# Health Insurance Among Agricultural Workers: Increasing Access and Utilization

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Midwest Stream Forum for Agricultural Worker Health Grand Rapids, MI Sept. 19, 2017



Farmworker Justice is a national farmworker organization based in Washington, DC that seeks to empower farmworkers to improve their health, occupational safety, living and working conditions, and access to health care.

www.farmworkerjustice.org

### **Farmworker Justice**

- Introductions
- Policy Update
- Getting Ready for Open Enrollment 2018
- Strategies to Increase Health Insurance and Health Care Access and Utilization
- Resources
- Questions/Conclusion

### **Agenda**



Who's In the Room??

- 35% of agricultural workers reported having health insurance (according to 2014 NAWS)
  - 31% had employer-provided health insurance
  - 37% had government-provided health insurance
  - H-2A workers are not included in the NAWS
- 38.7% of migrant health center patients were uninsured (according to 2016 UDS data)

## **Current State of AgWorker Health Insurance Status**

- Who's enrolling?
- Have you seen an increase or decrease in number of agricultural workers enrolling over the past few years?
- Are the workers you enrolled coming to the health center to use services?

## Are Agricultural Workers Enrolling Health Insurance?

- Congressional efforts to repeal and replace the ACA
  - American Health Care Act
  - Better Care Reconciliation Act
- SEP Pre-Enrollment Verification

What Happened Over the Summer

- Congress
  - Bipartisan Hearings on Market Stabilization
  - Cassidy-Graham Proposal
  - CHIP reauthorization
- Outreach, Education, and Navigator Funding
- Future of CSRs?

## What's Happening Now

Open Enrollment starts Nov. 1, ends Dec.
 15

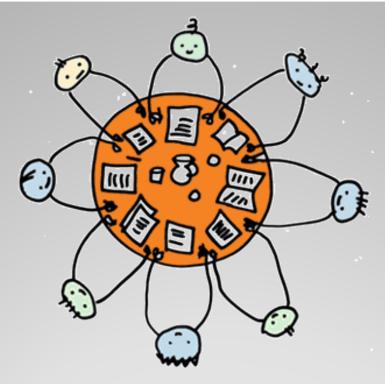


Photo courtesy of NC Farmworkers Project

## **Getting Ready for Open Enrollment 2018**

- Are workers/patients aware of the shorter open enrollment period?
- What questions/concerns are you receiving?
- What challenges are you anticipating? How are you planning to overcome these challenges?
- Is there anything you plan to do differently this open enrollment period?

## **Getting Ready for Open Enrollment 2018**



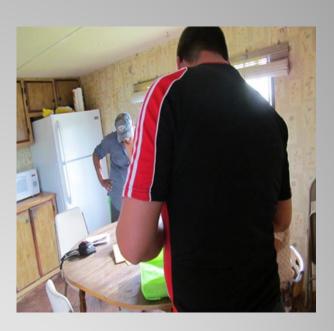
Strategies to Increase Health
Insurance and Health Care Access
Utilization – Small Group
Discussion

- National
  - Families USA Enrollment Assister Resource Center (http://familiesusa.org/initiatives/enrollment-assister-resource-center)
  - NCAs
- State
  - North Carolina Farmworker Health Insurance Team

## Strategies to Increase Health Insurance and Health Care Access Utilization

#### Local

- Partnerships
  - Employers
  - Community organizations
- Agworker-focused education
  - Peer-to-peer education (via promotores de salud)
  - NC H-2A video (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRpHIZf9-bY</u>)
  - WA H-2A enrollment cards
- Sustained in-person assistance



## Strategies to Increase Health Insurance and Health Care Access Utilization

More information on agricultural workers and health insurance can be found on FJ's website at

http://www.farmworkerjustice.org/content/
access-healthcare-0

#### Resources include:

- Fact sheets for workers
- Issue Briefs

#### **FJ** Resources



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#### **Thank You!**