



East Coast
Migrant Stream Forum

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East Coast Migrant Stream Forum Planning Committee

Renée AboAmshe, Migrant Clinicians Network
Aba Anison-Amoo, Health Outreach Partners
Sierra Brown, Farmworker Justice
Guadalupe Cuesta, National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office
Mel Goodwin-Hurley, North Carolina Community Health Center Association
Erica Hastings, Connecticut River Valley Farmworker Health Program
Hannah Miller, Maine Mobile Health Program
Rosa Miranda, Surry Medical Ministries
Shannon Patrick, MHP Salud
Esly Reyes, National Center for Farmworker Health
Roger Rosenthal, Migrant Legal Action Program
Dr. Jose Santiago Velez, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Continuing Education Credits

Up to 11.5 Contact Hours and 1.2 CEUs from Northwest AHEC

Day 1 – November 29, 2023

- 0.3 CEUs from Northwest AHEC
- 3.0 Contact Hours from Northwest AHEC

Day 2 – November 30, 2023

- 0.5 CEUs from Northwest AHEC
- 4.5 Contact Hours from Northwest AHEC

Day 3 – December 1, 2023

- 0.4 CEUs from Northwest AHEC
- 4.0 Contact Hours from Northwest AHEC

In partnership with Northwest Area Health Education Center (AHEC), a program of Wake Forest University School of Medicine and part of the NC AHEC System.



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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2023

8:00AM – 4:30PM

Registration Open
Room: Piedmont Foyer

8:30AM – 12:30PM

Site Visit

1:00PM – 4:00PM

Exhibitor and Sponsor Hall Open
Room: Piedmont Foyer

1:00PM – 2:30PM

Concurrent Intensive Workshop Sessions (Part 1)

Cultivating Cultural Connections: Empowering Outreach Teams with Tailored Nutrition Education for Agricultural Workers

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 3

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

Culturally appropriate nutritional education plays a pivotal role in addressing diet-related diseases among migratory and seasonal agricultural workers (MSAWs). This presentation emphasizes the development of culturally tailored nutritional education for training outreach staff to deliver linguistically and culturally appropriate food and nutrition education to MSAWs. We will explore the dietary challenges faced by MSAWs, highlighting the necessity of aligning nutrition education with culture, language, and other needs. Practical strategies such as the diabetes plate method will be introduced, along with teaching methods fostering cultural inclusivity in nutrition education. These tools equip outreach staff to provide culturally sensitive and effective nutrition education, ultimately enhancing health outcomes in diverse agricultural communities.

This session will allow attendees to hear perspectives from a collaborative care team on this high impact topic. Presenters will highlight the strength of a multidisciplinary care team and provide opportunities to reflect on experiences with this topic from outreach workers, to share strategies in resource development and nutritional tools from the University of North Carolina (UNC) Nutrition program, and to offer a glance at a culturally adapted screening tool that highlights the need to assist clinical care teams in achieving a greater understanding of the need from the MSAW community with respect to nutritional and dietary health.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe dietary challenges faced by MSAWs when accessing, storing, and preparing their meals and identify ways to address them.
2. Identify strategies for outreach staff to support culturally and linguistically inclusive practices while promoting effective nutrition education for MSAWs.
3. Support primary care teams in facilitating culturally relevant dietary screening and counseling to promote nutritional health for MSAWs and their families

Milicen Tamayo, BS, MPH, RDN, Nutritionist, University of North Carolina Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

Nidha Williams, MD Candidate, Medical Student, University of North Carolina School of Medicine

Janeth Tapia, Lead Outreach Coordinator, North Carolina Farmworkers' Project

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

The Increasingly Complex World of Immigration Policy: What Health Providers Need to Know

Focus: Policy

Room: Gaines 1

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

It is essential for health center staff to better understand immigration issues and policies to ensure access to services for all eligible patients, including immigrants and their families.

This session will explain, step-by-step, the complex world of current immigration law and policies that impact many patients served by health centers. Presenters will begin with a review of government agencies responsible for immigration and explain basic concepts. Legalization, application for asylum status (with recent changes), immigration enforcement, Public Charge, Temporary Protected Status (TPS) (with recent changes), and the status of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program will also be reviewed. Finally, to maximize patient access, presenters will discuss patient privacy concerns and how to overcome immigrant fears of receiving health services.

This information will be immediately usable in managing and undertaking outreach, intake, and planning as well as designing programs, ensuring services to all eligible patients. The session will be interactive with periodic stops for questions.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will better understand the current status of immigration policy as it affects health center patients and their families.
2. Attendees will be able to better explain those policies to health center patients and their families and try to correct misunderstandings, and encourage greater, continuing access to health services.
3. Attendees will be able to better design delivery of services to immigrants and their families and undertake intake and outreach in a manner to maximize patient access and participation.

Roger Rosenthal, JD, Executive Director, Migrant Legal Action Program

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Sweet Talk

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Worker

Room: Piedmont 1

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

Sweet Talk/Conversación Dulce is a program that teaches the essentials of diabetes education and self-management to provide tools to and empower people with diabetes from disadvantaged communities. It was created by Diabetes Educators, Dieticians, Registered Nurses, Pre-Med students, Community Health Workers, and other volunteers with the goal of providing participants a tailored curriculum that can be used in a variety of settings to meet the needs of a target audience. This session will include portions of our Train the Trainer program and an overview of the interactive videos presented in the full version of this three-hour class.

Presenters will discuss the importance of the prevention of one of the most common chronic conditions, which is one of the three leading diseases, causing disability and death in many communities in the United States. Presenters will specifically demonstrate a simple, concise, and practical way in which diabetes self-management education can be disseminated to adult learners through community health workers, Promotoras de Salud, health educators, and health coaches in a culturally appropriate manner.

This curriculum has been developed in a straightforward approach and with relevant culturally appropriate material in English and Spanish. It includes health information on:

- The basics of diabetes and self-management
- The importance of preventing chronic conditions and diabetes complications
- The basics of nutrition recommendations for managing diabetes
- Physical activity and stress management

The format for the curriculum includes alternating presentation and discussion sections in which the members of the group are encouraged to share their own thoughts and experiences with diabetes. This blend of didactic information and communal conversation fosters a unique environment for participants to both learn and share their own experiences.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify strategies for adults learning about diabetes or chronic conditions
2. Recognize factors that impact diabetes management including stress, activity, nutrition, and medication
3. Understand the benefit of a multidisciplinary team approach to chronic disease management.

Rosa Wolff, RN, Director of Population Health, Global Nutrition Empowerment & Samaritan Health Services

Julia Saltzgiver, RD, RDN, CLC, Register Dietitian & Nutritionist, Global Nutrition Empowerment

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Empowering Agricultural Workers Through Community-Centered Health and Technology

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Gaines 2

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

Join us in an inspiring session as we explore unique initiatives aimed at addressing agricultural worker inequities through Community-Centered Health in North Carolina. With narrative, practical insights, and compelling partnerships, this session seeks to ignite transformative change in healthcare access and equity. With some help from the audience, presenters tell the story of how partnering with the Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC Foundation resulted in the Farmworker Health Collaborative: A novel approach to address agricultural worker inequities and barriers to care before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Presenters will cover critical topics to help introduce participants to key aspects of Community Centered Health (CCH) including the CCH story, Clinical Shift, and Systems and Environment Change, Participants will also be introduced to partners in this transformative initiative and will explore the pivotal role technology plays in bridging gaps in healthcare access for agricultural workers. Presenters will also share information about future projects and FAQs.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the core principles of CCH.
2. Learn practical strategies for fostering collaborative partnerships.
3. Harness technology and learn how to leverage use of training platforms to educate health center staff on agricultural workers and their needs.

*Monica Cruz, Special Populations-Community Centered Health Program Coordinator, North Carolina Community Health Center Association
Cecilia Sanchez, RMA, Farmworker Health Outreach Manager, Piedmont Health Services
Bryan Parrish, MAIR, Founder, Tépaló Migrant and Community Health Support*

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Farmworker stakeholders' collaboration group meeting
Reunión del Grupo de colaboración de trabajadores agrícolas
Room: Piedmont 2

Objetivos:

1. Avanzar en la implementación del Estándar de Protección de los Trabajadores Agrícolas (WPS)
2. Protección del trabajador agrícola expuesto a pesticidas y otros químicos.
3. Creación/fortalecimiento de la colaboración y diversidad de aliados relacionados directamente con los trabajadores agrícolas

Objectives:

1. Advance the Implementation of the Farmworker Protection Standard (WPS)
2. Protection of agricultural workers exposed to pesticides or other chemicals.
3. Creating/strengthening collaboration and diversity of allies directly connected to farmworkers

Presenters: Migrant Clinicians Network

2:30PM – 3:00PM

Break with Sponsors and Exhibitors

Room: Piedmont Foyer

3:00PM – 4:30PM

Concurrent Intensive Workshop Sessions (Part 2)

Cultivating Cultural Connections: Empowering Outreach Teams with Tailored Nutrition Education for Agricultural Workers

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 3

The Increasingly Complex World of Immigration Policy: What Health Providers Need to Know

Focus: Policy

Room: Gaines 1

Sweet Talk

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 1

Empowering Agricultural Workers Through Community-Centered Health and Technology

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Gaines 2

Farmworker stakeholders' collaboration group meeting

Reunión del Grupo de colaboración de trabajadores agrícolas

Room: Piedmont 2

4:30PM – 6:00PM

Welcome Reception

Room: Gallery Ballroom

6:00PM

Dinner on Your Own

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023

8:00AM – 4:30PM

Registration Open

Room: Piedmont Foyer

8:00AM – 5:00PM

Exhibitor and Sponsor Hall Open

Room: Piedmont Foyer

8:00AM – 8:30AM

Breakfast

Room: Gallery Ballroom

8:30AM – 10:00AM

Opening Plenary

Room: Gallery Ballroom

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

10:00AM – 10:30AM

Networking Break with Sponsors & Exhibitors

Room: Piedmont Foyer

10:30AM – 12:00PM

Concurrent Educational Sessions

Agricultural Worker Health 101: An Introduction to Migrant Health

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 1

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

This session offers a comprehensive orientation to the Migrant Health Program in the United States. Whether you are new to the Migrant Health field or someone that needs a refresher, join the Farmworker Health Network for a look into the fascinating world of the health care program for migratory and seasonal agricultural workers and their families. In this session, you will learn about the history of agricultural migration, the structure of the Migrant Health Program, and the people that make it work. Learn about agricultural workers, their health care needs, and the system of care that works for them. A review of case studies and group discussion will allow participants to learn from their peers. Acronyms such as DHHS, HRSA, BPHC, ONTASP, FHN, PCMH, etc. will be deciphered, and available resources to make your work easier and better will be provided.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify the migratory and seasonal agricultural worker (MSAW) population and their barriers to healthcare.
2. Understand the history, structure, and requirements of the federal Migrant Health Program.
3. Explain the system of care for MSAWs.

Shannon Patrick, MPH, Health Strategy Specialist, MHP Salud

Esly Reyes, MPH, CHWI, Health Education Products, National Center for Farmworker Health

Meghan Erkel, MPH, Senior Program Manager, Health Outreach Partners

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Bridging Economic Globalization and Rural Health: A Study on NAFTA's Impact on HIV/AIDS in Agricultural Communities

Focus: Research

Room: Piedmont 2

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

This session will delve into the intricate relationship between economic globalization and health outcomes in rural agricultural communities. This presentation will explore a research paper that unravels the complex connections between seemingly unrelated topics: macroeconomic policies and public health. It specifically focuses on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and its impact on the HIV/AIDS epidemic within Mexico and the United States.

Drawing from the Political Economy of Health Model/Health Equity Model, presenters will outline the structural forces that underpin individual exposures and vulnerabilities leading to inequitable health outcomes. This theoretical framework provides the foundation for presenters' research, allowing them to examine the structural factors that influence health at multiple levels, from structural to household to individual levels.

The methodology section will walk attendees through the research process, from setting up the study's structure to defining key terms essential for understanding the intricacies of the investigation. Presenters will examine two pivotal pathways connecting NAFTA and HIV/AIDS: migration patterns and food insecurity, both exacerbating health disparities in rural agricultural areas. Through compelling case studies from Mexico and the U.S. agricultural communities, presenters will showcase the tangible impact of NAFTA on the lives of individuals and communities. Our qualitative data findings will illuminate the socioeconomic consequences and HIV/AIDS-risk behaviors that stem from economic disparities, and a summary of key findings will be provided.

Attending this session will equip attendees with the knowledge and tools to replicate the research's methodology and apply its findings to promote positive change in their communities.

Learning Objectives:

1. Gain a deep understanding of the intricate connections between economic globalization, as exemplified by NAFTA, and health outcomes in rural, agricultural communities.
2. Apply the research methodology presented in the session to their own contexts/settings.
3. Access tools and strategies to replicate similar studies or engage in change that addresses health disparities resulting from economic globalization.

Dulce J. López, Outreach Paralegal for Diverse Communities, South Carolina Legal Services

Complete Session Evaluation

“COVID-19 and Our Community: Better safe than sorry”: A tool for health workers for the prevention of infectious diseases.

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 3

This session will be presented in Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Español.

In this presentation we invite participants to learn about an innovative tool created to support educators, community health workers, community outreach staff, and health care providers in informing underserved communities about COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, vaccination, and preventive public health measures.

With financial support from the Thoracic Foundation, Migrant Clinicians Network developed a graphical flipchart and accompanying educator guide to show the step-by-step process to provide education to community members. The flipchart has more images than text, uses simple and easy-to-understand language, and allows health promoters to address the key concepts of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases in-depth and in appropriate detail so that the concepts are clear. These kinds of tools strengthen the empowerment of community and clinical workers in promoting health and well-being in marginalized communities through materials easily adaptable to their cultures, practices, and traditions. These resources are available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, and English with the objective of reaching migrant communities and immigrants, whose first language is not English.

During the session, participants will practice diverse ways of using the flipchart in their daily practice, and how they can use the guide to get up-to-date information and health promotion strategies regarding disease transmission, vaccination, and preventive public health measures.

Learning Objectives:

1. Learn about the flipchart titled “COVID-19 and Our Community: Better safe than sorry” and the accompanying facilitator’s guide.
2. Explore and practice diverse ways of using the flipchart in a clinical or community practice.
3. Reflect on the importance of information based on popular education and participatory teaching methodologies.

Alma R Galván, MHN, Director of Community Engagement and Worker Training, Migrant Clinicians Network

Hormis Bedolla, CHW, Community Health Worker, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Digital Inclusion: A Community Led Approach

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Gaines 1

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

The proposed session will delve into the critical theme of Digital Inclusion as a Social Determinant of Health with a specific focus on migratory and seasonal agricultural workers and their families. We will introduce digital health as a tool to increase health access. The North Carolina Farmworker Health Program (NC FHP) has been at the forefront of addressing health disparities among this population, and the session aims to elucidate the pivotal role that digital inclusion plays in improving their overall health outcomes.

The session will define digital equity and digital health and its interrelated concepts, ensuring participants grasp the terminology. It will then emphasize the significance of Digital Equity and Inclusion within the context of agricultural communities, framing digital health and literacy as "super" social determinants of health. Attendees will gain an understanding of how these factors directly impact the health and well-being of agricultural workers.

One of the presenters, a Community Health Worker, will share their experiences and insights, providing tangible examples of the challenges and opportunities related to digital equity in the field. Real-world scenarios and success stories will serve to inspire attendees and foster a deeper comprehension of the issues at hand.

Participants will be led in a group activity titled, "My Digital Health Care Ecosystem," where they will envision and create patient-centered models utilizing digital health tools and technologies. By actively exploring how these resources can be incorporated into their unique "health ecosystems," participants will gain practical insights and ideas to implement within their own communities.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define and understand digital equity and its relevance to agricultural worker populations.
2. Acquire three actionable opportunities to advance digital equity within their own communities.

3. Gain an innovative and patient-centered approach to incorporating digital health tools and technologies into their "health ecosystems."

Jocelyn Romina Santillán-Deras, Digital Inclusion Project Coordinator, NCDHHS Farmworker Health Program

Natalie Rivera, MPH, Project Manager, NCDHHS Farmworker Health Program

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Social Determinants of Health in the National Agricultural Workers Survey: Recent Changes in Agricultural Workers' Living and Working Conditions, Earnings, Health Care Access, and Assistance Programs Use

Focus: Research

Room: Gaines 2

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

The health promoting factors found in one's living and working conditions influence health. In this session, presenters will share information collected in fiscal years 2021–2022 from face-to-face interviews with 2,598 farm workers in the recently released National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) data. Major characteristics of the population surveyed: 68% male, an average 39 years of age, 49% parents, 57% most comfortable speaking in Spanish, an average 9th grade level of education, 61% born in Mexico, 75% Hispanic, 58% authorized to work in U.S., 85% settled, and 15% migrants. Presenters will highlight differences based on workers' demographics and households and will also reveal how crowded dwellings, pesticide training, earnings, health care access, health insurance, assistance programs use, and poverty levels have changed since 2015–2016.

Learning Objectives:

1. Learn which workers have higher exposures to conditions that influence their health.
2. Learn how employer type influences primary crop and job task.
3. Become familiar with assistance programs workers are more likely to use.

Wenson Fung, PhD, Research Associate, JBS International

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

12:00PM – 12:15PM

Transition Break

12:15PM – 12:45PM

Lunch

Room: Gallery Ballroom

12:45PM – 2:15PM

General Session: Ag Worker Access Campaign Update

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

2:15PM – 2:45PM

Networking Break

Room: Piedmont Foyer

2:45PM – 4:15PM

Concurrent Educational Sessions

Building Community Partnerships to Overcome SDOH Barriers and Mitigate the Impact of Climate Change on MSAWs

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 1

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

The intersection of Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) and climate change brings unique challenges for the Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Worker (MSAW) population. The effects of climate change, such as extreme heat, changing weather patterns, and poor air quality, can exacerbate this population's health and well-being. SDOH challenges, such as substandard housing, lack of transportation, food insecurity, and language barriers, can also impact health outcomes of MSAWs due to barriers in accessing health care and lack of awareness of the effects of climate change. Building community partnerships can help mitigate these challenges and allow organizations to work together and provide comprehensive support to the MSAW population to ensure the health, safety, and resilience of this community.

This session will provide an overview of the unique SDOH challenges faced by MSAWs and the effects of climate change specifically in agricultural work. Presenters will also highlight the role and value of SDOH community partnerships and provide best practices in the sharing and utilization of resources. This integrated approach to identifying and tackling SDOH barriers and addressing the impact of climate change can improve health access and health outcomes for the MSAW population. Lastly, presenters will also showcase resources and tools for building SDOH collaborative partnerships in your communities.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the impact of SDOH and climate change among MSAWs
2. Recognize the value and role of SDOH community partnerships in addressing SDOH and climate change among MSAWs

3. Identify best practices and access resources and tools to form successful SDOH community partnerships

Esly Reyes, MPH, CHWI, Health Education Products Manager, National Center for Farmworker Health

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

CHWs Reaching Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening

Rates

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 2

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

This session will provide an overview of colorectal cancer risk and barriers to screening for Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAWs). Join presenters from MHP Salud for an interactive discussion on the unique challenges faced by health centers around promoting colorectal cancer screening in this hard-to-reach population. Presenters will review an evidence-based, Community Health Worker-led (CHW or Promotor(a) de Salud) curriculum that could help participant organizations' efforts to increase screening rates among MSAWs in their communities. Presenters will also provide opportunities throughout the session for peer learning through group discussion and activities.

Learning Objectives:

1. Explain unique risks for colorectal cancer among MSAW communities.
2. Understand the various barriers to accessing colorectal cancer screening faced by MSAWs.
3. Learn the components of an evidence-based curriculum that can be utilized to improve colorectal cancer screening rates among MSAWs.

*Shannon Patrick, MPH, Health Strategy Specialist, MHP Salud
Flor Robertson, MS, Health Strategy Specialist, MHP Salud*

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Culturally Relevant Resource for the Puerto Rican Community on Diabetes Management: Your Health, Your Treasure! A Guide to Living Well with Diabetes.

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Worker

Room: Piedmont 3

This session will be presented in Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Español.

This session is intended for Community Health Centers and Community Health Workers (CHWs) and will interactively review diabetes-related complications resulting from inadequate management, as well as strategies to prevent these issues, with a specific focus on the Puerto Rican community. Presenters will review the culturally appropriate methods and lessons learned on how to use the comic “My Health is My Treasure: A Guide to Living Well with Diabetes” as a tool to assist individuals with diabetes self-management. Presenters will review the importance of home blood sugar monitoring, home testing, prevention, and management of abnormal results as well as the role of exercise in diabetes control. Diabetes is a common but complex condition affecting Puerto Rican and Caribbean communities. To offer culturally relevant resources, Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) collaborated with professionals from the Puerto Rico Department of Health and the Alianza de Centros de Salud Comunitaria Inc., as well as with Hospital General Castañer to adapt the comic “My Health is My Treasure: A Guide to Living Well with Diabetes” to the customs and practices of Puerto Rico, taking into consideration cultural, nutritional, and linguistic aspects to use the comic book within the network of 12 community health centers along the island. This initiative will demonstrate how CHWs and Promotores de Salud play a crucial role in providing the necessary education using this comic book as an educational tool that takes into consideration factors such as a language, culture, and literacy levels of the community members CHWs serve.

Learning Objectives:

1. Learn about a culturally sensitive educational tool and the basic elements for managing and self-monitoring Diabetes.
2. Discuss how to reinforce information on a healthy diet for diabetes patients using MCN's comic “My Health is My Treasure: A Guide to Living Well with Diabetes” adapted to Puerto Rico’s cultural norms.
3. Review and discuss the different ways to use the comic book as a tool for diabetes self-management in their daily practice.

*Renée Elizabeth AboAmshe, LPN, CHES, MHA, Environmental and Occupational Health Program Manager, Migrant Clinicians Network
José O Rodríguez, MD, Medical Director, Castañer General Hospital*

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

“I can see clearly now”: Collaborative Care Teams Creating Opportunities for Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAWs) to Access Vision Care.

Focus: Clinical
Room: Gaines 1

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

Building strong partnerships is the key to innovation. During the daily routine, we sometimes find ourselves overwhelmed with the possible projects ahead. It is when we find strong partnerships that we appreciate opportunities for our patients in working together to truly create impacting changes in health for our most vulnerable populations. We know this well from our experiences with the migratory and seasonal agricultural worker (MSAW) community, current health care clinic hours and the ability of MSAWs to arrive for preventive health screenings, annual exams, or chronic care management. By working together to improve health care access for this community, presenters have found it is essential to create non-traditional models to meet the needs of their community. Experience with strong partnerships has been essential in our goals in continuous quality improvement for the population served.

Despite multiple risk factors and a substantial prevalence of visual impairment, eye irritation, and eye injury, 79.5% of MSAWs have not seen an eye doctor within the past two-years. Access to eye care is greatly limited by affordability and lack of insurance. Over the years, visual health in the agricultural worker community has been a challenge that we often are unable to address or is placed as a lower priority because of competing urgent concerns.

In this session, presenters will share challenges MSAWs face in accessing vision care and reflect on the structure and benefits of one partnership development project with Unifour Children and Senior and Family Sight. The Unifour Children Sight (and Senior Sight/Family Sight) program was made possible by Lions Clubs and individuals from throughout the Unifour region of Western North Carolina (Catawba, Alexander, Burke, and Caldwell counties) and many sponsors from community businesses and service organizations. This program focuses on providing vision screening tailored to the person's age and eyeglasses for those with limited means. The desired outcome is for entire families to learn and be productive members of their communities without visual impediments.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe how partnerships can improve quality and access to health care services to hard to access populations such as MSAWs and their families.

2. Understand how strong collaboration is a tool for quality improvement and strategic in maximizing care management and clinical care efficiency.
3. Recognize strategies in building connections and trust with local and global organizations to better serve the MSAW populations.

*Analia Sarver, Outreach Coordinator, Good Samaritan Clinic
Wayne Houser, Unifour Children, Senior and Family Sight / Lions Club
Amy Eades Fisher, LCSW, Executive Director, Good Samaritan Clinic*

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

Improving Health Care Access for Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers through Collaborative Mobile Clinic Efforts in North Carolina

Focus: Clinical

Room: Gaines 2

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

The role of the outreach worker in caring for Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAW) and their families is essential. With many efforts throughout the state among community-based centers and academic programs to bring clinical and preventive services and resources to this population, success in delivering culturally and linguistically appropriate care depends greatly on the role of the outreach teams. An effective outreach team excels in creating and developing pathways to care for the MSAW community. The outreach teams spend significant time and effort in building trust and relationship within the MSAW community. This opens doors for access when clinical care needs are discovered through conversations and health risk assessment. With the identification of health care risks of MSAWs and cultural awareness, medical efforts are maximized with collaborations between outreach teams and clinical teams.

With the success of such community-based partnerships in North Carolina, the development of models for clinical care services for MSAWs continue to grow. The North Carolina Farmworker Health Program in the Office of Rural Health has helped to support the connection of outreach teams and local clinical care services throughout the state. These collaborative efforts have helped to improve health care access to agricultural workers. The mobile clinic has been a strategic way to meet the needs of a population with significant challenges in transportation to health care, financial stressors of seeking health care visits during normal business hours, health system navigation, communication, and digital equity and inclusion. This session will allow participants to learn the essential roles of outreach

workers in implementation and coordination of mobile clinic operations. It will allow for understanding of how to navigate mobile clinic challenges and overcome these barriers to care. It will also provide guidance for how to incorporate learners into the mobile clinic model to enhance high quality care for MSAWs.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the unique role of the outreach worker in promoting health initiatives and navigating health care access for MSAW.
2. Identify challenges to providing care to MSAW via mobile clinics and reflect on ways to find solutions to overcome challenges when delivering care in non-traditional clinical settings.
3. Envision strategies for incorporating medical trainees into agricultural worker mobile clinic workflow to enhance clinical quality and efficiency.

Modjulie Moore, MD, Medical Director, NC Farmworker Health Program

Stephanie Peres-da-Avila, MD Candidate, Medical Student, University of North Carolina School of Medicine

Vicky Gabriela Hernandez, Mobile Clinic Operation Coordinator, North Carolina Farmworkers' Project

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023

7:30AM – 10:45PM

Registration Open

Room: Piedmont Foyer

7:30AM – 12:15PM

Sponsor and Exhibitor Hall Open

Room: Piedmont Foyer

7:30AM – 8:00AM

Breakfast

Room: Gallery Ballroom

8:00AM – 9:00AM

Plenary Session

Room: Gallery Ballroom

Federal Policy Updates

Ben Money, Jr., MPH, SVP of Population Health, National Association of Community Health Centers

Updates from Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

Mily Treviño Saucedo, Executive Director, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

Amy Tamayo, Policy & Advocacy Director, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

[Complete Session Evaluation](#)

9:00AM – 9:15AM

Transition Break

9:15AM – 10:45AM

Concurrent Educational Sessions

Bridging the Gap in Health Disparities through Accurate ID, Classification and Reporting

Focus: Programmatic/Administrative

Room: Piedmont 1

This session will be presented in English. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés.

Although proper identification, classification, and reporting of Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Worker (MSAW) families in the Uniform Data System (UDS) is critical to increasing access to quality healthcare for this special population, it continues to be a challenge for health center teams, as evidenced by the most recent UDS reports. According to 2022 UDS data, 991,558 MSAWs and their families were seen in health centers across the U.S., a decrease of 23,604 from the previous year. Closing gaps in health disparities among special populations, including MSAWs, continues to be a priority for health center staff, but these disparities are often not addressed because many MSAW patients are not identified and reported correctly in the Uniform Data System (UDS). This presentation will provide an overview of the federal definition of agriculture, including qualifying industries and tasks, describe the accurate classification of MSAWs, and address the relationship between proper patient classification, reporting, and funding. Participants will have an opportunity to reinforce learning and discuss real-life scenarios through case studies, access tools and resources for use by their health center teams and will also hear from an Eastern region health center about how these tools and resources have been implemented into their workflow to improve health outcomes and assist with meeting Migrant Health (MH) Program goals. Participants will also receive follow up technical assistance from NCFH staff to assist with MH Action Planning to meet their health center's goals.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the relationship between classification, Uniform Data System (UDS) reports, and health center funding, as well as industry and agricultural task considerations related to classifying an agricultural worker for UDS reporting.
2. Distinguish the different classification types for agricultural workers and apply real-life scenarios through case studies to correctly report agricultural worker patients in UDS.

3. Access resources and acquire implementation strategies to improve patient health outcomes and meet MH Program goals.

Lisa Miller, MA, Training Services Manager, National Center for Farmworker Health

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Chronic conditions management program in a 330 Center in Puerto Rico: The experience of Castaner General Hospital as a “Health Center Quality Leader”

Focus: Clinical

Room: Piedmont 2

This session will be presented in Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Español.

In recent years we have gone through multiple environmental and clinical emergencies that have kept patients away from clinics and their treatments. This has caused poor monitoring of their chronic conditions and health maintenance. The social determinants of health, economic conditions, transportation, access, and housing have been affected and poorly valued. During the session, face to face and telemedicine evaluation models will be presented that makes it easier for health center staff to manage these social determinants and clinical care. Presenters will discuss how this model will bring patients closer to clinicians to facilitate the management of their chronic conditions and the identified social determinants. In addition, presenters will include how to improve the quality of service offered to post-hospitalization patients and describe how this initiative improved the quality results of the clinic, gaining the recognition of a “GOLD Health Center Quality Leader” at the Castaner General Hospital in Puerto Rico. During the session, the importance of the work of the CHW (community health promoter) for the success of this model will be discussed.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the use of technology to control chronic conditions and prevent complications.
2. Learn how to organize a chronic condition management program that includes face-to-face or virtual evaluation at home, clinic, telemedicine, and workplace.
3. Understand the importance of integrating a clinical work team that includes a pharmacist, doctor, laboratory, community health workers, social worker, and nursing.

*José O Rodríguez, MD, Medical Director, Castañer General Hospital
Alma R Galván, MHC, Director of Community and Worker Training and Engagement, Migrant Clinicians Network*

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Harnessing the power of the market to protect the health and safety of farmworkers through the Fair Food Program

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Gaines 1

This session will be presented in Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Español.

Over the past three decades, agricultural workers with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) have demanded an end to the sub-poverty wages and degraded working conditions including wage theft, pesticide exposure, sexual harassment, and modern-day slavery faced by workers in the agricultural industry in Florida and up the East Coast.

After a decade of efforts to enter dialogue with industry representatives to remedy these issues, the CIW launched the Campaign for Fair Food calling on the U.S. retail food industry to take responsibility for the conditions of the workers at the bottom of their supply chain and to use their buying power to require their growers to abide by a code of conduct created by workers themselves. The efforts of agricultural workers and consumers resulted in agreements with 14 major food retailers and the market power necessary to implement the Fair Food Program — an innovative collaboration between workers, growers, and buyers — on tomato and other farms in Florida, up the East Coast, and across the country.

In this session we will share how the Fair Food Program (FFP) protects agricultural workers' human rights including their health and safety in the fields. The FFP has successfully prevented risks of pesticide exposure, extreme heat, and even the spread of COVID-19. Presenters will also share strategies to support positive change when workers are organized to help participants better connect and serve this vulnerable population in rural communities.

Please join us in this interactive conversation, designed to spark the imagination of communities seeking to create the necessary power to effect change in their own realities, and to learn how you can support these efforts so that the workers who produce the food that graces our tables, can enjoy a dignified life.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand some of the challenges that agricultural workers face in their place of work.
2. Acquire strategies for how to best support the positive change happening when agricultural workers are organized.

3. Utilize this knowledge to better connect and serve vulnerable rural communities.

Gerardo Reyes Chavez, Organizer/Farmworker, Coalition of Immokalee Workers

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Research-Community Partnership to Protect Agricultural Workers Against Climate Change

Focus: Research

Room: Gaines 2

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

As a result of climate change, rates of heat-related illnesses (HRIs) are increasing. By 2050, temperature projections indicate the southeastern US will have a tropical climate, like current-day southern Florida. Latino agricultural workers are disproportionately at risk for HRIs. To improve water access while working and contribute to fewer HRIs among NC agricultural workers, staff and outreach workers from a federally qualified health center and university researchers worked together on two research projects, starting in 2018. The research-community partnership then used the results of the studies to guide the implementation of a hydration intervention. Backpack hydration systems were provided to over 200 agricultural workers in eastern North Carolina to use during the 2022 growing season. The acceptability of the intervention was assessed in a subsequent research study. Presenters will discuss how the research-community partnership was established and how the members worked together to advance the science and prepare farmworkers for the adverse health effects of climate change.

Learning Objectives:

1. Explain how climate change is affecting North Carolina agricultural workers
2. Describe three North Carolina research projects on agricultural worker HRI and dehydration.
3. Discuss the benefits and challenges of research-community partnerships.

Elizabeth Mizelle, PhD, RN-BC, CNE, Assistant Professor, East Carolina University College of Nursing

Brayan Madero, Agricultural Health Coordinator, Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center

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10:45AM – 11:00AM

Transition Break

11:00AM – 12:30PM

Concurrent Educational Sessions

Cervical Cancer in Agricultural Worker Families: Assessing Health Center Needs to Increase Health Literacy and Reproductive Health Screenings

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 1

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

Cervical cancer continues to be a major health concern among women worldwide. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2023 there will be over 13,960 new cases of invasive cervical cancer diagnosed in the United States with over 4,310 deaths. Although U.S. incidence rates of cervical cancer have been declining in the last decade with the increased use of the Pap tests and HPV (human papillomavirus) tests, there continues to be great disparities by race and ethnicity, especially among Latina agricultural workers and Latina women of agricultural worker families due to the many barriers they face. Research shows that barriers to screening include misunderstandings of cancer risks, language difficulties, lack of health insurance coverage, cultural perceptions and fear, transportation, and time constraints. Community-engaged approaches are needed to better understand and address these barriers, and research suggests outreach programs and using community health workers could positively impact cervical cancer screenings within this demographic.

In this participatory session, participants will first get a brief overview of cervical cancer and the innovative approaches to prevention and screening with the goal to increase health literacy on reproductive health screening among Latina agricultural workers and Latina women of agricultural worker families. Facilitators will then lead a listening session in which participating health centers will have the opportunity to share challenges and promising practices associated with cervical cancer screenings in their communities.

Facilitators will use information gathered at the listening session to create training and technical assistance strategies that provide culturally and linguistically appropriate delivery interventions for Latina farmworkers and their families. Participants will also receive an invitation to participate in reproductive cancer activities in subsequent project years, as well as a summary of key findings generated from the focus group.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the impacts of cervical cancer on special populations and the barriers to reproductive health screening;
2. Learn the latest innovative approaches and interventions to help prevent cervical cancer
3. Share challenges and promising practices associated with cervical cancer screenings in their communities with their peers.

Meghan Erkel, MPH, Senior Program Manager, Health Outreach Partners

Nina Kanakarajavelu, MPH, Project Director - Health Promotion, Farmworker Justice

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CHW Impact Model: Plan ---> Action ---> Evaluate ---> Improve

Focus: Outreach/Lay Health/Community Health Workers

Room: Piedmont 2

Traditional community health outreach programs often focus on standardized processes and metrics like service counts, with less emphasis on the impact of those services on community health. In contrast, "Empowering Communities: The CHW Impact Model at Sembrando Salud" offers an outcomes-based approach that aligns with value-based care. Developed at Sembrando Salud, this model employs a cycle of Plan, Action, Evaluate, and Improve. Staff are guided by three key questions: What did you do? Did it work? How do you know?

The model operates in six phases, starting with community engagement to tailor the program to local needs. SMART goals are then developed, followed by the identification of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Program activities are implemented in alignment with these goals and indicators, monitored in real-time, and adapted as needed. Finally, findings are shared with the community and stakeholders, allowing for a constant feedback and improvement loop.

Participants of this session will learn about effective resource allocation, enhancing referral processes, the importance of meaningful data capture, and the role of patient-driven goal setting. These elements collectively serve to empower communities through a framework that supports value-based care and meaningful outcomes over service counts or activities.

Learning Objectives:

1. Practice recognizing the differences between traditional outreach services and outcomes-based, value-aligned models
2. Apply the CHW Impact Model's key elements, such as SMART goals and KPIs, to their community health outreach program

3. Utilize data-driven methods for ongoing program evaluation and community engagement.

Amy Elkins, CHW, Sembrando Salud Coordinator, NC FIELD

Yesenia Cuello, Executive Director, NC FIELD

Stephanie Corona, Executive Assistant - Communications, NC FIELD

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Collaborative Language Access Planning with RIM-Serving Rural Local Health Departments

Focus: Policy

Room: Piedmont 3

Centro de los Derechos del Migrante (CDM) will model best practices for developing CLAS standards-aligned language access plans with RIM-serving local health departments (LHDs). Specifically, presenters from CDM will use their experiences facilitating language access planning with a cohort of RIM-serving LHDs located in rural Maryland and Virginia as a case study. CDM will explain the selection and recruitment process for participating LHDs as well as project structure and goals. Presenters will share tools, such as language access self-assessment and language access plan templates, and train session participants how to use those tools to improve language access services within their respective organizations.

CDM will share independent evaluation results for the project, which reflect the success of language access trainings facilitated by CDM for over 200 LHD staff. CDM will also identify specific successes and challenges encountered during the project's first year. Some activities from LHD trainings, such as a LEP immersion experience CDM developed, will be conducted with participants to ensure that the session is interactive and engaging.

Lastly, CDM will discuss the co-design of tools developed with and for community members with limited English proficiency so that community members can learn about and exercise their rights to language access services. Some of these materials will be shared with participants for modification and use in their work.

Learning Objectives:

1. Develop a fundamental understanding of language access rights policy and best practices.
2. Use language access planning tools, such as the self-assessment, language access plan template, and language rights toolkit, in their respective organizations and/or communities.
3. Identify specific opportunities for improving language access services within their organization and communities and will be able

to articulate at least one next step toward implementing those improvements.

Katie Miller, Public Health Liaison & Project Manager, Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc.

Francisco Díaz Pinelo, Communications Lead, Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc.

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Exploring the Results from an Agricultural Worker Digital Equity Research Project in North Carolina

Focus: Research

Room: Gaines 1

In this interactive session, participants will learn about a digital equity research project taking place in North Carolina. Presenters will report results from a survey of agricultural workers' access to the internet and from interviews with workers about how they use the internet. Agricultural workers in North Carolina completed surveys and interviews during the 2023 agricultural season. Survey results showed average internet costs and speeds, and workers' access to devices such as cell phones, tablets, and computers. Interviews helped us understand agricultural workers' digital literacy skills and the types of information they seek online. Community health workers have played a critical role in this research project, including in developing the survey questions, finding agricultural worker participants for the survey and interviews, and asking survey questions to agricultural workers across the state of North Carolina. In this session, participants will contribute to analyzing and making sense of the data our team of community health workers and researchers has collected. During the session, presenters will lead participants through small and large group discussions to identify key messages from the data and explore what it means for different interested parties: agricultural workers and their families, outreach/community health workers, clinic administrators, and policymakers. Digital literacy resources developed by our team will be shared and participants will brainstorm activities about the most pressing needs for agricultural worker digital inclusion.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe preliminary results from a research project about digital equity for agricultural workers in North Carolina.
2. Identify key messages for different audiences about agricultural workers' internet access and digital literacy skills.
3. Use available digital literacy resources to engage agricultural workers.

Emery Harwell, Social/Clinical Research Specialist, North Carolina State University

Julianna Nieuwsma, Ph.D. Candidate, Graduate Research Assistant, North Carolina State University

Elisabeth Reed, Social/Clinical Research Assistant, East Carolina University

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Indigenous Identity and the Challenges Faced During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Focus: Research

Room: Gaines 2

This session will be presented in English and Spanish. Esta sesión será presentada en Inglés y Español.

During this session, NCFH will present findings from a proposed paper regarding the intersection of Indigenous identity and immigration status on COVID-19 vaccination, workplace safety and sanitation, and access to government assistance.

This session will focus on how Indigenous agricultural workers were involved in the process, using a decolonial framework to research writing. The audience will learn the process done with the Indigenous Farmworker Advisory Committee who guided the exploration of the data, provided insights and helped with the discussion and recommendations.

After presenting the main findings, presenters will go over the proposed recommendations on how to better serve and help Indigenous communities. The audience will engage in a discussion to identify how these recommendations can be accomplished as well as identify additional recommendations or actions that can help further their reach and engagement with Indigenous Communities.

The audience will also learn how to leverage NCFH's Indigenous Language Map as well as other educational materials available in Indigenous languages.

Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss differences in vaccination uptake, workplace safety and sanitation, and access to government assistance between the intersection of Indigenous identity and immigration status
2. Be informed of materials that can be used to help them with outreach such as NCFH Indigenous Language Map and other educational materials

3. Identify potential actions steps that can help with outreach and engagement with Indigenous agricultural workers

Nicandro Mandujano Acevedo, MPH, Research Manager, National Center for Farmworker Health

Lisbeth Gall, Public Health Services Manager, National Center for Farmworker Health

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12:30PM – 12:45PM

Transition Break

12:45PM – 2:30PM

Closing Lunch Program

Room: Gallery Ballroom

On Farmwork, Soil-Work and Artwork

Kirsten Kurtz, MS

Kirsten Kurtz is an artist and soil scientist. As a part of the scientific side of her life she manages the Cornell Soil Health Laboratory, with additional responsibilities in research, teaching, and outreach. She has more than 12 years of experience working with the Cornell Assessment of Soil Health. Before joining the lab, Kurtz worked with Finger Lakes wineries and vineyards, accumulating valuable agricultural and scientific knowledge. She also gained a wide range of hands-on experience co-owning and managing a small-scale organic farm selling garlic and small fruits.

Kurtz has a Master of Science from the department of Natural Resources and the Environment at Cornell University. Her research focuses on quantifying soil health properties of remnant tallgrass prairies compared to adjacent agricultural lands to identify and target future soil remediation efforts.

Kurtz is also an artist who creates paintings with soil, bringing together her love of art and soil science. Kurtz creates soil paint by mixing soil, clear gesso and water, she developed this technique and has made it available for anyone to use on her website. She organizes community painting events to raise public awareness of soil health as a critical issue, as important to our future and as deserving of our attention as clean air and water. Her paintings and interviews have been featured in multiple national and international publications. She has been designated an Artist for The Earth by the Earth Day Organization, was featured in The Furrow (John Deere Magazine) and lead a team at Cornell to win an international soil painting competition sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

More of her work can be found on soilpainting.com or on her Instagram [@kirsten_kurtz](https://www.instagram.com/kirsten_kurtz).

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