COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: CHW 1050: Legal and Ethical Responsibilities

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 1
2. Hours/Week: 1
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): Appropriate RCTC test score for placement in READ 0900
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): CHW 1000, CHW 1010, CHW 1020, CHW 1030, CHW 1040, CHW 1055, CHW 1060
5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

This course focuses on the legal and ethical dimensions of the Community Health Worker's role. You will study the boundaries of the Community Health Worker position, agency policies, confidentiality, liability, mandatory reporting and cultural issues that can influence legal and ethical responsibilities.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): November, 2011

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Definition of policy
   a) Sample policies
      i. Examples within agencies
      ii. Legal & ethical issues
      iii. Protection of workers and the public.

2. Definition of professional boundaries: space between CHW's power and the client’s vulnerability.
   a) Professional vs. personal responsibilities
   b) Practice Guidelines
   c) Maintain confidentiality and cultural respect

3. Definition of confidentiality: Clients have a legal right to privacy concerning their medical affairs.

4. Ethics & confidentiality
   a) Legal responsibility regarding confidentiality: HIPAA/ Data privacy
   b) Website: www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa
   c) Release of information forms

5. Define Liability: Responsibility according to the law
   a) Negligence: Failing to provide services to a patient in the same manner as a reasonably prudent person would do.
   b) Malpractice: negligence that results in harm to the
   c) How liability and malpractice apply to the CHW role.

6. Mandatory reporting
   a) Vulnerable Adults Act
   b) Child Protection
      i. Abuse
      ii. Neglect
      iii. Exploitation

7. Definition of ethics:
   a) System of rules and principles that guide decision making related to what is right or wrong.
   b) Apply ethical principles to a variety of health care situations.
   c) Guiding ethical principles for healthcare workers

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Apply agency policies.
2. Work within boundaries of the CHW position.
3. Protect confidentiality.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of HIPPA.
D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to: 

5. Apply basic concepts of liability.
6. Recognize the implications of mandatory reporting.
7. Provide full disclosure of necessary information regarding client’s health status (to extent client agrees).
8. Describe how ethics influence the care of clients.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:

1. Case Studies
2. Self-assessment
3. Presentations
4. Role play
5. Written reports
6. Peer review

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Global Awareness/Diversity
- Civic Responsibility
- Personal/Professional Accountability
- Aesthetic Response

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None