



May 22, 2015

Dear Migrant Health Center Leaders and Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Advocates:

Over 250 health center executives, consumer board members, clinical leaders, farmworker advocates attending the recent 2015 National Farmworker Health Conference agree that a Call to Action to work collectively to develop more effective *strategies to increase access to care for migrant and seasonal agricultural workers and their families over the next five years*, is necessary. This Call to Action is the result of a declining number of farmworkers served—approximately 18% of the estimated number of agricultural workers in the U.S. are being served by health centers. **We know we can do better!**

We have adopted the slogan: **Ag Worker Access 2020** and it calls on every migrant health center grantee to increase by 15% each year over the next five years the number of agricultural workers served. Beginning this year (calendar year 2015), every migrant health center is being challenged to increase the number of agricultural workers by 15%. Even Health Centers that do not receive Migrant Health Funding (330g) are also asked to report all of their patients who meet the definition of “migrant” or “seasonal” agricultural worker as per UDS criteria and definitions.

A Task Force will be appointed shortly and will be Chaired by Avein Saaty-Tafoya, Co-Vice Chair of NACHC’s Farmworker Health Committee and Bobbi Ryder, CEO of National Center for Farmworker Health to provide you with periodic progress on reaching Ag Worker Access 2020 goals each year and provide your staff with specific strategies designed to help you meet this goal. For example:

1. We will develop a list serve to support and communicate on a regular basis throughout the campaign, share best practices and provide you with regular updates on the campaign. The list serve will be called: **Ag Worker Access 2020** and will include a comprehensive list of key staff who can be called upon to help implement the campaign at the health center level. We will need your assistance to get the list serve up and running promptly. More details on this to follow shortly.
2. Training will be made available to front desk staff on the newly clarified definition of “migrant” and “seasonal” agricultural workers and who is included in the definition (i.e., migratory workers, seasonal workers, family dependents, disabled farmworkers who are not currently engaged in agricultural work, elderly farmworkers who are no longer engaged in agricultural work). Information on the current definition will be sent out via the list serve shortly;
3. Training will be made available through regularly scheduled webinars; educational sessions at NACHC’s National Conferences; Migrant Stream Forums and PCA conferences;

4. Training on community outreach strategies designed to increase access to care by working with community partners (public schools, churches, farmers/growers, Work Force Centers, Farm Labor Contractors, Migrant Head Start, Migrant Education etc.);
5. We will be reaching out to PCAs and staff who serve as Single Point of Contact for Special Populations to take a leadership role to work with their health center members to place a high priority on the needs of this population, especially PCAs in those states with the highest concentration of migrant and seasonal agricultural workers (For Example: CA, TX, WA, OR, FL, NC and others).

We will be reaching out to other national partners and national organizations to be a part of the campaign and work with their constituencies to make them aware of the campaign issues and concerns, encouraging them to partner with health centers at the local level.

We will be working closely with our federal partners at HRSA/BPHC to support these efforts through any administrative policy changes that may be necessary to make future requests for financial assistance much more friendly to Special Populations and, specifically, to serve more agricultural workers. **We call on you to join the campaign and begin to develop your own strategies at your health center since you know your community best.** We look forward to sharing your best practices as part of a learning community.

NACHC and NCFH will serve as the lead agencies for this campaign and you will be receiving further details as we roll-out this initiative. We welcome your comments and suggestions which should be directed to Joe Gallegos at jgallegos@nachc.com. Please join us in being a part of this campaign and ensure that America's agricultural workers receive the care they deserve. We are confident that if we all work collectively, we can not only reach this goal, but surpass it. Yes we can; Si Se Puede!

Sincerely,

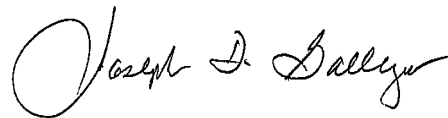
Rachel Gonzales, Chair
NACHC Farmworker Health Committee



Roberta "Bobbi" Ryder, Co-Chair
Ag Worker Access 2020 Campaign



Joe Gallegos, SVP Western Operations
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Avein Saaty Tafoya, Co-Chair
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