



# ALIANZA PODER

A NETWORK OF SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

Date: March 21, 2023

To: Chair Senator Deb Patterson, Vice-Chair Senator Cedric Hayden, members of the Senate Committee on Health Care

From: Joanne Mina  
Alianza Poder Network Coordinator  
356 Young St, Woodburn, OR 97071

RE: Letter of Support for SB 1074

Dear members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

We, the directors of Alianza Poder write on behalf of the Alianza Poder Network to express our wholehearted support for SB 1074 which creates a billing pathway for Community Health Workers (CHW) who work with underserved communities. Alianza Poder knows first hand that CHW's work has a far-reaching impact on the Social Determinants of Health.

Alianza Poder is a collaborative of sister organizations, hosted and coordinated by the CAPACES Leadership Institute (CLI), which are serving, organizing, and building the leadership of our comunidades Latinas, Indigenas, y Afro-descendientes in Oregon to improve the quality of life for all, especially working families. The Alianza Poder Community Health Workers Hub is an emerging program within the Capaces Leadership Institute. The purpose of this program is to serve our local communities in Marion, Polk, and Yamhill counties by improving community health and promoting health equity through a culturally responsive training that is focused primarily on social determinants of health and adverse community environments. The training will be designed to certify local BIPOC CHWs through the Oregon Health Authority. Beyond training for certification, the Alianza Poder Community Health Workers Hub will provide seed money for alliance partners to increase CHWs on their teams. Thereby, increasing the quantity of CHW's in the area, equip trainees with the information, education, and resources on local social determinants of health, and in turn, improve community health and promote health equity in our communities.

Our intention is to achieve these four major outcomes:

- Establish a local training resource that is Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate
- Establish a local Hub for Coordination and Support of Community Health Workers



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- Increase the number of BIPOC-led CBOs employing CHWs in our region
- To have 10 BIPOC CHWs working in BIPOC-led CBOs in our region by 2024

The Coronavirus Pandemic demonstrated the transformative nature of having a strong CHW presence in the community, but we struggle to stabilize services for families in need because there is no State billing pathway for CHW services that are not tied to a diagnosis. The need for CHW services in our communities, outside of clinical settings, is great, especially within traditionally underserved communities. SB 1074 aligns with our values and its approval would greatly support the work and mission of Alianza Poder and Alianza Poder Community Health Workers Hub.

Alianza Poder sister organizations: Pineros y Campesino Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN), Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, Mano a Mano Family Center, Latinos Unidos Siempre, Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos, Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas, Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality, Radio Poder 98.3, EVOLVE Workforce & Multifamily Housing Services and Capaces Leadership Institute urge you to support and vote YES on SB 1074 to improve the Social Determinants of Health and Equity for all Oregonians negatively impacted by our current systems.

Sincerely,

Levi Herrera-Lopez  
Mano a Mano Family Center (MaM)  
Executive Director

Reyna Lopez  
Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste  
(PCUN)  
Executive Director

Maria Elena Guerra  
Farmworker Housing Development  
Corporation (FHDC)  
Executive Director

Ana Gomez  
Evolve Workforce & Multifamily Services  
Operations Manager

Arturo Sarmiento  
Radio Poder 98.3  
Director

Jaime Arredondo  
CAPACES Leadership Institute (CLI)  
Executive Director

Sandra Hernandez - Lomeli  
Latinos Unidos Siempre (LUS)  
Executive Director



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Debbie Cabrales  
Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos  
Executive Director

Rebeca Velasquez  
Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas  
Executive Director

Dunetchka Otero-Serrano  
Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality  
Executive Director

If any questions arise please contact me at:  
[apcomms@capacesleadership.org](mailto:apcomms@capacesleadership.org)

Joanne Mina, Alianza Poder Network  
Coordinator