

April 15, 2020

## [NCFH COVID-19 Webinar Series: Resource Sharing and Discussions from the Front Line: Topic #2: Developing Relationships in Agricultural Industry to Enhance Education, Communication, and Increase Access to Care]

The focus of this webinar was on developing relationships and communication strategies with farm producers to increase access to care for agricultural workers. Health Center (HC) staff that attended the webinar provided information about how they are helping their patients respond to the impacts and challenges in reaching agricultural workers, especially in rural areas and farms, during the current COVID-19 pandemic. For further assistance, please contact us at the Call for Health program at: 1-800-377-9968.

### Resources Exchanged:

- [AG WORKER ACCESS CAMPAIGN](#)
- [HRSA Community Centers Search Tool](#)

### Questions from Health Centers

#### **1. What is an extension specialist?**

Extension specialists work for land grant institution networks and are responsible to provide education and resources to rural areas and agricultural producers.

#### **2. Is there any work going on to assist producers with identifying new opportunities for their products (e.g. tapping into local sales of products)?**

Yes, extension specialists help producers identify new products.

#### **3. Have growers considered partnering with non-profits/charities/organizations to provide the surplus foods to vulnerable populations like those who are unhoused (homeless)?**

Yes, they are organizing providing surplus foods to local food pantries and areas of need.

#### **4. Are the various farm owners connecting with the Migrant Clinician Network?**

Yes, farm owners are collaborating with their local health centers and health care providers.

#### **5. Is the Call for Health line national?**

- Yes, it is a nationwide, toll free health and information referral service, 1-800-377-9968, whose purpose is to increase access to health care services for agricultural workers and their families. A bilingual **CFH Information Specialist** can connect farmworker families to the closest MHC/CHC or offer alternative sources of care if no HC is available (free clinic, health department, or private doctors). They can also assist organizations in identifying local and national resources.
- The hours are 9:00 am to 4:00 pm CST, with an after-hours bilingual voice mail option. Messages will be returned within 24 hours.

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**6. Are you aware of any formal community networks between producers, hospitals, and long-term care, e.g. skilled nursing**

To our understanding, there is not a formal community network between producers and long-term care. There may be local and non-formal networks established in various communities.