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Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker Training and Certification Program Advisory Committee Meeting

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**October 30, 2024**

























































































# WHAT IS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) was developed by studying how the human brain "thinks", learns, and makes decisions to solve problems or complete tasks. AI makes a computer, robot, or other pieces of technology "think". In other words, they process data in the same way as humans.
- AI has been a part of our lives without us knowing. We use AI when we book a ticket online, scroll through our newsfeed, socially network, or read restaurant menus and reviews, speak into our phones. AI drives even simple chat assistants when shopping online or ordering food.



# MACHINE LEARNING

- Training computer programs to recognize patterns and tackle complex problems.
- Neural networks – extract information from examples in a data set by searching for patterns in layers or multiple steps. Then when it encounters new situations, it can problem solve.
  - For example, completing a sentence using proper English grammar



# AI ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

## Advantages

- Already widely used (like Siri, Alexa, or ChatGPT)
- Highly effective in performing specific tasks within a narrow scope
- Can perform some tasks faster and more accurately than humans.
- Can handle large amounts of data
- Does not get tired and can work 24/7
- Can improve through machine learning

## Disadvantages or limitations

- Limited in its ability to reason, problem-solve, and adapt outside of its scope
- Limited to specific task within a narrow scope.
- It's only as good as the data you put into it. (For example, a video streaming service keeps tracks of what you watch and gives you suggestions)

## DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE PROMOTORES TRAINED

Age range between 42-70

13 self identified as Hispanic/Latino/and 1 self identified as white

13 female and 1 male

Education level: 7% no formal education (1), 50% high school education (7), 29% associates degree (4), and 14% (2) had a bachelor's degree

9 listed their primary language as Spanish, and 3 listed their primary language as English

The number of years worked in the community range from 3-40 years

## WHAT COMPUTER DEVICES DO YOU HAVE AT HOME?



79% had a computer or  
laptop (11)



64% had a tablet (9)



86% had a smart phone  
(12)

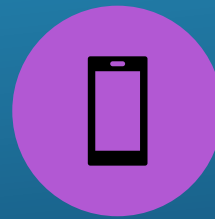
# WHAT ELECTRONIC DEVICES DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO AT WORK?



COMPUTER OR LAPTOP  
85% (11)



TABLET 31% (4)



SMARTPHONE 31% (4)



I DON'T HAVE ACCESS  
TO ELECTRONIC  
DEVICES AT WORK 8%  
(1)

## WHERE DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

Home – 100%  
(14)

Work – 64% (9)

Community center -  
29% (4)

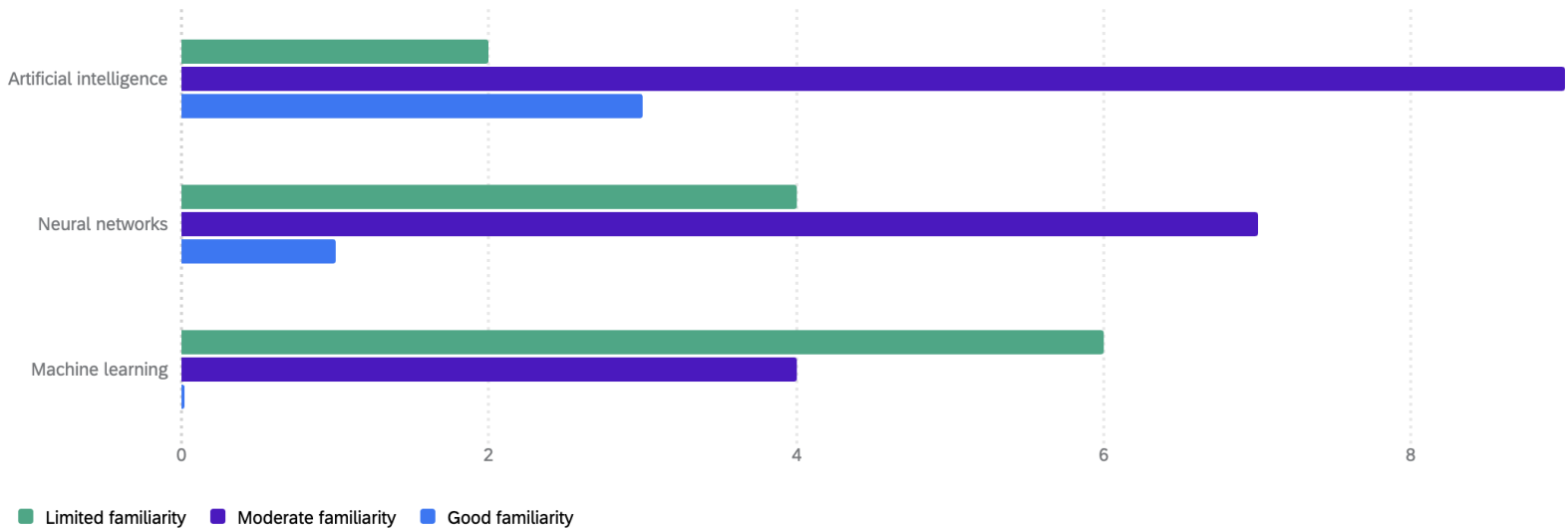
School/University  
– 9% (1)

Public places like  
a library or  
coffee shop -  
21% (3)

Smart phone -  
(100%)

# HOW FAMILIAR WERE YOU WITH.... BEFORE

Before the training, how familiar were you with each of the following? 14 ⓘ

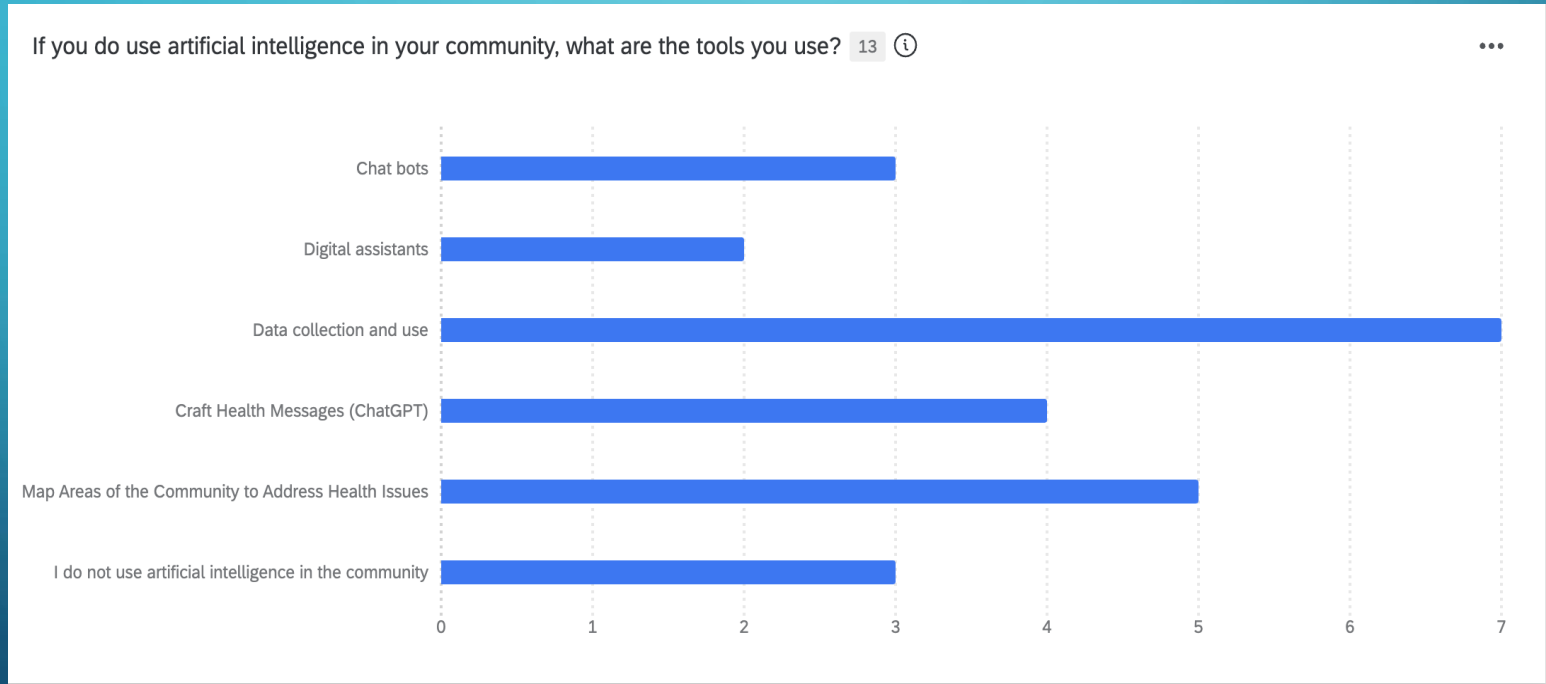




# HOW FAMILIAR ARE YOU WITH... AFTER?



# WHAT FORMS OF AI DO YOU USE IN THE COMMUNITY?



## IF YOU DON'T USE IT, WHY?



STILL LEARNING



SOME FOLKS DO NOT  
KNOW HOW TO USE  
THEIR SMART PHONES

## OTHER BENEFITS

Promotoras felt empowered

It helped their legitimacy and increased community perception of their expertise.

They were excited to learn about AI and how to use it to facilitate their work.

# THANK YOU!



We will continue to expand this project and provide the workshop to additional promotores de salud and implement with additional community members.



Questions?



My contact information: [leticia.villarrealsoa@utrgv.edu](mailto:leticia.villarrealsoa@utrgv.edu)

# Promotor(a) or Community Health Worker (CHW) Training and Certification Advisory Committee Meeting

## AGENDA

**Wednesday, October 30, 2024, 10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. CST**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Consideration of July 22, 2024, draft meeting minutes
3. Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Section update
4. Update on Collaboration with DSHS Regarding Core Competencies Enhancements
5. Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Promotoras de Salud: Leveraging Technology for Community Empowerment
6. Advisory subcommittee updates
7. Committee member sharing
8. Public Comment
9. Agenda items for next meeting
10. Adjourn



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# CHW Advisory Committee: Subcommittee Discussion



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## **Subcommittee Discussion:**

- **Lead:** Discussion regarding subcommittee changes
- **Request:** New members for the remaining subcommittees
- **Respond:** To questions from members

# CHW Advisory Committee: Subcommittee Discussion



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## **Current CHW Subcommittees List:**

- Workforce Solutions and Employment Opportunities subcommittee
- Communication and Outreach subcommittee
- CHW Training and Certification subcommittee



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# Public Comment Procedures

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- All speakers must identify themselves and the organization they are representing before speaking
- Three-minute time limit
- Do not include health or other confidential information
- Rules of conduct apply to public comments made

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# Thank you

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**[chw@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:chw@dshs.texas.gov)**