

**CONNECTING HIGH RISK, HIGH COST PATIENTS TO
APPROPRIATE CARE AND WELLNESS**

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS OF UTAH

Adriana has always been concerned with her family's health...

...but has never had motivation to change her lifestyle. After participating in "Know Your Heart," a program of the American Heart Association-Utah, she said: "I have felt better about the changes I have made in my life." Now Adriana teaches her husband about health and together they are trying to eat fruits and vegetables every day.



Becky helps 'frequent flyers' to the E.R. connect with primary care...

An accountable care initiative identifies "frequent fliers" who visit the E.R. at least 10 times a year. Becky, a community health worker, helps such patients connect with primary care at much lower cost to all payers. These and similar strategies have decreased emergency room visits by 49% during the first 6 months of 2012.

We hope to avoid high cost health services as people age.

Weber Human Services and Midtown Community Health Center are partnering with other entities to integrate physical health into the mental health setting, focusing on an individual's whole health in a health home concept. Relating to the work that community health workers perform, "We hope to impact people having a better life and cut costs to emergency facilities."



Utah Health Policy Project

(801) 433-2299

www.healthpolicyproject.org

Support Senate Bill 85

Sen. L. Robles, *Community Health Workers*