



Community Collaboration & Covid Response

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The Cornell Farmworker Program

Addressing the needs of farmworkers and their families through research, education and extension.



Mission: The Cornell Farmworker Program is dedicated to improving the living and working conditions of farmworkers and their families. We also seek recognition for farmworkers' contributions to society and their acceptance and full participation in local communities.

Vision: The CFP envisions a state and nation in which farmworkers receive equal protection under law, earn a living wage, live in comfortable housing, are safe and healthy, receive due respect as workers and as individuals, and participate fully in their communities

SUPPORT PROVIDED

Since our program responds to farmworker identified priorities, these change over time but common areas of support include:

- Immigration & Legal Support
 - Access to pro-bono immigration and family law attorneys
 - Know your rights workshops
 - Support for completing emergency planning documents including: temporary guardianship, power of attorney, parent permission to travel and health care proxy.



- Improving Workplace Communication
 - Engages farmworkers in problem solving session with employers and co-workers
- Offer personalized English as a second language classes and tutoring sessions



FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY HEALTH



Mission: Finger Lakes Community Health (FLCH) strives to ensure high quality, comprehensive healthcare in the communities we serve with an emphasis on underserved and special populations.

Vision: To be the provider of choice for comprehensive healthcare and an advocate for services that improve the quality of life for diverse and underserved populations.

FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY HEALTH

Who we are

- FQHC (9 sites)
- Agricultural Program-direct services (Serving 22 counties)
- Migrant Voucher Program (Serving 42 counties)
- Percent of patients whose native language is something other than English: 64%





Services provided

- Medical
- Dental
- Nutrition
- Telehealth
- Behavioral Health
- Care Management
- Family Planning/Reproductive Health
- Insurance Enrollment
- Transportation
- Patient Navigation/Interpretation





Covid-19 & The Farmworker Community

Challenges

- Lack of information/misinformation
- Limited access to farmworkers
- Fear of Government agencies
- Fear of dismissal due to Inability to work
- Community ostracism associating the virus with immigrants
- Social, geographic and linguistic isolation
- State guidance for farm safety without additional; funding



Collaboration to address barriers

While the pandemic offered a wide range of challenges, the combined expertise of FLCH and The Cornell Farmworker Program, allowed for new conversations and collaborations to address barriers and find creative solutions to support farmworkers

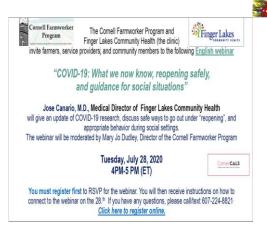


Engagement Efforts

Information sharing

- Phone calls providing direct education, Q and A with trusted medical providers
- FAQ documents for patients on Covidsymptoms, how and when to contact their providers
- Short videos on COVID in Spanish, mam and other indigenous languages shared via text messages and WhatsApp
- Bilingual graphics on mask use and laundering included with free masks
- Cornell & FLCH collaborated on flyers providing guidance and resources
- Distributions of CDC printed information in relevant languages
- All information was distributed electronically and physically to farms and community members







Engagement Efforts

Community Collaboration

- FLCH & Cornell Farmworker Program continued to organize with community partners to pull together resources for patients and clients
 - Distribution of food pantry list & Food Delivery
 - Development of Flyers and education brochures
 - Co-hosted webinars for farmworkers
 - Established mechanisms for farmworkers to request masks, food and other supports through text messaging system
 - Established weekly phone calls with workers
 - Co-hosted webinar for farm owners and service providers with Public Health Departments
 - Providing ability for farm owners to request mass testing events for their teams
 - Set up weekly calls to develop county testing plan for agricultural workers
 - Testing and contact tracing assistance (warm handoff)
 - Interpretation Services
 - State sponsored testing initiative for the farmworker community with the Department of Health



Meeting The Need

- Community Health Workers continued to engage with the farmworker community as much as possible in a time where they became more isolated.
 - ✓ Case Management
 - ✓ Outreach
 - ✓ Transportation
 - ✓ Interpretation
 - √ Food Delivery
 - ✓ Distribution of PPE -Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer
 - Many mask donations from community partners were obtained-these were distributed to community and agricultural workers along with gloves and hand sanitizer
- **Community Health Workers were crucial in the initial phase of our Covid response as they were our only link to farmworker/agricultural workers who were afraid and at times not allowed to leave the farm











What Comes Next?

- Expanded Testing
 - Asymptomatic Testing
 - Symptomatic Testing
 - Rapid Testing
- Vaccination
 - Education...Education...Education
 - Printed material
 - Webinars
 - Outreach
 - Registration
 - Group and Individual Testing **Events**
 - Follow up for 2nd round
- Continued support
 - Case management and social supports
 - Medical and other clinical services





and avoid crowds.







Questions?

Contact Information

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