

Regional Migrant Stream Forums 2023 Impact Report

Prepared by: National Center for Farmworker Health

Overview

Each year regional agricultural worker advocates, health and social service providers, policy makers, and other interested individuals gather in a series of three conferences called Regional Migrant Stream Forums. Each conference is located in one of the three traditional migratory streams: Western Stream, Midwest Stream, and Eastern Stream. Each stream represents the flow of migratory and seasonal agricultural workers and their families (MSAWs) as they follow harvest patterns.

The Regional Stream Forums provide MSAW-specific continuing education to providers of health care and social services in health centers, as well as networking opportunities among these professionals in the field. The conferences present an opportunity for participants to discuss regional and national trends which affect MSAWs and share successful strategies for addressing MSAW needs. These gatherings of individuals who work with and serve MSAWs on a daily basis provide an opportunity to renew commitment and passion to provide the best possible services to improve MSAWs' health and well-being.

Hosts & Regional Forums

This year's Forums were all hosted as in person events and organized by the [Northwest Regional Primary Care Association \(NRPCA\)](#), the [North Carolina Community Health Center Association \(NCCHCA\)](#), and the [National Center for Farmworker Health \(NCFH\)](#). NCFH sponsors all three Forums and provides support to the host organizations.

Western Forum for Migrant and Community Health (WFMCH)

Northwest Regional Primary Care Association
February 14-17, 2023
Long Beach, CA
41 educational sessions
297 attendees

East Coast Migrant Stream Forum (ECMSF)

North Carolina Community Health Center Association
April 5-7, 2023
Orlando, FL
26 educational sessions
210 attendees

Midwest Stream Forum for Agricultural Worker Health (MWSF)

National Center for Farmworker Health
April 24-26, 2023
Austin, TX
27 educational sessions
154 attendees

Planning

Each host organization convened regional Planning Committees composed of health center staff, representatives from the Farmworker Health Network, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Migrant Head Start, National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH), academia, and others to assist in the selection of the educational content. The Planning Committees worked to address priority areas for workforce development of health center staff to achieve quality of care and reduce the health disparities experienced by MSAWs.

The Forums utilized a conference app platform for conference coordination and facilitation. The use of these apps sparked new event engagement through attendee networking, photo sharing, discussion boards, facilitating session Q&As, live polls, organizing meetups, and more.

Panel Discussions: Ag Worker Access Campaign

The [Ag Worker Access Campaign](#) is a national initiative to increase the number of Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAWs) and their families served in health centers, and the Campaign hosted panel discussions at each Stream Forum this year. During the sessions, the facilitators provided an update on the Ag Worker Access Campaign by sharing an overview of the Campaign's goals, recent activities, and latest data from migrant health centers. The panel discussion prompts focused on building strategic partnerships to improve access to care for MSAW families.

Panelists and attendees shared their own insights and experiences with colleagues through facilitated peer-to-peer engagement. Panelists represented the following health centers: Salud Family Health (CO), Ampla Health (CA), CHP of Illinois (IL) at the MWSF; South Carolina Agricultural Worker Health Program (SC), Finger Lakes Community Health (NY), and Community Health Centers at the ECMSF; and Quincy Community Health (WA), Virginia Garcia Community Health (OR) and Sea Mar Community Health Centers (WA) at the WFMCH. Attendees from each Forum were invited to [join the Campaign](#) and make a commitment to increase access to quality healthcare for MSAWs.



Attendees also identified partners whom they could collaborate with to increase access to healthcare for MSAWs, discussed strategies for fostering communication with partners, and shared tools to leverage collaborative relationships (See summary lists on next page).



Partners:

- Legal organizations/legal aid
- Hispanic service agencies
- Community based organizations
- Religious groups/organizations/ministries
- Local colleges/universities
- Local food ministries
- MSAWs and their families
- Community ambassadors/trusted community members

Tools:

- Utilize needs assessments
- Leverage storytelling
- Provide incentives to partners, providers, MSAWs, etc.
- Use streamlined communication system for MSAWs to call when needing to identify local services and ask questions (i.e., [Call for Health](#))
- Partner for home visits to better understand transportation challenges, housing conditions, build trust
- Make sure advisory and leadership groups represent MSAW populations and diverse partners

Communication Strategies:

- Practice transparency with policies, procedures, and expectations
- Develop strong MOUs and partner expectations to avoid duplication of services
- Collaborative planning
- Training of partner organizations on MSAW health and barriers to care
- Dedicate time to helping all staff and partners understand what each partner does/ services offered
- Develop strong referral process between partners



[Click here](#) to access the full 2023 Stream Forum Ag Worker Access Campaign Panel Discussion Summary.



Educational Content

Each Regional Stream Forum offered multiple tracks for participants to choose from to meet their diverse educational needs:

Regional Stream Forum	Tracks Provided
Western Forum	<p>Day 1 Agricultural Workers & COVID-19 Healthcare Delivery/Chronic Disease Health Equity Advancement MSAW Essentials</p> <p>Day 2 Health Promotion Partnerships Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Health Education</p> <p>Day 3 Community Health Worker (CHW) Workforce Development Popular Education Strategies for Health MSAW Service Delivery</p>
Midwest Forum	<p>Advancing Health Equity by Addressing SDOH Chronic Disease Prevention and Management MSAW Service Delivery Models Overcoming Emerging Issues</p>
Eastern Forum	<p>Outreach/Lay Health/CHW Policy Programmatic/Administrative</p>

Stream Forum Goals & Sessions

While each Forum had different tracks, each program’s content addressed Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care 2023 Overarching Priorities for the Regional Stream Forums, including a variety of intensive and educational sessions on emerging issues, chronic diseases, SDOH, and MSAW access to care. The four overarching goals with a comprehensive list of educational session titles are in the table below by **WFMCH**, **MWSF**, and **ECMSF**.

****Some sessions were presented at multiple forums (denoted with color corresponding asterisk)*

Goal 1: Emerging Issues

Increase knowledge and understanding of the emerging issues, including infectious diseases, emergency preparedness, mental health, intimate partner violence, etc., most prevalent in the MSAW population, to include prevention, screening, treatment, service delivery models, tools, and resources.

Session Titles

- *Más Fuertes Que La Adversidad: Resilient CHWs*
- Investing in Health: Addressing COVID-19's Impacts upon the Latinx Community
- Emotional Wellness Promotion Program for Spanish Speaking Community Health Workers
- The View from CHWs in the Field: Implementing the HRSA Community-Based Workforce grant for COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach and Support to MSAW Communities
- Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers' Mental Health Needs and The Use of the Community Resiliency Model by Community Health Workers
- Emergency Response through Collaboration and Research (Intensive session)
- Building Agricultural Worker Wellness and Resiliency (Intensive session)
- Climate Change and its Impact on Agricultural Worker Health
- Supporting Mental and Social Well-being Among Agricultural Workers
- Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR): Gatekeeper Training for Agricultural Communities
- Capacity-building To Empower Community-based Response Among Vulnerable Populations During Current and Future Public Health Emergencies Research Intensive
- Strategies to Increase Access to Mental Health Services in Agricultural Worker Communities in Post-COVID Era
- Resilience: How to Make Healthcare Accessible to the Agricultural Worker Population

Goal 2: Chronic Disease Prevention and Management

Improve delivery of chronic disease prevention and management, including diabetes, for the MSAW population through increased knowledge of promising practices and partnership development strategies.

Session Titles

- *5 Pasos para Prevenir y Controlar la Diabetes*
- *Autocontrol de la Presión Arterial en Pacientes con Hipertensión*
- Structural Competency: Analyzing the Structural Factors of Diabetes & COVID-19
- Supporting Lifestyle Change: How ADCES7 Self-Care Behaviors Lay the Foundation for DSMES, DPP, and More**
- Lessons Learned on Diabetes Management during and After Natural disasters due to Climate*
- CHWs – The Key to Providing Diabetes Support in Underserved Communities
- Innovative Strategies to Deliver Diabetes Education to Special Populations Through WhatsApp

Goal 3: MSAW Access to Care & Service Delivery

Improve access to service delivery models, innovative strategies, and promising practices that address all issues that impact access to care for the MSAW population.

Session Titles

- Engaging Different Groups in Delivery of Key Messages
- Section 1557: The ACA's Non-Discrimination Provision & Its Protections & What It Means for Health Centers
- Migrant Education Nursing Program: Supporting the Health of Migratory Families
- *Creación de Redes Estatales para Proteger a los Trabajadores Agrícolas: Pláticas En Confianza*
- Community Centered Approach to Educating Mothers on Health-Related Topics
- Improving Healthcare Experiences of Mesoamerican Indigenous & Marginalized Communities
- Creating Accessible Real-Time Educational Resources for Agricultural Worker Communities
- *Mas Tóxicos Que Tu Ex, y Los Que Tienes En Casa*
- Collaborations to Support Agricultural Worker Health and Safety
- Traditional Health Worker Strategy and Training in Action
- Campesinas Generan Conciencia y Confianza a Través de los Teatros
- The ENLACES Program: A Comprehensive Community Health Worker Program
- A Community-Centered Approach to Serving Traditionally Underserved Communities
- Tequio & COVID: Life-Saving Communal Work during a Pandemic
- Immigration Policy 101: What Health Providers Want to Know**
- Increasing Access for MSAWs: Accurate Identification, Classification & UDS Reporting**
- Seasonal and Migratory Cannabis Agricultural Worker Health in Northern California
- Integrating Community Health Workers into Team-Based Care
- Health Literacy and Accessible Educational Materials for Agricultural Workers and Indigenous Agricultural Workers
- HIV Overview of Care Continuum: Together We Can End the HIV Epidemic
- Heart Health: Learning to Prevent and Manage Cardiovascular Disease for a Healthier and Longer Life
- Organizing for Change: How CHWs Will Change the World
- Providing Continuity of Care for Patient Populations on the Move
- Strategies for Providing Culturally Responsive Care to Agricultural Workers and their Families
- Late Night/Early Morning Outreach to Connect with the Farmworker Community
- Overview of Michigan Agricultural Worker Statistics, Outreach Innovation Brought on by the Pandemic and the Importance of Creating Crucial Communications for Agricultural Workers
- On-Farm Health Screening Needs of Immigrant Dairy Workers in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains
- Delivering Self-Management Education for Chronic Conditions Through an Innovative Tele-education Approach

- Resiliency and Recovery for Community Health Workers
- *Vecinos Salud Mental to Salud Integrado: Integrated Health Care for MSAW*
- Campesinas Building Awareness and Trust through Teatros
- ACA and Agricultural Workers: Building Connections to Health Coverage
- Here for Work and Here for Healthcare: Supporting Haitian Migratory Agricultural Workers in Maine
- Approach to Creating and Disseminating Digital Products to Agricultural Workers
- Binational Strategies to Promote the Defense of Migratory and Immigrant Workers' Labor Rights under COVID-19 Conditions
- Community Initiatives to Address Indigenous Agricultural Worker Health Disparities in Florida
- Creating Partnerships for Healthy Relationships
- MSAWs' Mental Health Needs and The Role of Community Health Workers

Goal 4: Social Determinants of Health

Increase of knowledge and understanding of SDOH issues and efforts towards advancing health equity amongst the MSAW population, including the availability of SDOH screening tools and resources, and strategies for partnership development.

Session Titles

- Social Determinants of Health in the National Agricultural Workers Survey
- The Importance of Screening Agricultural Workers for Work-Related Social Risk Factors
- Health and Digital Literacy as SDOH Factors among MSAW Populations
- Experiences Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Health Centers
- Community Health Centers Raising the Bar for Health Equity
- Ag Work Access Campaign Panel Discussion: Building Strategic Relationships to Improve the Health of Migratory & Seasonal Agricultural Worker Families**
- Agricultural Worker Health 101: An Introduction to Migrant Health**
- Data Drivers: Diagnosis Coding and Social Drivers of Health
- Agricultural Worker Health 101: An Introduction to Migrant Health
- Successful Outcomes and Lessons Learned in Addressing Disparities in Access to Healthy Foods
- The True Impact of Transportation Barriers: Opportunities to Address Missed Appointments and Understand the Patient Experience
- COSECHA – A Statewide, CHW Delivery Network Addressing Health Inequities Experienced by MSFWs in the Florida Farmworker Corridor
- Social Determinants of Health in the National Agricultural Workers Survey: Recent Changes in Farmworkers Living and Working Conditions, Earnings, Health Care Access, and Assistance Programs Use

- Agricultural Worker Health 101: An Introduction to Migrant Health
- Closing Gaps in Access to Care with Technology and Community Partnerships
- Organizational Collaboration for Farmworkers' Bienestar
- Transforming Healthcare in the Field: Resolving Social Determinants of Health in Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers

Plenary Sessions

This year's plenary sessions featured keynote speakers that provided valuable information and inspiration for participants to integrate into their work and take home to share with colleagues.

At the WCMSF, presentations from our federal and national partners were provided by Tonya Bowers, Acting Associate Administrator for Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Susan Burton, Director of Advocacy, National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and followed by keynote speakers Mily Treviño-Sauceda, *Executive Director, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas* (National Alliance of Farmworker Women), a nonprofit organization advocating for the safety and rights of women laborers in agriculture; and Javier Zamora, Author & Poet of works including *Unaccompanied* and *SOLITO*, a New York Times bestselling memoir.



At the MWSF, keynote speaker Jim Harrington, founder of the Texas Civil Rights Project, gave a presentation, “*¡Sí, se puede!* A Tribute to You and a Challenge.” Other plenary speakers included Dr. Alfonso Rodriguez Lainz, PhD, DVM, MPVM, epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Susan Burton, Director of Advocacy at the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC); and Roger Rosenthal, J.D., Executive Director of the Migrant Legal Action Program.



At the ECMSF, updates from federal and national partners were provided by Margaret Davis, MSW, Director, Knowledge Management and Learning, National Association of Community Health Centers; Bethany Boggess Alcauter, PhD, Director of National Agricultural Worker Health Program, National Center for Farmworker Health; and Dr. Alfonso Rodriguez Lainz, PhD, DVM, MPVM, Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Lastly, keynote speaker Dr. Antonio Tovar, Senior Policy Associate at the National Family Farm Coalition closed the conference.



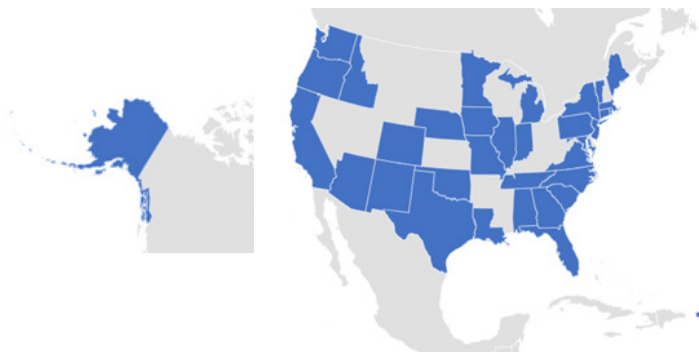
Both the ECMSF and WCMSF featured a theatrical presentation by members and staff of the *Alianza Nacional de Campesinas*.



Activities & Outcomes

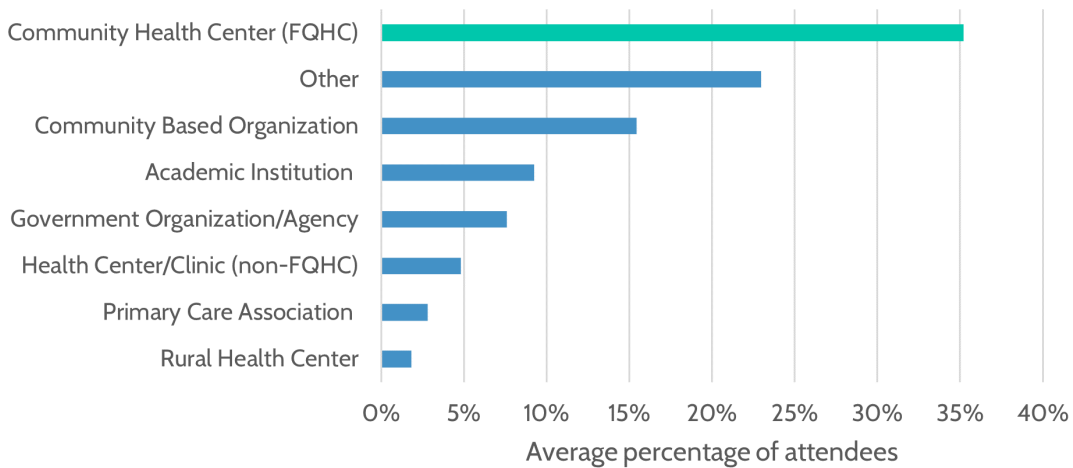
Attendee Snapshot

There was a total of **661 attendees** from across many disciplines in migrant health, with the majority identifying their primary responsibility as Community Health Workers (*promotoras de salud*), health care providers, and program coordinators or directors. Attendees also represented 35 states, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico, as illustrated on the map below.



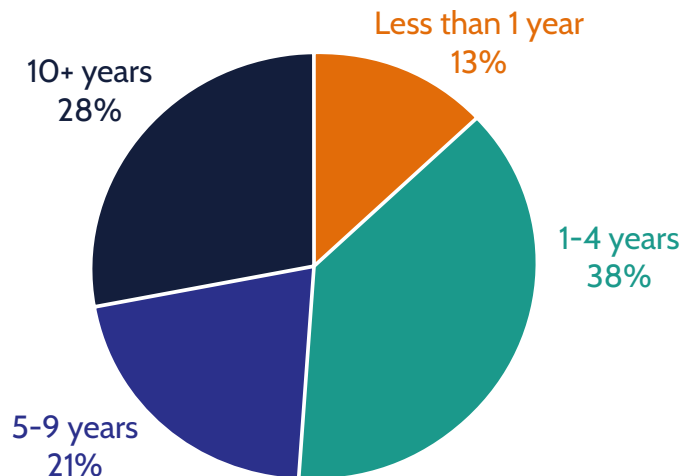
There was a diverse representation of organization types present at each of the Stream Forums. Over a third of attendees represented a Community Health Center (weighted average), followed by “other type” (23%), and community-based organizations (15%). Other types of organizations included private corporations, non-profits, National Technical Assistance and Training Providers (NTTAPs), federal organizations, academic institutions, and health insurance plans. Attendees included a total of **88 unique health centers** across all Forums.

Over a third of attendees represented a Federally Qualified Health Center on average

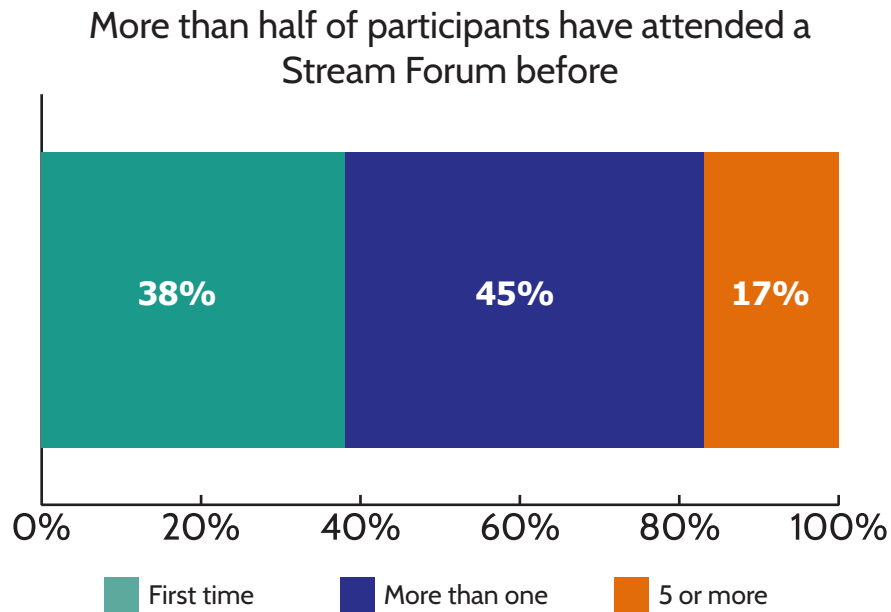


Attendees brought a wide range of experience to each Forum. On average across all three Regional Stream Forums, attendees’ years of experience in the field of migrant health was well balanced - about half of participants had less than four years of experience and about half of participants had at least five years of experience, with nearly one in three who have more than a decade of involvement with farmworker health.

Participants brought a wide range of experience in migrant health to the Forums



In addition, more than half of participants (62%) have attended a Stream Forum before on average across all three Forums, demonstrating the ability of the Stream Forum to recruit both returning and new participants. Seventeen percent of participants have attended five or more Steam Forums, illustrating the continued desire in the Migrant Health workforce for this conference.



The diversity of participants and organizations creates a rich environment for peer-to-peer engagement – from networking during receptions to sharing resources. Participants have the opportunity to share real experiences and learn from others who may be experiencing similar challenges or successes, including models of replicability, promising practices, and implementation strategies to improve service delivery at their own organizations. The representation of multi-sector organizations and multi-disciplinary teams creates the opportunity for participants to build new collaborations for their own health centers or organizations.

Educational Outcomes

A total of **94 educational sessions** were conducted across the three Stream Forums, including plenary and break-out sessions. Collectively, the Stream Forums provided **59.4 Continuing Education Units (CEUs)** to provide educational credit in the professional areas of medicine, nursing, social work, counseling, and community health worker (including CME, CHES, CNE, SW, and CHW).

Following each session, attendees completed feedback forms to rate their overall satisfaction with the session, changes to their knowledge as a result of the session, and their confidence to apply information from the session at their health center or organization on a 5-point scale, with five being the highest score.

Analysis of the session feedback results indicate high levels of attendee satisfaction, high levels of knowledge gained by attendees from educational sessions, and high confidence in attendees' ability to implement new knowledge and skills. All Forums exceeded the standard target score of 3.5 across all ratings on average. The following table lists the average confidence, knowledge, and satisfaction ratings across all sessions at each Stream Forum:

Average ratings across all evaluation metrics at each Stream Forum

Evaluation Metrics	Rating
Confidence to apply	
Western Stream Forum	4.14
Midwest Stream Forum	4.43
East Coast Stream Forum	4.53
Average	4.52
Knowledge gained	
Western Stream Forum	4.23
Midwest Stream Forum	4.25
East Coast Stream Forum	4.46
Average	4.31
Satisfaction	
Western Stream Forum	4.14
Midwest Stream Forum	4.43
East Coast Stream Forum	4.53
Average	4.37

The following table lists the sessions with the highest satisfaction score average at each Stream Forum:

Top 3 sessions with highest satisfaction scores at each Stream Forum

Session Name	Satisfaction
Western Stream Forum	
Experiences Addressing Social Determinants of Health in Health Centers	4.92
Social Determinants of Health in the National Agricultural Workers Survey	4.90
<i>Autocontrol de la Presión Arterial en Pacientes con Hipertensión</i>	4.89
Midwest Stream Forum	
Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR): Gatekeeper Training for Agricultural Communities	5.00
On-Farm Health Screening Needs of Immigrant Dairy Workers in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains	5.00
Supporting Mental and Social Well-being Among Agricultural Workers	5.00
East Coast Stream Forum	
Binational Strategies to Promote the Defense of Migratory and Immigrant Workers' Labor Rights under COVID-19 Conditions	5.00
Creating Partnerships for Healthy Relationships	5.00
Approach to Creating & Disseminating Digital Products to Agricultural Workers	5.00

Impact

Stream Forum attendees completed an overall evaluation survey after each conference. Of the responses gathered from all three Stream Forums, attendees reported the following:

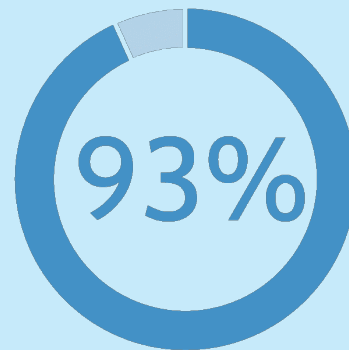
93% were very or extremely satisfied with the overall content of the forum

95% agree or strongly agree that the content at the Stream Forum will assist them in working with the Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Worker population

95% agree or strongly agree that the information and/or skills learned at the Stream Forum will be helpful in improving their work performance

89% were very or extremely confident that they will be able to apply information from this event at their health center or organization

93% were very or extremely satisfied with the overall content of the forum.



Attendees also identified concepts from the educational sessions they would like to implement in their workplace. Overall, attendees identified key concepts related to language access, outreach strategies, health communication techniques, and the social determinants of health. See response examples in the table below.

Key Concepts
“How to better serve Mesoamerican Indigenous farmworkers”
“The NCFH Farm Labor Databoard”
“Techniques for creating better educational materials and training on how to make them”
“Increased nursing outreach and home followup care”
“The importance of utilizing all resources available to communicate with patients, as well as how vital outreach is to reaching migrant workers in remote locations”
“New communication options for outreach and health education, such as Whatsapp”
“Using Teatro Campesino as an educational story sharing and to involve the community and represent issues that are happening at their workplaces”

“Partnering with outside organizations to bring content to workers”
“Increasing domestic violence screenings and intervention”
“Reinvigorated approach to focusing on Social Determinants of Health”

Attendees also provided their ideas for topics to be covered at future Stream Forums. Common themes are listed in the table below.

Future Topics
CHW led trainings
Digital literacy
Farmworker experiences
Finding grant funding
Health insurance
Health equity
Immigration issues and examples
Mental health
Sexual health
Social Determinants of Health

Partnerships

The 2023 Regional Stream Forums were possible through the creation of partnerships and cross-disciplinary collaboration. Partners joined Planning Committees, provided workshops as presenters, hosted exhibitor booths, and contributed sponsorships. Each Forum had presenters representing universities/ research institutions, health centers, government (local, state, federal), non-profits, Primary Care Associations (PCAs), National Training and Technical Assistance Partners (NTTAPs), and numerous other organizations including consultant groups, coalitions, private foundations, primary education, and other private entities.

This rich collaborative environment provided networking opportunities for presenters and attendees to access new relationships and potential partnerships, as well as provided the opportunity to build collaborations for their health centers and organizations. Further, the regional nature of these conferences bridges local resources and makes workforce development opportunities accessible for health centers and other organizations.

There were **100 unique partner organizations** across the three Regional Stream Forums. The table on the next page illustrates the breadth of partners that came together to provide attendees with a comprehensive, informative, and collaborative event.

Sector	# of Partner Organizations	Examples of Partner Organizations
Universities/Research Institutions	23	Arizona State University, JBS International, Inc, National AgriAbility Project, Texas A&M University, University of California San Francisco, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska Medical Century, University of Texas at Austin, University of Washington, Western Center for Agricultural Health & Safety, University of California, Davis
Health Centers	18	Ampla Health, Family Health Centers, Full Circle Health, Generations Family Health Center, Maine Mobile Health Program, Proteus, Inc., Quincy Community Health Center, Salud Family Health Centers, Sea Mar Community Health Centers, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, Vista Community Clinic
Government	14	HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care, California Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency, National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health, National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office, Oregon Health Authority
Non-profits	20	Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, American Diabetes Association, Campesinos Sin Fronteras, Casa Latinos Unidos, Farmworker Association of Florida, Rural Women's Health Project, Texas Civil Rights Project, Valley AIDS Council, Yakima Valley Farm Workers
PCAs/NTTAPs	11	California Primary Care Association, North Carolina Community Health Center Association, Northwest Regional Primary Care Association, South Carolina Primary Health Care Association, Texas Association of Community Health Centers (TACHC), Farmworker Health Network Members (Health Outreach Partners, National Association of Community Health Workers, Farmworker Justice, Migrant Clinicians Network, MHP Salud, National Center for Farmworker Health)
Other (Consultants, Private, etc.)	14	AccuVax by TruMed, Aetna, Angel Flight West, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas, Code the Dream, Labcorp, Quest Diagnostics, Superior Health Plan, The Next Door, Inc., Watt Farms Country Market

Conclusion

The Regional Stream Forums provided workforce development and education for health center staff and other professionals. Attendees gained knowledge specifically about the MSAW population and HRSA priority areas, as well as developed skills to implement concepts at their organizations. The three Forums hosted in the Western, Midwest, and Eastern regions allowed for region-specific workshops and topics affecting the unique characteristics of that region's population. The regional nature of the Forums created an affordable option with accessible travel for the professional development of health care staff. Additionally, the Forums offered an opportunity for professionals across sectors to engage and learn from each other. This opportunity allowed for attendees to build upon successes, drive new collaborative projects to address emerging issues, as well as renew their commitment to providing the best possible care and service to agricultural worker communities.



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