

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
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Community Health Worker certification in Southwest Nebraska

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) congratulates Joy Trail of McCook and Julia Maddux of Imperial on their completion of the Community Health Worker (CHW) training offered by the State of Nebraska.

Community Health Workers perform the following duties:

- help people understand their health problems in their own language
- help people choose ways to improve their health and find the services they need
- learn skills to assist the healthcare team in the home or in the clinic
- build individual and community capacity by increasing health knowledge and self-sufficiency



Both Trail and Maddux are fluent in English and Spanish, skills which SWNPHD utilizes in translation and interpretation for clients while conducting specific programs. One program works with Spanish-speaking persons to “Know Your Numbers” such as cholesterol, blood pressure and glucose levels. When levels are found out of a normal range, clients are referred to a medical provider. Another program encourages healthy eating and physical activity, and yet a third program encourages routine screening for colon, breast and cervical cancer.

“This training was a great way to improve our work on these programs,” states Joy Trail, CHW and Program Assistant for SWNPHD. “I enjoyed learning about health resources in Nebraska, and gained a lot of insight from the experiences shared by the other students.”

“I like helping people” states Julia Maddux, CHW. “I like seeing people work on healthy behaviors.”

“I am very pleased with Joy and Julia’s accomplishment and their commitment toward providing excellence in our programs,” states Myra Stoney, SWNPHD Director. “Our role is to provide a competent work force. We attain this by investing in our employees.”

SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th Street, McCook – one block north of Arby’s and 501 Broadway, Imperial – entrance on 5th street. Information about public health may be found at the web site www.swhealth.ne.gov or call at 308-345-4223. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.