

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

 $August\ 2020$

as

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER APPRECIATION MONTH

WHEREAS, we recognize reaching at-risk, under resourced, or underserved communities is vital to improving the health of our state's most vulnerable populations; and,

WHEREAS, community health workers impact the health of urban and rural communities by building trusting relationships with residents and connecting residents to needed health and human service systems; and,

WHEREAS, more than 600 community health workers who go by dozens of titles serve Michigan residents, helping prevent and manage chronic conditions, develop healthier lifestyles, improve maternal and child health, increase rates of preventive screenings, and improve access to and use of health care and social services through outreach, enrollment, and patient education; and,

WHEREAS, during this month, we honor and thank community health workers who create bridges between health and human service providers and community members, which has proven particularly vital during the current COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan has faced a uniquely difficult time, and, in the face of a pandemic, community health workers have risen to the challenge to protect Michigan residents and slow the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, we join with our 37 community partners and more than 900 participants to encourage state officials, Michigan communities, and health and human service delivery agencies to participate with the Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance and its partners to honor and recognize the vital impact Community Health Workers have in Michigan and the role they play as a professional workforce in the delivery of health and social services among populations in need;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim August 2020 as Community Health Worker Appreciation Month in Michigan.

Gretchen Whitmer

Governor

