WAYNE STATE
CHECK-UP
Center for Health Equity and Community
Knowledge in Urban Populations

Report:

Community Health Worker Career Pathways: *Opportunities for Community-Based Organizations*

October 4, 2023

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Hybrid

Overview

Community health workers (CHW) are positioned in a unique role as liaisons between the community they serve and health care systems. With Medicaid reimbursement available for CHW services starting in October 2023, community-based organizations have an opportunity to utilize CHWs within their clientele. This panel-led discussion brings together experts in the CHW space to discuss the future of CHW employment opportunities.

The recording of this session can be viewed at https://youtu.be/YqDqHr3pwBA

Agenda

6:00 PM	Dinner & Networking	All
6:30 PM	Welcome	Hayley S. Thompson, PhD
6:35 PM	Panelist Introductions Shannon Lijewski Gary Ringer Adrienne Bulger	Lisa Braddix, MPH
6:40 PM	Panel Discussion	Moderated by: Lisa Braddix, MPH
7:40 PM	Question & Answer	All
7:55 PM	Wrap-Up & Evaluation	Alex Sass, MSW
8:00 PM	End	

Panelists

Shannon Lijewski,
Everyday Life Consulting

Gary Ringer,
Eco-Environmental Solutions

Adrienne Bulger,
HOPE Village Revitalization

Registration:

Total Registered: 74
Total Attendees: 41
Participation Rate: 55%

Attendee Background

Demographic information was only available for 32 of 41 attendees.

Job/Work Role	Total Attendees
Wayne State University Faculty	2
Wayne State University Staff	1
Community Member/Resident	7
Community-based Health Care Professional	3
Community Organization Leader or Representative	9
Other University Faculty or Staff	1
Student	4
Other	5

Community organization leaders or representatives who attended work for the following:

- Bailey Park Neighborhood Development Corporation
- Detroit Parent Network
- JUST Transitions Team- MI
- St. Patrick Senior Center
- Health Centers Detroit
- Americorps/Volunteers of America Texas
- Perinatal Health Equity Initiative
- Detroit Community Care Network

And, they hold the following roles/titles at these organizations:

- Director of Programming
- Healthy Family Navigator
- Executive Director, Health Education
- Education Coordinator
- Community Health Worker
- President
- Wellness Clinic Manager
- Program Manager
- Executive Director
- Managing Director

WSU faculty and staff represented these departments:

- School of Medicine- Pediatrics
- College of Education
- Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences

Community-engaged research is the process of working collaboratively with groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interests, or similar situations with respect to issues affecting their well-being and meaningfully involving those groups affected by a research finding in the research process (CDC (1997); Staniszewski et al. (2014).

How much experience have you had with community-engaged research?
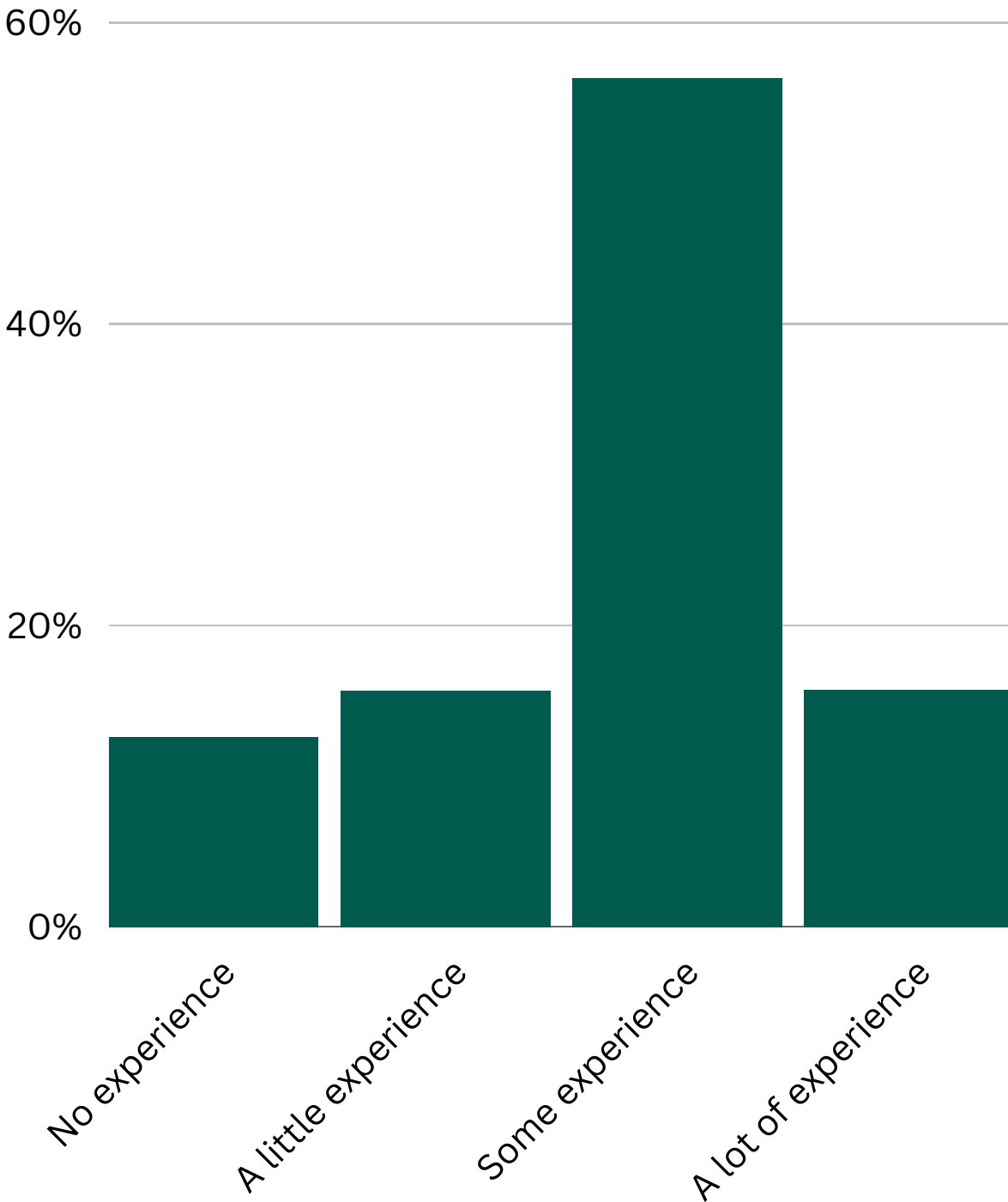
What is your level of interest in community-engaged research?
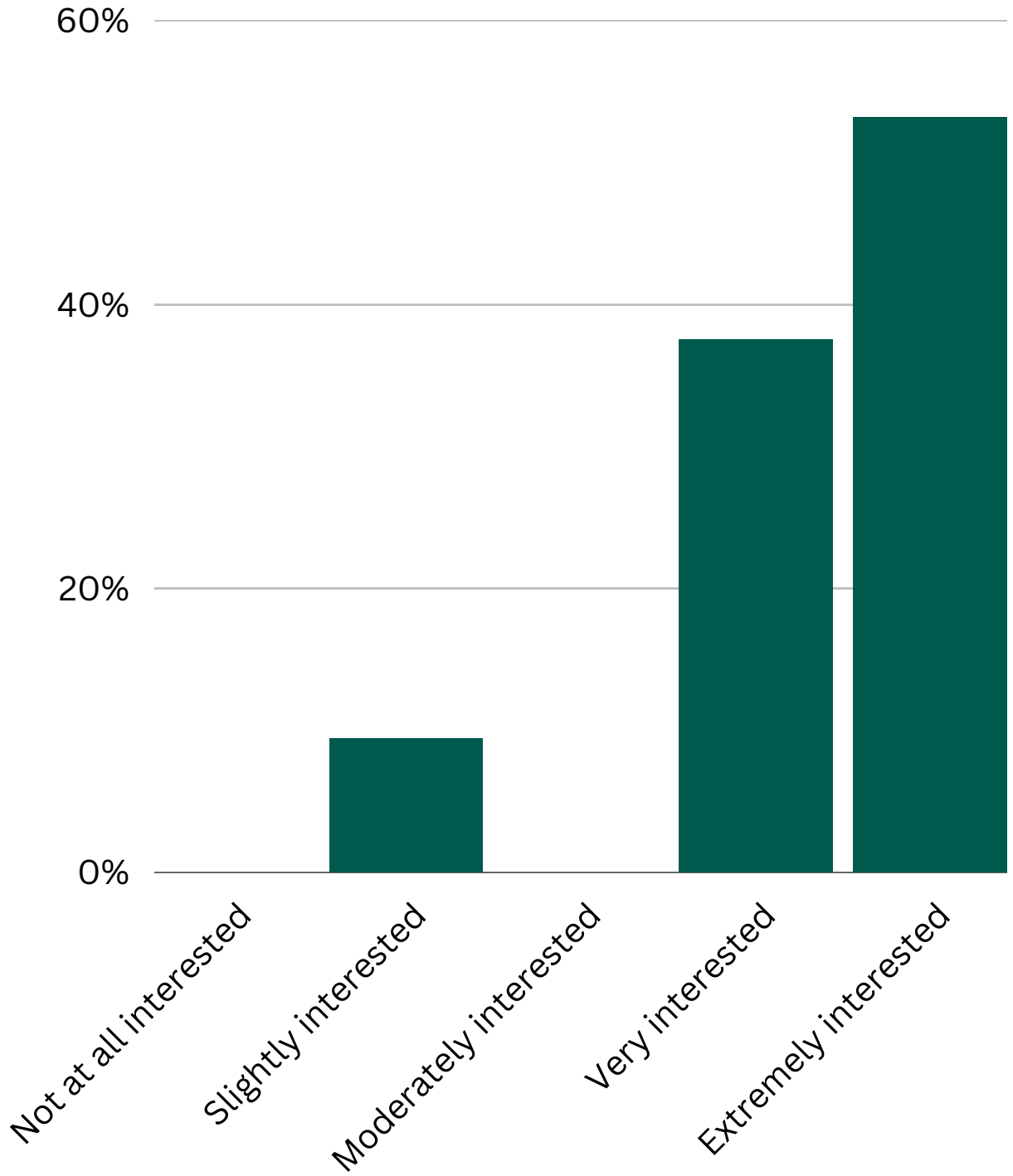
Attendee research interests:

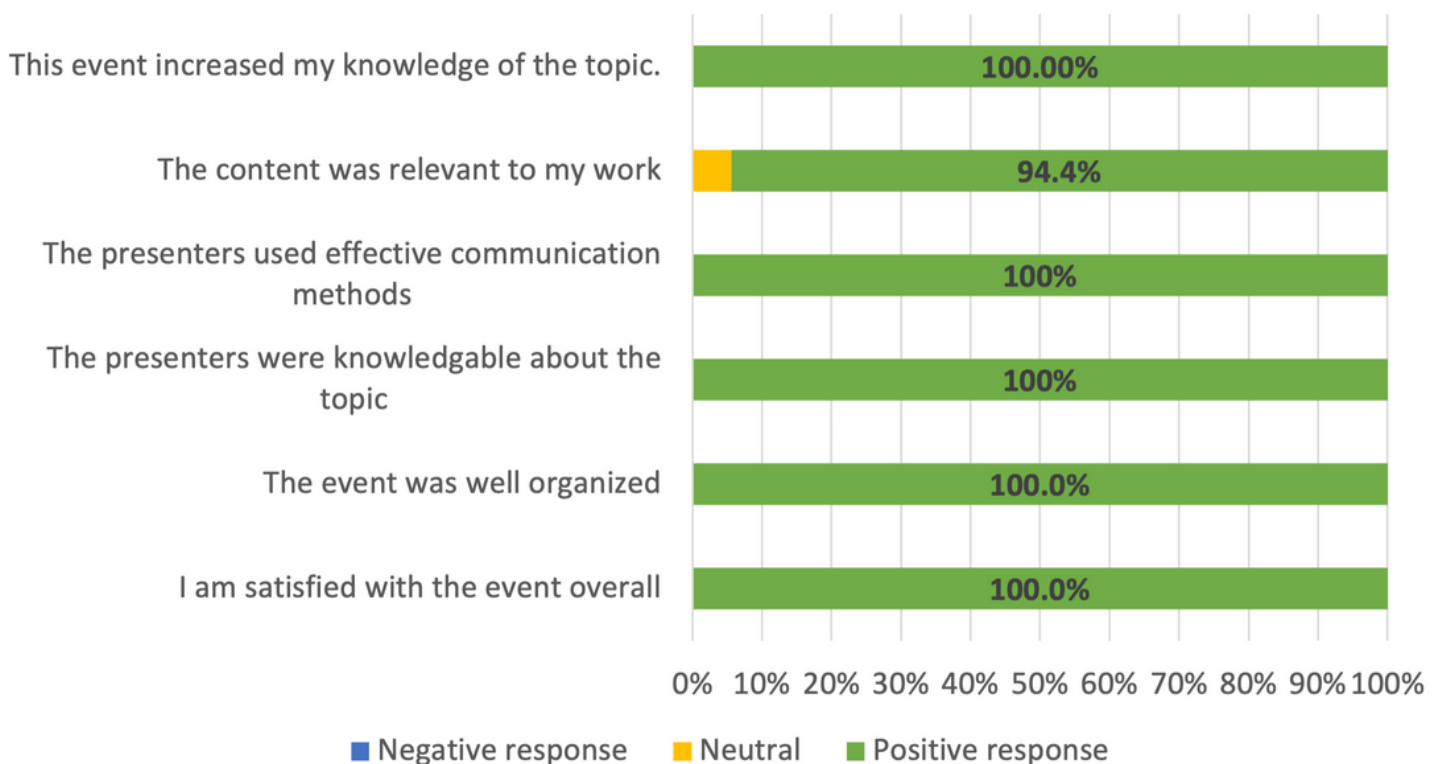| Research Interests	Total Attendees
Health Disparities	24
Social Determinants of Health	24
Community Engagement	23
Public Health	20
Black Health	19
Women's Health	16
Chronic Disease	13
Behavioral Health	12
Environmental Health	12
Physical Activity & Nutrition	11
Middle Eastern/North African (MENA) Health	7
Refugee Health	7
Basic Science	6
Cancer	6
Immigrant Health	6
Children's Health	5
LGBTQ Health	4
Rural Health	4
Other	3
HIV and AIDS	1

Evaluation:

18 attendees completed the evaluation.

Which best describes you? (mark all that apply)

Community organization leader or representative	8
Community member/resident	7
Community-based healthcare professional	4
Other	3
Student	2
Other university faculty/staff	1
WSU Faculty	1
WSU Staff	1

Based on my experience attending today's event...

Statement	Positive response
This event increased my knowledge of the topic.	100.00%
The content was relevant to my work	94.4%
The presenters used effective communication methods	100%
The presenters were knowledgable about the topic	100%
The event was well organized	100.0%
I am satisfied with the event overall	100.0%

■ Negative response   ■ Neutral   ■ Positive response

9

Topics of Interest for Future Events

Topic	Value
Grant opportunities & strategies for securing funding for CEnR	9
Community perspectives on engaging research	6
Action, advocacy & translating findings for public good	6
Variations in CEnR: Case examples & lessons from the field	6
Partnership resources, tools & evaluation	5
Public communication: Dissemination & reporting results from CEnR	4
Ethics & challenges in CEnR	3
Overcoming barriers for conducting CEnR	3
Academic communication: Scholarship support & publishing in CEnR	3
Tenure & promotion matters in conducting CEnR	1
History & foundations of CEnR	1

How will you use the information you learned at today's event?

"I will use the knowledge to enhance my work here in Dallas, TX."

"I will make sure to keep this information in my mind to possibly become a community health worker some day!"

"To register for training and share with others in my community. "

"I am strongly considering involving CHWs in my research work."

"I will start by investigating how the work done by my organization is aligned with the roles of the CHW. I will encourage appropriate personnel to seek CHW certification."

"To support our advocacy efforts in Pennsylvania. I am a member of The PA CHW Collaborative. We hope to have our state plan amendment in place January 2025."

"Create a development plan for CHW career."

"Look at being a participating program."

10

How can CHECK-UP support community engagement with research at WSU?

"Continue to have sessions that inform people."

"Help to make the hiring of CHWs for research projects a smooth process; Strongly advocate for using CHWs in research."

"Allow community members to lead, "credit", and pay them for their contributions."

"Consider developing several short Public Service Announcements on the benefits for local Network T V."

What specific challenges need to be addressed to foster and improve community-engagement with research at Wayne State University?

"Getting more faculty members involved. Going the the School of Medicine and talking to different departments."

"Knowing you are there for us to engage with research at WSU"

"Publicize results in the community as actively as you recruit participants."

"The endless research and studies are futile. We know the issues. We're aware of the inequities. Research what "doing the work" looks like."

"Building trust, providing ample information and consistent trauma informed care."

"Clarify all Medical/Research Acronyms and Jargon across all communitcations"

"Orgs/ Agencies representatives to the table (panels, virtual, in-person presentations)"