From:
 Valencia, Kaitland

 To:
 Lopez, Stephanie, DOH

 Cc:
 Westgate, Liam

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Submitting comments

Date: Friday, April 25, 2025 9:57:28 AM

Attachments: image001.png

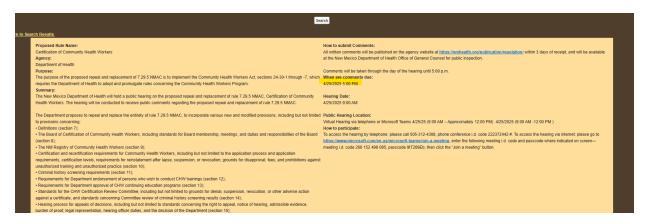
image002.png image003.png

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Hi Stephanie,

I am sending these written comments in hopes that they will be published as the sunshine portal website alludes to comments being taken until 5PM today.



- Adjacent to the certification requirements, our organization has also recognized that these barriers especially for peers in recovery and individuals
  with a past history of interaction with carceral systems face compounding barriers with both the certification process and then the additional
  scrutiny that CHWs may go through with the credentialing process with insurance. In general, we would hope to remove barriers to promote
  access to opportunities for CHWs and related workforce development.
- Put together, we like many organizations would hope that there would not be unintended disincentives and barriers created for individuals to pursue CHW opportunities.
- We worry that an additional \$85 dollar cost to application fees will be detrimental in the volume of recertifications you will receive for our CHW
  workforce, especially because these roles do not get paid nearly enough as they should. This also puts pressure on organization who may not be
  able to afford reimbursing these fees due to budget cuts and restraints with these higher costs.

Kindly,

Kaitland Valencia, MS, CCHW

Manager of Operations, Community & Clinical Linkages

Community Health

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Please Note: I do not expect a response from you outside of your normal working hours, while you're on PTO, evenings, or weekends.

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Paths to Health NM: Addressing barriers and supporting community health





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