Figure 1 PRISMA flow chart of the included studies

63 articles returned from searches in PubMed and Medline

63 articles screened for title and abstract

Articles excluded that solely reported program outcomes

16 articles reviewed in full

3 articles included from Cochrane Library

Articles excluded that did not characterize CHW programmes

7 articles included in study

14 articles included from WHO Library and "grey literature"

24 articles included in study