## AgWorker Health 102: Supporting Agricultural Worker Health

Presented by Farmworker Health Network May 23, 2023





## Today's Speakers



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# Farmworker Health Network

The Farmworker Health Network works cooperatively with HRSA to provide training and technical assistance to over a thousand Community & Migrant Health Centers throughout the U.S.













## Workshop Components

- Overview of agricultural worker health and safety concerns
- Service delivery innovations
- Resources for health centers to address issues for agricultural workers.





### **Zoom Poll**



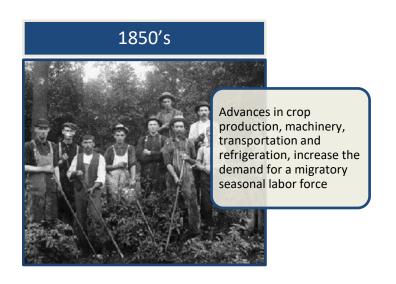
How many years working in Migrant Health?

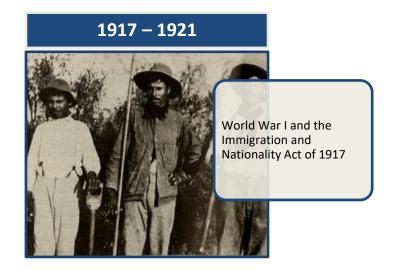
- 0-3
- 4-7
- 8-10
- 10+

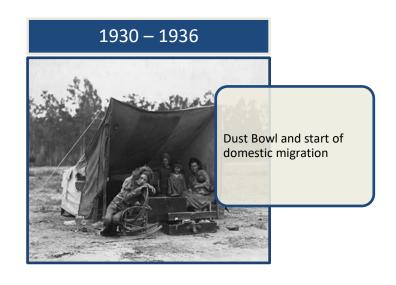


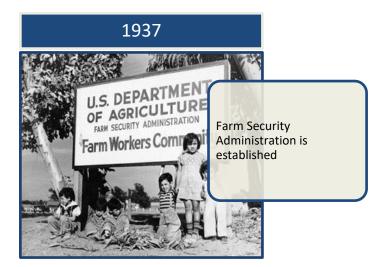
To understand the challenges faced by agricultural workers living and working in our nation today, it is important to understand where this system of labor came from and what efforts have been made over the years to ensure their access to healthcare services.

## Events leading up to MH Program

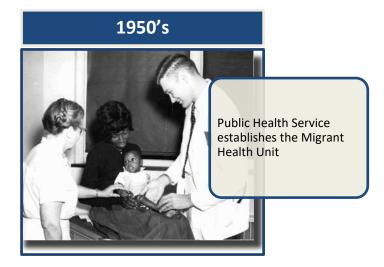














• Edward R. Murrow's documentary, "Harvest of Shame" aired on Thanksgiving Day



• The Migrant Health Act signed into law by President John F. Kennedy



 Reauthorization of Migrant Health Act created the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health and added seasonal workers

#### **Timeline of Legislative Action**

#### **Migrant Health Act**

Aid to agencies that provide community health services to agricultural workers and their families



1962

#### Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act

Basic labor protections under labor contractors



1983

## Health Centers Consolidation Act Consolidates MHC, HCH, public

Consolidates MHC, HCH, public housing and CHCs under Section 330 Authority



1996

#### **ACA Enacted**

Includes a major expansion of health centers, dedicating \$9.5 billion to serve 20 million new patients by 2015 and \$1.5 billion for capital needs for new health centers.



2010

1975



Public Health Service Act
Health Center Program authorized
under Section 330 of the Public
Health Service Act.

1987



### Field Sanitation Standard Requires agricultura

Requires agricultural employers to provide potable water, toilets and handwashing facilities in the fields 1992



#### Worker Protection Standard sets minimum standards for protecting farmworkers from pesticide exposure

2017



**WPS Revisions** 

## Farmworker Exceptionalism

- Fair Labor Standards Act left out farmworkers
  - Child labor protections
  - Overtime
- Workers' compensation & minimum wage
- Few OSHA standards to protect farmworkers
  - Field Sanitation Standard, 1987
  - Only applies to farms with 11 workers or housing



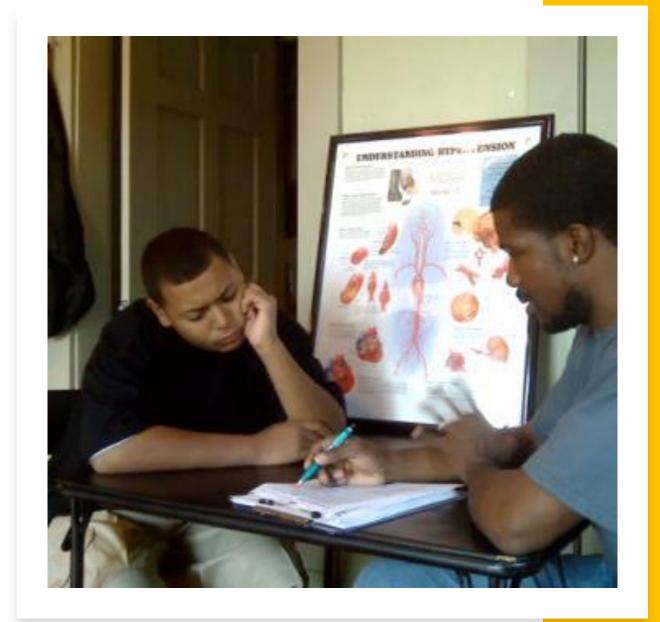


### Physical Health

The health issues that face migrant and other mobile underserved populations are similar to those faced by the general population but are often magnified or compounded by their migratory lifestyle, living conditions, and occupation.

## Management of Health Concerns

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Cancer
- HIV/AIDS
- Tuberculosis
- Asthma





## Issues experienced by essential workers before, during and after a disaster or public health emergency

COVID-19 served to highlight that Farmwork is considered "essential"

Challenges adhering to COVID-19 guidelines:

- Overcrowding with many people in small spaces
- Ability to isolate if exposed to or infected by COVID-19
- Limited or no PPE provided
- Limited access to testing, treatment, and vaccinations

Access to public benefits, including emergency benefits (housing, food, medical care)

- Lack of Information or misinformation about what is available
- Eligibility
- Language

Additional challenges related to working and living conditions:

- Transportation to and from the fields and into town
- Fear of accessing health care/taking sick leave due to employer retaliation



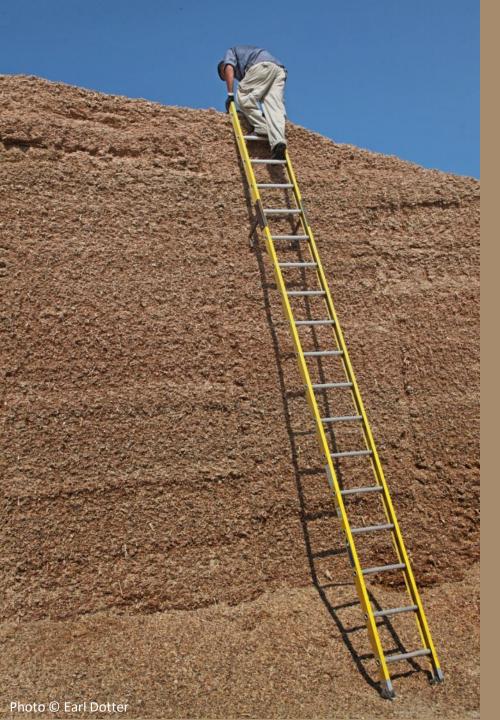
## Contributing Factors to Mental Health Challenges

- Separation from families
- Isolation
- Discrimination
- Fear due to immigration status
- COVID-19

## Illnesses Related to **Substandard Housing**

- Gastrointestinal diseases
- Infectious diseases
- Intestinal parasites
- Conjunctivitis
- Lead poisoning





### **Work-Related Health Risks**

- Pesticide Exposure
- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Heat stress
- Wildfire smoke
- Farm equipment
- Transportation to and from work
- Lacerations from sharp equipment and hand tools
- Slips, trips, and falls
- Eye injuries
- Insect/rodent/snake bites



## Occupational Safety and Health Protections

- Field Sanitation Standard (OSHA) 1987
  - Requires potable drinking water, toilets and handwashing facilities, and information on good hygiene practices
  - See <u>Clinician's Guide to Field Sanitation Standard</u>
- Worker Protection Standard (EPA) promulgated in 1992, updated in 2015
  - Requires employers to comply with minimum safety precautions when using pesticides on farms, and in nurseries, greenhouses, and forests
  - See <u>Clinician's Guide to Worker Protection Standard</u>
- <u>California</u>, <u>Oregon</u>, and <u>Washington</u>\* have a Wildfire
   Standard in place (\*washington is in the process of finalizing a permanent rule)
- <u>California, Oregon, Colorado, Washington</u>\* have a Heat Standard in place (\*Washington is in the process of updating its regulations)



#### Labor and Health Protections

Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act – 1983

 Provides basic labor protections for workers who work under labor contractors

#### Workers' Compensation

- Agricultural worker coverage varies by state.
   Only 14 states (and DC, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico) require full workers' compensation coverage for agricultural workers. In all other states, coverage is either limited or optional.
- See Guide to Workers' Compensation for Clinicians Serving Agricultural Workers

#### Affordable Care Act – 2010

- 26% of workers were offered employerprovided health insurance
- 48% of workers have health insurance \*
- 44% of workers reported that a member of their household received Medicaid \*

## Workshop Components

- Overview of agricultural worker health and safety concerns
- Service delivery innovations
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### **Service Delivery Challenges**

#### **Continuity of Care**

- Agricultural workers may move during treatment
- Agricultural workers may seek care only when necessary
- Communication between MHCs and other providers is difficult

#### **Culture and Language**

- Provision of multi-lingual services (reception, health education, prescriptions, bilingual staff/translators, etc.)
- Relevant training and continuing education for staff

### **Service Delivery Challenges**

#### **Operations**

- Integration of walk-in patients into appointment system
- Health Center hours of operation
- Demand/Capacity
- Provision of transportation in rural areas

#### **Costs**

- MHCs must remain competitive despite the escalating costs in the healthcare industry
- Lack of insurance coverage of the population
- Outreach and enabling services are often not reimbursable





## **Cultural adaptations**

## **Mobility** adaptations

Appropriate service delivery models

- Culturally sensitive education
- Appropriate language and literacy levels
- Address cultural health beliefs & values
- Portable medical records & Bridge Case Management
- EHR transmission to other C/MHCs
- Case Management
- Lay health promoters (Promotores/as)
- Outreach & enabling services
- Coordination with schools and worksites
- Mobile Units



### **Zoom Poll**

Does your organization offer any of these adaptations or services to better serve farmworkers in your community?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



## Easy Access to Care

- ✓ **Orient** all patients to the scheduling protocols, recognizing that patients may be unfamiliar with scheduling practices or U.S. healthcare systems.
- ✓ Document the numbers of agricultural workers in your area by month, typical work hours and transportation options.
- ✓ Open Access scheduling permits an influx of mobile agricultural worker patients to be seen during seasonal variance.
- ✓ **Accommodate** the work hours, transportation and geographic barriers experienced by mobile workers.

## **Partnerships**







### **Voucher Program Model**

- Used where a traditional model may not be the best option.
  - ✓ Short growing seasons
  - ✓ Lower numbers or density of Agricultural Workers
- Provide services to Ag Workers through either one or some combination of a service coordinator model, nurse staffed model, or mid-level practitioner staffed model
- An organized outreach program is critical to increase access to services

## Workshop Components

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Farmworker Health Network







MHP Salud is a national nonprofit organization that implements and supports Community Health Worker (CHW) programs. MHP Salud builds on community strengths to improve health in farmworker and border communities. We train community leaders to be CHWs/Promotores de Salud.

CHWs / Promotores de Salud belong to the same culture and speak the same language as those they serve. They...

Provide culturally appropriate health education

Make referrals to health and social services

Encourage people to seek care

Empower community members

Bring health to farmworkers where they live

#### We can help you...

Design an effective *Promotora* program
Find funding opportunities and draft budgets
Create an evaluation plan
Train Program Supervisors and *Promotores*Provide and develop health education materials



956.968.3600 info@mhpsalud.org www.mhpsalud.org

mhpsalud.org

About Us Our Programs

Training & Consulting

Resources

Get Involved

Q

#### Get Free Health Insurance Application Assistance





#### Providing Diabetes Control Education and Management

This resource provides educational prevention tools that Community Health Workers (CHWs) can use and share with Migrant Seasonal Agricultural Workers and other vulnerable populations to reduce diabetic health complications.

#### Chronic Disease Management Tool

This tool is meant to assist individuals and/or their caregivers in keeping track of the management of their chronic condition(s). It is meant to provide a weekly snapshot or overview of their health and any concerns they may have. It is NOT meant to be a complete tool for tracking chronic disease management, nor should it replace any record-keeping a doctor or healthcare provider has given.





#### **Community Health Worker Resource Directory**

#### **Featured Resource**



Peers and Community Health Workers (CHWs): The Key Ingredient for Diabetes Prevention and Control Programs

We've used over 35 years of our expertise in the CHW profession to create and find high quality resources for CHWs and individuals working in CHW programs.

Community Health Workers, community members and health professionals review all materials prior to use and distribution. Each item is tested for literacy level and relevance to the populations MHP Salud serves. Although many of our resources were developed with Latino communities in mind, the majority of our them can be used to support any underserved community. MHP Salud also identifies appropriate materials and resources from other organizations and maintains a list of these resources and



### Subscribe!

MHP Salud has officially launched it's

Youtube account! Subscribe to our channel
to watch videos of all the hard work you do
out in the community, informative
interviews, and much more!

Subscribe at www.youtube.com/@mhpsalud



MIGRANT CLINICIANS NETWORK



A force for health justice

Somos una fuerza dedicada a la justicia en salud

**Our mission** is to create practical solutions at the intersection of vulnerability, migration, and health.

**We envision** a world based on health justice and equity, where migration is never an impediment to well-being.

## Our Work

















## "Mobile-Friendly" Care Management AND Referral Tracking and Follow-up

#### **Health Network**



## Connect with MCN!



**Access our** latest



**Get updates** from the field



**Attend our** virtual trainings

and a lot more at www.migrantclinician.or







# Health Outreach Partners www.outreach-partners.org

WE SUPPORT HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAMS by providing training, consultation, and timely resources.

#### OUR MISSION IS TO BUILD STRONG, EFFECTIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE HEALTH OUTREACH MODELS

by partnering with local community-based organizations across the country in order to improve the quality of life of low-income, vulnerable and underserved populations.

**WE SERVE** Community Health Centers, Primary Care Associations, and Safety-net Health Organization





SERVICES

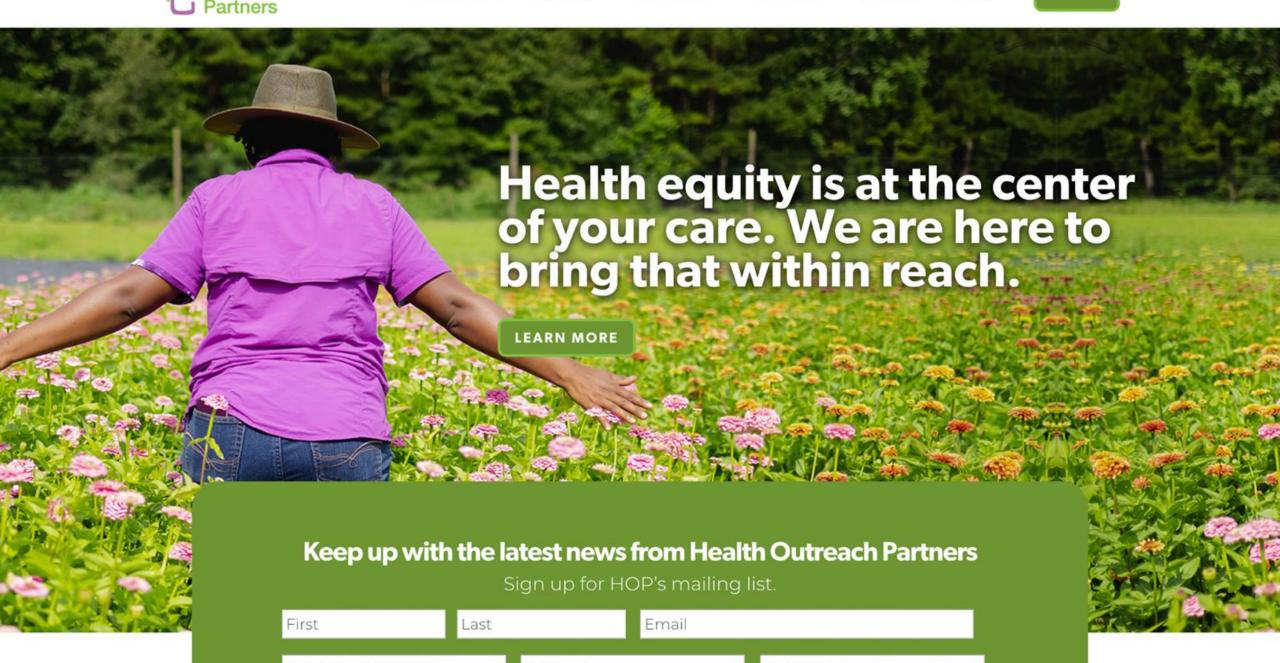
RESOURCES

WEBINARS

E-NEWS

BLOG

DONATE



# Upcoming T/TA Opportunities

# Structural Competency: Identifying and Addressing the Upstream Causes of Diabetes and COVID-19

- Thursday, May 25th, 2023; 11:00am PT / 2:00pm ET
- Registration: <a href="https://bit.ly/3MJbHKb">https://bit.ly/3MJbHKb</a>

### **Diabetes Prevention for the Whole Family**

- Thursday, June 8th, 2023; 10:00am PT / 1:00pm ET
- Registration: <a href="https://bit.ly/3Mlzc5V">https://bit.ly/3Mlzc5V</a>

### **Community Partnerships as Structural Interventions**

- Wednesday June 14th, 2023; 11:00am PT / 2:00pm ET
- Registration: <a href="https://bit.ly/42Qe17R">https://bit.ly/42Qe17R</a>





# THE NACHC MISSION

#### America's Voice for Community Health Care

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) was founded in 1971 to promote efficient, high quality, comprehensive health care that is accessible, culturally and linguistically competent, community directed, and patient centered for all.







## **NACHC Provides**



NACHC provides health centers with live trainings as well as on-demand learning and resources

NACHC administers the Health Center Resource Clearinghouse that hosts hundreds of resources from 21 National Training and Technical Assistance Partners



**Healthcenterinfo.org** 



**Farmworker Justice** is a nonprofit organization that seeks to empower farmworkers and their families to improve their living and working conditions, immigration status, health, occupational safety, and access to justice.

Using a multi-faceted approach, Farmworker Justice engages in litigation, administrative and legislative advocacy, training and technical assistance, coalition-building, public education, and support for union organizing.

Washington, DC 202-293-5420 www.farmworkerjustice.org

#### **Welcome to the Resource Center!**

Use the search bar on the right to search using key words, or browse through all of our resources by topic by clicking on the drop-down menus on the left. Some of our featured resources are posted below.



## Community Resiliency and Recovery Curriculum

FJ, Health Outreach Partners, and MHP Salud created a COVID-19 community resiliency and recovery curriculum to support farmworker communities. The primary audience for ...

Resiliency Curriculum -Final

TAGS

COVID-19



#### Long COVID: What You Need to Know

What have you heard about Long COVID? This resource shares what patients need to to know about the symptoms of ...

- ↓ Long COVID Brochure English
- ↓ Long COVID Brochure Spanish

TAGS

COVID-19



## Fact sheet on the Better Agricultural Resources Now (BARN) Act

On March 24, 2023, Rep. Allen (R-GA), re-introduced the "Better Agricultural Resources Now Act" (BARN), which would amend the H-2A ...

SEARCH RESOURCES

#### **Immigration & Labor**

- Bracero Program (1942-1964)
- Current Guestworker
   Programs
- Immigration Enforcement and DACA
- International Labor Issues
- Labor Rights for Farmworkers
- Legislative Proposals on Agricultural Workers

#### Health

- Farmworker Health Issues
- Healthcare Access
- Occupational and Environmental Health

#### General Farmworker Information

- Farmworker Justice
   Newsletters
- Overview

### **FJ Resources**

- Issue Briefs and Fact Sheets
- Training-of-trainer curricula
- Educational materials for agricultural workers in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and indigenous languages

Topics include - health centers, health insurance, medical-legal partnerships, climate change, heat stress, pesticides, workers' compensation, diabetes, skin cancer, etc.

https://www.farmworkerjustice.org/resource/



## **National Center for Farmworker Health**

The **National Center for** Farmworker Health is a private, not-for-profit organization located in Buda, Texas, whose mission is "To improve the health of farmworker families."

**Facebook and Twitter:** @NCFHTX Instagram: @Farmworkerhealth
YouTube: National Center for Farmworker Health **Linkedin:** company/national-center-for-farmworker-healthncfh-/

A national initiative to increase the number of Migratory & Seasonal Agricultural Workers & their families served in Community and Migrant Health Centers.















# National Center for Farmworker Health







Population Specific Data, Research, & Factsheets

Patient Health
Education,
Resource Hubs, &
Digital Stories

COVID-19
Resources & Call
for Health



# National Center for Farmworker Health

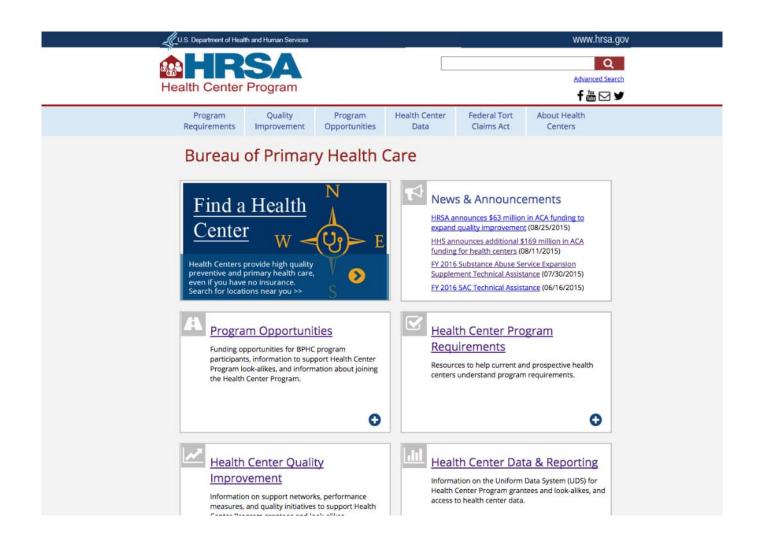






Workforce Development & Learning Collaboratives

Regional Stream Forums Governance Training,
Tools, & Strategic
Planning

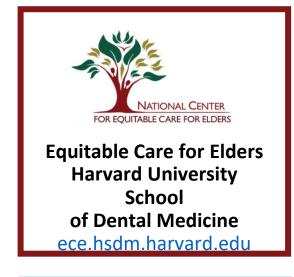


### **BPHC-Funded NTTAPs**

## Special and Vulnerable Populations











School-Based Health Alliance

www.sbh4all.org



Association of Asian
Pacific Community Health
Organizations

www.aapcho.org



National Center for Health in Public Housing

www.nchph.org



National Nurse-Led Care Consortium

www.nurseledcare.or

g

### **BPHC-Funded NTTAPs**

## Capacity Development









National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership www.medical-legalpartnership.org



National Network for Oral Health Access

www.nnoha.org



Futures Without Violence

www.futureswithoutviolence.org

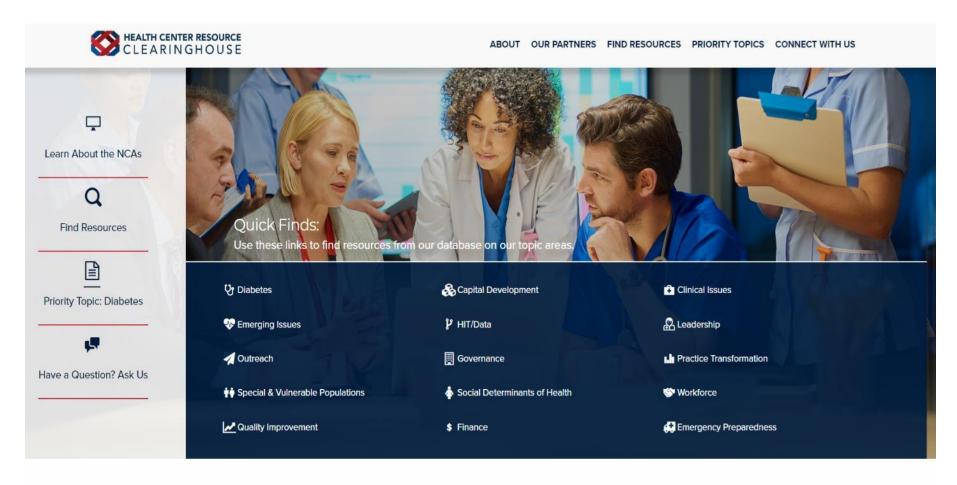


inspiring primary care innovation

Community Health Center, Inc.

www.weitzmaninstitute.org

## Health Center Resource Clearinghouse



www.healthcenterinfo.org

# CONTACT

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Shannon Patrick- MHP Salud spatrick@mhpsalud.org

# Any Questions?



# Thank you!

# Farmworker Health Network













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