

Newsletter

MAY 2023

North Carolina Focus on Increasing Education, Leadership, & Dignity



EQUITABLE ACCESS Food Equity

Despite producing 70% of the world's food, local farmers face undernourishment challenges. We are partnering with UNC-Chapel Hill's Environmental Justice Clinic to address the issue. We know most farmworkers are farmers who need land. We actively seek community support around ground use justice and opportunities to lease rural land for food micro-enterprise projects. Our ultimate objective is to ensure everyone can access nutritious and culturally relevant food options.

Here I want to highlight the food drive totals. From October 2022- April 2023, NC FIELD was able to streamline access providing food to 10879 individuals through monthly food drives.





Mental Health amongst farmworkers

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. North Carolina estimates 150,000 farmworkers are needed to ensure the 100-billion-dollar revenue produced by the state's agribusiness industry. Yet less than 24,000 arrive legally, and due to challenges with transportation, systems navigation knowledge, language, and cultural barriers, a tiny percentage have access to resources like health prevention. The number of farmworkers who have spent decades ensuring the life-giving necessity of food while living undocumented with all the stressors associated with their lack of status in addition to the poisons lurking invisibly in the soil, air, on animals, and even inside our food; and hostile work environments, provokes several mental health issues.

The pandemic deeply impacted the agricultural workforce. Recent studies show an increase in mental health instances among farmworkers since COVID-19. At NC FIELD, we are hiring, training, and deploying community health workers from these vulnerable communities with screening tools and, most recently, additional training to adequately address the needs of those who touch nearly every kind of food we all consume. A lack of providers is available in the evenings and on Sundays when farmworkers can attend to their mental health needs. Transportation, time, and the lack of providers willing to visit migrant labor camps are barriers to care.

A deep understanding of how farmworkers express their condition is lacking. NC FIELD is working in a dedicated fashion to ensure staff is provided with Mental Health First Aid and addictions training and goes into the community prepared with Naloxone. We are grateful for the opportunity to begin the conversation in farmworkers' communities in eastern North Carolina. We hope additional support will allow us to build enough capacity to prevent premature death that impacts families and workers.



Get to know US

*Vidal
Lordmendez*



Vidal is a former H2A worker from Veracruz, Mexico. Vidal was inspired to work with NC FIELD because he understands the stressors between workers and agribusiness.

Vidal's role within NC FIELD is H2A consultant. Because of his first-hand experience as a former H2A worker, he knows the farmworker's needs and is a huge advocate. Vidal named Karl Marx as one of his inspirations.

“
Shout out to eastern North Carolina's former child tobacco worker and NC FIELD founder, Neftali Cuello, for her contribution to the show, and to John Oliver with Last Week Tonight for elevating the current situation with the people responsible for ensuring we don't starve.
”



WATCH NOW



updates

NC FIELD-Sembrando Salud has been very busy this month. To stay up to date, follow us on all of our social media platforms



2023 Farmworker Institute



Midwest Stream Forum for Agricultural Worker Health 2023



PIH gathering

Stay up to date

UPDATES

COVID-19 Rapid Tests

Free Covid Rapid Testing on Sundays 9 am-2 pm at Maria Reina in Mount Olive, NC

Free Clinic Services

Sembrando Salud & Campbell University Community Care Clinic averages 20 new patients monthly.

COVID-19 Vaccines

On 05/21/2023 from 10-6 pm, Sembrando Salud will be at Maria Reina de las Americas in Mount Olive, NC providing COVID-19 booster vaccines for all ages.

ACA and Medicaid referrals

NCF being part of the Navigator Consortium) - also "Medicaid Expansion, a thank-you to all involved, and a reminder that more work is needed.

How you can help!

Follow us on social media.

Like & Follow!

Donate on NCFIELD.ORG.

Volunteer at events

SCAN ME



Thank You

Dear NC FIELD Supporters, Thank you for supporting NC FIELD and farmworkers everywhere. We hope you will enjoy some updates on the amazing work that we have been doing thanks to supporters like you!

Yesenia Cuello
Executive Director

Follow NC FIELD! on Social Media



[252-933-2533](tel:252-933-2533)



www.ncfield.org



@NC_FIELD



NC Field



@NC_FIELD