



**Committee:** Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment

**Bill Number:** House Bill 65 – Community Health Worker Appreciation Day

**Hearing Date:** April 2, 2025

**Position:** Support

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The Coordinating Center supports *HB 65 – Community Health Worker Appreciation Day*. This bill requires the Governor to declare May 8<sup>th</sup> as Community Health Worker Appreciation Day.

Our organization provides care coordination services to nearly 10,000 Marylanders annually to individuals enrolled Maryland Medicaid programs, including home and community-based service waivers and other programs such as the Rare and Expensive Case Management (REM) program. Our goal is to support our clients in living as independently as possible within their own communities. Community Health Workers also connect community members to services that help them live independently in the community. We know from experience that this connection helps improve lives, and research shows that it also saves money<sup>i</sup>. Highlighting the value of community health workers in this way would be a worthwhile teaching opportunity.

If we can provide any additional information that is helpful, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).

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<sup>i</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12723008/>