August 30, 2016

Senator Andy Biggs  
Senate President  
Arizona State Senate

Representative David Gowan  
Speaker of the House  
Arizona House of Representatives

1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear President Biggs & Speaker Gowan,

Pursuant to section 32-3105, Arizona Revised Statutes, the Arizona Community Health Worker Association (AzCHOW) hereby submits the attached report requesting voluntary certification and standardization of practice for the profession of Community Health Workers (CHWs).

This proposal would request a modification to these statutes to:

- Establish voluntary certification among CHWs to allow for increased protection of patients and community members working with CHWs in their home or health care environments.
- Implement a CHW certification board to review training program curricula that target CHW Core Competencies and encourage a uniformly educated CHW workforce. Certification will help to more adequately inform community members and healthcare employers of CHWs profession status and skill set.

The proposed report is not requesting licensure of CHWs as the scope of practice for CHWs does not warrant a licensing process. The Arizona Community Health Worker Association is continuing to collaborate with community and state health insurance stakeholders on this proposal with the intention of addressing questions, issues, and/or concerns prior to the introduction of legislation. We respectfully request a favorable review of this application.

Sincerely,

Floribella Redondo,  
President  
Arizona Community Health Workers Association