

Michigan Interagency Migrant Services Committee; *Collaborations and Partnerships*

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Michigan Agriculture

- Food and agriculture sector is the state's second-largest industry.
- Over \$91 billion impact on the state's economy.
 - Over 300 different agricultural commodities produced in Michigan.
 - #1 nationwide in the production of 18 commodities, most of which require farmworker hand labor



Today's Objectives

- Review Interagency Migrant Services Committee (IMSC) creation and structure.
- Highlight several IMSC subcommittees and explore how they have been used to further farmworker interests.
- Focus on how subcommittees have been used and/or created in response to health emergencies or epidemics.

Farmworkers in Michigan

94,167 Total MSFW Population in the State

49,135 adult farmworkers and 45,032 of their dependents in the state.

Legacy of **family migration** often linked to strong grower/worker relationships and a legacy of strong state-coordinated support services for farmworker families.

Of the 45,032 dependents, 42,729 are kids between the ages of 0-19.

27,988 MSFW dependents in the state are children between the ages of 0-12



Farmworkers in Michigan

With 94,167 people, MI is the largest MSFW state in the Midwest.

Seventh largest farmworker population in the U.S.

In 2006: 4,088 Farmworker households received public benefits in Michigan.



Interagency Migrant Services Committee Overview

- ❖ Formed in 1972—Now in 5th decade
- ❖ Mission: Improve quality of life of farmworkers through coordination of services
- ❖ Membership Is Diverse & Comprehensive
 - ❖ All state & federal agencies providing services to farmworkers
 - ❖ Farmworker advocates
 - ❖ Grower interests



IMSC History

- ❖ 1920s—Latino migrant farmworkers in Michigan
- ❖ 1940s & 50s—Over 30,000 migrant farmworkers harvesting Michigan cherries
- ❖ 1960s
 - ❖ “Harvest of Shame” documentary
 - ❖ Some changes to federal law for farmworkers



IMSC History

- ❖ 1968, 1969—Michigan Civil Rights Commission Reports on Farmworker Conditions with recommendations
- ❖ 1970—Governor's Task Force on Migrants issues recommendations
- ❖ Governor Milliken responsible for having heads of state agencies designate an individual responsible for migrant issues



IMSC History



- ❖ 1972—Designated individuals from state departments form the Interagency Committee on Migrant Affairs
- ❖ 1972—Governor proposes a federal-level interagency committee
- ❖ 1976—Governor designates MI DHHS as lead state agency
- ❖ 1978—Governor renames & institutionalizes Interagency Committee by Executive Order

IMSC Purpose



- ❖ Governor's charge to IMSC in 1978--
Provide forum for the following
 - ❖ Communication among state agencies
 - ❖ Resolution of problems
 - ❖ Development of a state strategy
 - ❖ Policy recommendations to Governor's Office

IMSC Purpose



- ❖ Mission (2013 Bylaws): To coordinate the delivery of services to MSFWs and to serve as a clearinghouse for the exchange of views, problems, and solutions between all parties concerned with MSFW labor and related services in an effort to improve the quality of life for MSFWs.

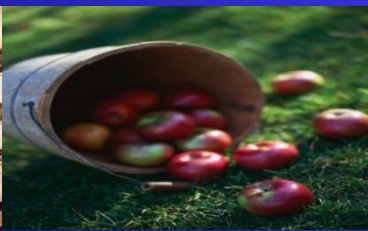
IMSC Membership

- ❖ State Departments: MDARD, MDHHS, LARA, WDA, MDCR, MDE
- ❖ Federal agencies: USDA, SSA, USDOL
- ❖ Migrant Health Agencies: MHP Salud and Michigan Primary Care Association
- ❖ Agencies that specialize in providing education, legal, immigration, or employment services to farmworkers
- ❖ Michigan Farm Bureau



IMSC Structure

- ❖ IMSC meets monthly year-round, rotates meeting locations to member agencies
- ❖ MDHHS Director Office of Migrant Affairs permanent Chair
- ❖ Ad hoc and standing subcommittees



IMSC Subcommittees

- ❖ Migrant Child Task Force
- ❖ Policy/Advocacy & Civil Rights Subcommittee
- ❖ Data Task Force
- ❖ Housing Subcommittee
- ❖ Outreach & Education Subcommittee



Policy/Advocacy & Civil Rights Subcommittee

Purpose: To convene state agencies and non-state partners to ensure fair and beneficial policies for Michigan farmworkers and their families and to ensure progress toward fulfilling the 15 Recommendations outlined in the 2010 Civil Rights Report

Policy/Advocacy & Civil Rights Subcommittee Strategies

- Review Michigan policies affecting farmworkers and their families and advocate for policy changes
- Develop metrics to measure agency progress.
- Report annually on agency progress to the Civil Rights Commission.

Michigan Civil Rights Commission

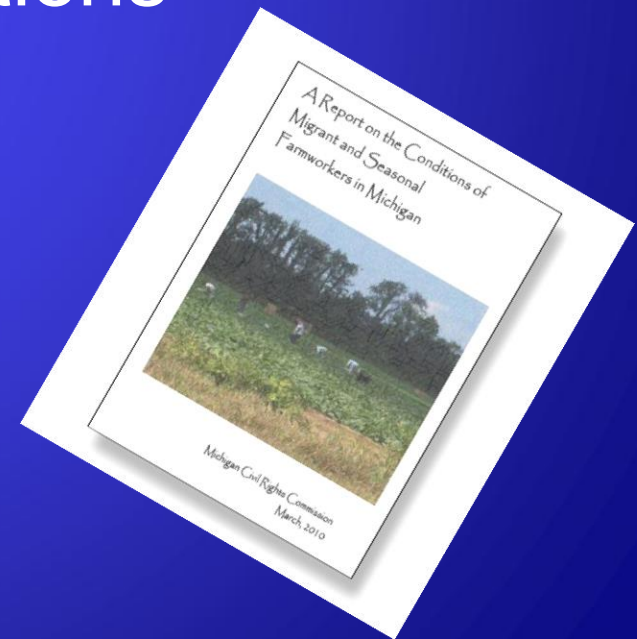
A Report on the Conditions of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers in Michigan



Michigan Civil Rights Commission
March, 2010

Civil Rights Commission Report

- ❖ Civil Rights Involvement
- ❖ Gathering Information
- ❖ Report Recommendations



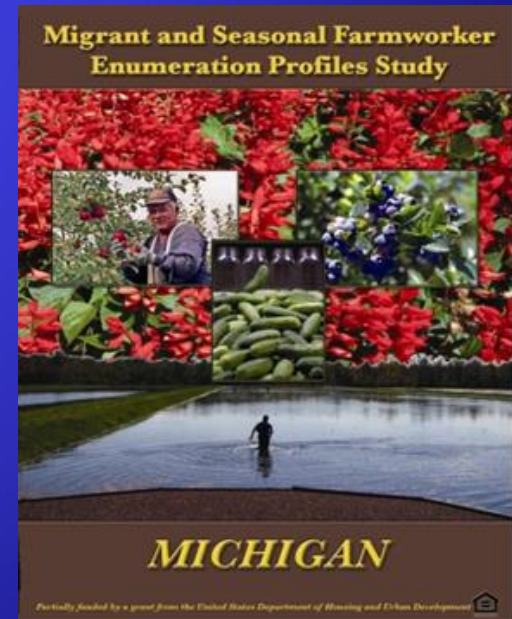
Data Task Force

Purpose: To convene state agencies and non-state partners to support the collection and analysis of data to improve service delivery and advocacy.

Goal: Support efforts to expand and share knowledge of the MSFW population

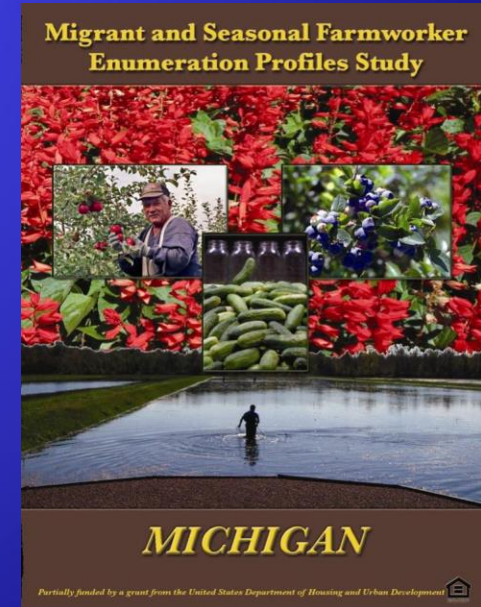
2006 Enumeration Profiles Study MSFWs in Michigan

- ❖ Need for a Study
- ❖ Funding
- ❖ Hiring a Consultant



Enumeration Study Utilizing Partnerships

- ❖ Role of the IMSC
- ❖ Enumeration Methodology
- ❖ Michigan Collaboration



Enumeration Study Final Report

- ❖ MI Department of Education
- ❖ Presentation of 2006 Study
- ❖ Final Numbers
- ❖ 2013 Enumeration Profiles Study

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker
Enumeration Profiles Study



Michigan Update June 2013

Housing Subcommittee

- ❖ Purpose: To convene state agencies and non-state partners to identify issues, share best practices and develop solutions related to availability and quality of migrant housing.
- ❖ Goal: Identify housing needs and issues related to housing availability and quality. Ensure that migrant housing is inspected and licensed.



Housing Focus

- Subcommittee was created in 2005 to address the effect of long term unfilled vacancies in the MDARD's Agriculture Housing Unit.
- These vacancies led to shortages in licensed housing and increased instances of uninspected, unlicensed, and substandard housing.

Accomplishments

- Fully staffed Migrant Labor Housing Unit
- 2012 emergency housing assistance funds



Outreach & Education Subcommittee

Purpose: To provide training and resources to ensure effective and safe services to Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers by service providers and community members.



Outreach & Education Subcommittee Outcomes

- Increase safety and share accurate information for outreach workers through training.
- Create resources for outreach workers.
- Coordinate the planning of an annual statewide event.



Outreach & Education Subcommittee Resources

- ❖ Interagency Referral Form
 - ❖ Developed by WDA, MDARD, MIOSHA, and sub committee members
 - ❖ Report Apparent Violations
 - ❖ Referred to Appropriate Agency for Investigation



Outreach & Education

Subcommittee Trainings

- ❖ Training Webinars for those who serve MSFWs
 - ❖ Personal Safety for Outreach Workers
 - ❖ Reporting Apparent Violations and Complaints
 - ❖ Cultural Competence and Communications
 - ❖ Human Trafficking
 - ❖ Farmworker Legal Rights
 - ❖ Camp Access and Child Labor



Bi-annual Conference for MSFWs, Growers and Service Providers

- ❖ State Directors' Update
- ❖ Awards and Honors
- ❖ Workshops
 - ❖ Housing Standards and Enforcement
 - ❖ MSU CAMP Program
 - ❖ Ag Employer Panel
 - ❖ "Hot" Topics
 - ❖ Project Respeto
 - ❖ Technology to serve MSFWs



Subcommittee Efforts to Address Health Emergencies

- ❖ H1N1 Pandemic

- ❖ Zika Virus

H1N1 “Swine Flu” Pandemic

- ❖ MPCA Presentation to IMSC
- ❖ Creation of Ad Hoc Health Subcommittee
- ❖ Coordination of Response for Farmworkers and Service Providers

Zika Virus

- ❖ MPCA Presents to IMSC
- ❖ IMSC Discussion for methods to share and inform farmworkers
- ❖ Bilingual Flyers from the CDC
- ❖ MCTF Zika Kits

Questions/Comments

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