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From the Ground Up: Empowering CHWs in Emergency Preparedness and Resilience

Join us for a caffeinated conversation on how to stir Georgia's Community Health Workers (CHWs) into the carefully crafted blend of emergency preparedness. The freshly brewed Community Health Worker Training Program was funded by the Georgia Department of Public Health for two years.

In the ever-evolving landscape of public health, Community Health Workers (CHWs) are essential in bridging gaps between health systems and communities. The CHW Training Program aimed to brew a stronger blend of preparedness and resilience for this crucial public health workforce. CHWs could be an untapped resource in your community to help your communities prepare, respond to, and recover from disasters.

The University of Georgia's Institute for Disaster Management developed robust resources featuring two signature courses tailored for Georgia's CHWs. In its second year, the CHW Training Program also produced emergency preparedness kits for participating CHWs. These kits combine flavors like emergency power, lighting, communications, medical/first aid, personal hygiene, food/water, and car safety items.

Don't let this opportunity percolate away! Have a seat and explore the diverse flavors of public health and emergency preparedness in one cup. Prepare to savor insights and lessons learned through the program and actively engage in discussion. Let's open a dialogue on how to collectively stir resilience into our communities, one community health worker at a time.

Presentation Theme: Educational program design, outcome, and next steps.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: UGA IDM, Georgia Department of Public Health, Chronic Disease Control and Prevention Section.