Health Insurance Among Agricultural Workers: Increasing Access and Utilization

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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
• Introductions

• Policy Update

• Getting Ready for Open Enrollment 2018

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

• Resources

• Questions/Conclusion
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)
Are Agricultural Workers Enrolling Health Insurance?

- 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?
• Congressional efforts to repeal and replace the ACA
  ◦ American Health Care Act
  ◦ Better Care Reconciliation Act

• SEP Pre-Enrollment Verification
• Congress
  ◦ Bipartisan Hearings on Market Stabilization
  ◦ Cassidy-Graham Proposal
  ◦ CHIP reauthorization

• Outreach, Education, and Navigator Funding

• Future of CSRs?
• Open Enrollment starts Nov. 1, ends Dec. 15

Photo courtesy of NC Farmworkers Project

Getting Ready for Open Enrollment 2018
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?
Strategies to Increase Health Insurance and Health Care Access Utilization – Small Group Discussion
Strategies to Increase Health Insurance and Health Care Access Utilization

- 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)
    - WA H-2A enrollment cards
  - Sustained in-person assistance
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
Questions
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Thank You!