Martha Sonato, Chair of OWRF, Political Director at PCUN
Reyna Lopez, Executive Director of PCUN
OWRF Exec Committee

Martha Sonato, PCUN — Chair
Reyna Lopez, PCUN
Adriana Miranda, CAUSA
Isa Peña, CAUSA
Jenny Lee, APANO
Jenny Pool-Radway, LCHC
Ricardo Luján-Valerio, Latino Network
Carmen Rubio, Latino Network
Se-ah-dom Edmo, MRG Foundation
Stephen Manning, Innovation Law Lab
Ramon Valdez, Innovation Law Lab
Overview of OWRF
Purpose & Need

“The Oregon Worker Relief Fund provides direct cash assistance to immigrant Oregonians who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and are excluded from federal and state safety nets.”

One in every 10 Oregon children live with a family member who is undocumented.

Immigrants contribute immensely to Oregon’s economic health

- One in eight workers in Oregon is an immigrant, together making up an essential share of the state's labor force across industries.
- Undocumented Oregonians pay about $81 million annually in state and local taxes.
- Over 13 percent of Oregon’s workforce are immigrants.
- In 2015, over 28,000 immigrant business owners in Oregon generated $470.6 million in business income.
- Immigrant-led households paid more than $2.5 billion in federal and state taxes in 2014.
OWRF Coalition

And Over 100 More Organizations!
The OWRF coalition has partnered with 20 trusted community-based organizations that cover different regions and impacted communities.

- Applications are submitted using an integrated, secure online platform.
- Every application is reviewed centrally by a team of attorneys.
- If approved, funds are disbursed using mobile payments and checks.
- As of July 7, 2020, OWRF has disbursed more than 10.5M to individuals.
1. A community member in need seeks assistance from a participating CBO.

2. Participating CBO assists in filling out universal application.

3. Once filled, the application is processed through a single system for approval under OWRF coalition.

4. After processing, OWRF coalition review and approve applications.

5. Approved community member receives payment.

http://workerrelief.org
What is Next?

Oregon’s E-Board made an additional allocation to Oregon Worker Relief in June to support workers falling through the cracks during COVID-19

- OWRF 2.0 - 10M
- Oregon Quarantine Fund - 10M
Oregon Worker Relief Fund: Provides financial relief to Oregonians that have lost their wages/job bc of COVID-19 and are ineligible for Unemployment Insurance and federal stimulus relief

Oregon Quarantine Fund: Mitigate the spread of COVID-19 for agricultural workers by providing financial relief to take the time they need to self-quarantine.
PURPOSE + PROBLEM
COVID-19 outbreak hits food processor in Dallas, Oregon.
The average wage of an agricultural worker: $24,200 per year
Most Agricultural Workers Report that they could not afford to take two weeks off for Quarantine if they were in contact with COVID-19
“people of color are overrepresented in agriculture and ... perhaps contributing to higher rates of COVID-19 observed in these groups” - OHA COVID-19 June 17, 2020 Weekly Report
Solution
Relief and Freedom. Agricultural Workers will be supported with up to 2 weeks of emergency relief to Self Quarantine

$430 per week

$860 for two weeks
Who can apply
Who is eligible to apply to this fund?

- All Oregon agricultural workers, 18 years of age or older; and,
- Has had exposure to COVID-19 for which self-quarantining is recommended (a) was in contact with someone that tested positive for COVID-19 in the workplace; (b) tested positive for COVID-19; (c) lived in close proximity to other household members that are COVID-19 positive; or (d) have been contact traced.
- Is practicing self-quarantining; and
- Is seeking health care assistance during the period of self-quarantine.

Eligibility

1. Agricultural Worker
2. 18 year of age, or older
3. Exposure to COVID-19 for which self-quarantining is recommended
4. Contact with someone that tested positive for COVID-19 in the workplace; (b) tested positive for COVID-19; (c) lived in close proximity to other household members that are COVID-19 positive; or (d) have been contact traced.
5. Is practicing self-quarantining
6. Seeking health care assistance during the period of self-quarantine
Who qualifies as an agricultural worker?

For the WRQF, an agricultural worker is an individual currently working for a wage in Oregon in an activity related to agriculture, farming, fishing, treeplanting, tree harvesting, dairy, ranching, food processing, canning, slaughtering, packaging, butchering, or nursery work.
Mid-End July Timeframe

1st Stakeholder Briefings
Overview of the Quarantine Fund to Worker Relief Fund Coalition, Navigators, other groups

2nd Capacity Building
Policy Conversation with all teams and Innovation Law Lab

3rd Training(s)
Training 1: Team leads
Training 2: All Navigators

4th Communicate and go live!
$10M to spend down by December. Can roughly support over 11K agricultural workers
OHA Connection to our Worker Relief Coalition

Navigators supporting workers on their universal application

Navigating Organizations

- Base activation through outreach programs, culturally specific news, word of mouth and more.
- Community Organizing
- Community Organizations on contract with OHA
- Referrals to Quarantine & WRF Fund Navigators

C-POP Program