



## COMMUNITY GRANT OUTCOME REPORT

### HealthWatch Wisconsin

# Improving access to coverage and care in Wisconsin

**HealthWatch Wisconsin improved the competency and capacity of the state's public health workforce, linking the underserved to the needed coverage and services**

► **Description:** ABC for Health, Inc. launched HealthWatch Wisconsin (HWW), a community-academic partnership aimed at transforming the public health system by assuring a more competent and coordinated public health workforce to assist Wisconsin's underserved populations in linking to health care coverage and services.

► **Results:** The project established the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council (HWWC) comprised of a faculty partner and local, regional, and statewide representatives from the public health workforce. This led to the development of local coalitions. Project staff identified barriers to health care coverage and services and developed education and outreach tools to help remedy those problems. Systems set in place serve to help transform the health care landscape by providing web-based, on-demand training and educational materials to



*HealthWatch Wisconsin provides training to the current public health workforce to assist underserved populations in accessing health care coverage and services.*

the public health workforce on access to care and coverage issues. An annual conference was initiated involving key statewide stakeholders with a goal of developing and promoting a training agenda to improve the capacity of the public health workforce for those who need information about health care coverage.

► **The Partnership:** The academic partner served as a member of the Leadership Council and Executive Committee, and continues to be actively involved.

► **Next Steps:** HWW shared elements of this model with Wisconsin legislators, regulators and policy makers, including the Commissioner of Insurance, Department of Health Services, and advocacy organizations. HWW expects to continue to add membership, and is now self-sustaining.

### GRANT FACTS

**Grantee:** Advocacy and Benefits Counseling for Health, Inc.

**Contact:** Bobby Peterson, Executive Director, ABC for Health, [bobbyp@safetyweb.org](mailto:bobbyp@safetyweb.org), 608-261-6939

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**Grant Award:** \$425,399 over three years