and application support.