



Protecting Oregon Farmworkers Resource Guide



This resource guide was developed by the Community Partner Outreach program and is intended to serve as a primary source of COVID-19 resources and information for Community partners as they engage in outreach to farmworkers. OHA's expectation is that you take time to thoroughly review it in detail and become familiarized with its content.

This is a living document and will be updated as the grant period progresses, and updates occur.

General COVID-19 Information and Resources

Websites – To ensure you maintain a working knowledge of COVID-19 updates, please visit these sites often and sign up for email updates to stay in the loop. We cannot emphasize enough how important the information and resources found on these pages is. All sites contain information and resources in multiple languages. Please get comfortable navigating them.

- The [OHA COVID-19 Updates Webpage](#) should be your “go to” location for COVID-19 information. We have incorporated a section specifically for farmworkers. It can be found under the *Community Resources for Specific Groups* section. The website contains information in multiple languages including Spanish.
- Similar to the OHA COVID-19 Updates page the [CDC COVID-19 website](#) contains useful resources in multiple languages.
- Governor Brown's [COVID-19 Webpage](#) provides critical information regarding executive orders and her reopening framework in addition to multiple COVID-19 resources.
- The [National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc. website](#) provides resources. Particularly of interest may be Comunidades Indigenas en Liderazgo's (CIELO) [resource document](#) which contains information in K'che', Mam and many other indigenous languages. The website also contains a link to Rural Womens Health Project's [educational materials document](#) which contains information in multiple indigenous languages, dialects, and Spanish

Social Media – A solid social media outreach effort will be crucial to reaching farmworkers and their families as many own smartphones and are linked to social media platforms. Below are resources for sharing on your social media platforms in addition to Facebook pages where you can find useful COVID-19 educational information. If you have not liked the pages linked below, please take time to do so.

- The Community Partner Outreach Program at OHA is collaborating with VIVE NW/TV Jam to produce [Videos](#) in multiple languages. Please share videos with your networks, the general public and your social media platforms.
- The [Cultural Survival](#) webpage contains COVID-19 videos in multiple indigenous languages from around the world which can be shared via social media.
- On the OHA [Spanish Facebook Page](#) you can find critical COVID-19 updates in Spanish. If you have not liked the page yet, please do so and share with your networks.
- The CDC [Spanish Facebook Page](#) is another great source for COVID-19 information and resources. If you have not done so please like the page and share with your networks.
- Governor Brown's [Stay Home. Save Lives](#) website contains resources for sharing on all major social media platforms as well.
- The [Safe + Strong Oregon](#) campaign website has multiple COVID-19 resources in 12 languages.
- The CDC has created a [Social Media Kit](#) which is another excellent resource in Spanish.

General Media – A good strategy for reaching farmworkers with COVID-19 information is through traditional media channels such as TV and Radio. Below you will find a link to the CDC's communication resources with valuable guidance and content for PSA's.

- [CDC Communications Resources](#) webpage has multiple resources for media communications including PSA's.
- *Lara Media-More information coming soon.*

Ag and Farmworker Guidance – Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit Oregon, state government agencies have produced various temporary guidance documents and temporarily amended state rules and policies to help protect Oregonians.

- The [OSHA Temporary Rule](#) provides detailed information regarding what Ag. Employers are responsible for doing to protect their employees. Please familiarize yourself with this document as it is good foundational knowledge to have as you conduct outreach activities directly at farms.
- For your convenience, OSHA has also created a [YouTube Video](#) in Spanish explaining the OSHA temporary rule.
- The OHA [Interim Guidance for Agricultural Workers](#) also provides recommendations and resources specifically for farmworkers.

Printed Materials/Materials for Printing – Currently there is an endless amount of materials available on the internet for printing. OHA will provide you with a basic "starter kit" to be designed by Lara Media towards the end of July at no cost to you. We have also developed a process for making existing materials available to you. If you are looking for additional materials to print yourself, it is a good idea to start with the CDC and OHA COVID-19 updates pages linked above under websites.

- To order printed materials through OHA complete the online [Smartsheet](#) request form. If you do not have a Smartsheet account you will need to [create one](#) in order to log in and place your request.
- The [CDC Stacks](#) Public Health Publication catalogue offers multiple COVID-19 materials in various languages.
- OSHA has developed a series of [Field Sanitation Materials](#) for employers and farmworkers alike. The majority of these materials are pictographs and are ideal for distributing for

workers in particular. Printed copies are available for order and can be shipped directly to you.

Webinar – OHA offers multiple partners webinars for partners including one specifically for organizations that work directly with farmworkers. This webinar is another good source of information and resources. If you are not participating in this webinar, please take some time to sign up for it below.

- [Register](#) for OHA's bi-monthly webinar to learn about updates and resources for Agricultural workers.

Training Resources

Contact Tracing – While contact tracing is not a requirement as part of the POF grant funding your organization may still choose to participate in Contact Tracing. OHA is currently recruiting individuals and organizations interested in becoming Contact Tracers.

- If you are interested in becoming a [Contact Tracer](#), you can complete the [OHA Contact Tracing Interest Form](#).

OHP Application Assister Training – The OHA Community Partner Outreach Program offers OHP trainings weekly. This training may be valuable in helping farmworker families access healthcare. Like the Contact Tracing training, this training is also not a requirement. Only an option.

- If you are interested in becoming a certified OHP application assister register one of the [ONE Integrated Eligibility CP Trainings](#) offered weekly. If your organization is not structured to offer these services, you can refer farmworkers to one of our certified partners. instructions on how to do this are found under the “healthcare resources” below.

Personal Protective Equipment Resources

Facemasks – Distributing PPE to farmworkers will be an integral part of your outreach duties. Governor Brown has allocated around one million facemasks and five thousand gallons of hand sanitizer for distribution to farmers and farmworkers and these are available to you as well.

- PPE can be accessed by contacting your local [Oregon State University Extension Service](#) office. Shipments were made by the National Guard on May 27-28.
- CPOP will be distributing facemasks directly to you as well. If you have not received a shipment, please contact [Jorge Martinez](#).
- OHA Public Health Division has created [Facemask Guidance](#) for the general public. We highly recommend reading this guidance along with the [Cloth Facemask Instructions](#) from the CDC.

Health Related Resources

Testing – Because of the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on frontline workers and communities of color in general, these groups have been designated as a priority for testing by the Governor. It will be critical to provide adequate information regarding testing for COVID-19 as you interact with farmworkers.

- The state has developed a [strategic plan for testing](#) to help guide healthcare providers and community partners regarding COVID-19 testing. We highly recommend you take time to read the plan in order to understand the who, what, where and when of COVID-19 testing.
- Farmworkers can access free or low cost healthcare services, including testing, at any of the [Federally Qualified Health Centers](#) in Oregon. FQHC's have strong ties to farmworker communities across Oregon so a simple referral may suffice.
- [Local Public Health Authorities](#) in your area may also be conducting testing events in your community. Reach out to them for more information.

Health Insurance – A common disparity impacting farmworker communities negatively is access to health care services. The [Oregon Health Plan](#) Plan is free health coverage available to those who meet income requirements. OHP and the CAWEM emergency services for undocumented immigrants will cover COVID-19 testing and treatment. As you conduct outreach it is critical that you refer farmworkers to organizations which can provide these services or, if you are certified to provide them yourself, you provide OHP enrollment services yourself.

- Oregon Health Plan members are covered for [testing and treatment](#) related to COVID-19.
- This includes undocumented individuals that only qualify for [CAWEM or CAWEM Plus](#).
- Find a [local certified partners](#) across Oregon.

Contact Tracing – Providing information regarding Contact Tracing to farmworkers could help to mitigate COVID-19 outbreaks in farmworker communities. While you are not expected to participate in Contact Tracing activities you are expected to provide general information regarding the Contact Tracing process, and it's benefits to help ease fear and hesitance in the community.

- The OHA [Contact Collaborative](#) is a one stop shop for all information regarding contact tracing. Please familiarize the page content and use the resources found in it. The page contains materials for printing and sharing with the community.

Quarantine Fund – Part of your outreach efforts will should include providing information regarding the quarantining resources available to farmworkers.

- You can find local navigator organizations to help with the quarantine [financial assistance](#) process near you.

Economic Resources

Unemployment Benefits – The median income for farmworkers is around 25k per year. Should they become ill with COVID-19 many families would not have the resources to pay for basic day to day needs. It is critical that you provide information regarding all financial help available to farmworkers and their families. Regardless of immigration status there are resources available if families lose income/wages.

- Oregon Employment Department has created a [UI Guide In Spanish](#) that explains the unemployment application process.
- Workers should file their claim at: <https://www.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx>
- Oregon Employment Department [CARES Act Webpage](#) provides information regarding the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program (PUA) process including the [PUA Application](#). Note that the PUA is only for workers who are NOT eligible for regular unemployment benefits.

Federal Stimulus Dollars – Federal stimulus dollars have been allocated specifically for those who file taxes.

- Farmworkers who have filed taxes within the last 2 years can access [Federal Economic Impact](#) dollars through the IRS.

Oregon Worker Relief Fund – The OWRF is a community based fund developed to provide assistance to workers who do not qualify for UI or federal stimulus dollars.

- You can find local navigator organizations who can assist you with [Oregon Worker Relief Fund](#) process in your area.

Education Resources

Oregon Department of Education – Providing information regarding educational services to farmworkers may also be helpful farmworkers and their families.

- Find Oregon Department of Education updates for the upcoming school year [here](#).
- The ODE [Ready Schools Safe Learners](#) guidance provides information and resources for families regarding the upcoming 2020-2021 school year.
- The [Title 1-C Migrant Education Coordinators](#) have strong ties to the local farmworker communities locally and may be great starting point for education related referrals and overall collaboration with their recruitment workers.

Food Resources

Oregon Department of Human Services –

- The [DHS Benefits Webpage](#) has multiple resources including the [DHS benefits application](#) through which farmworkers can apply for cash, childcare and food assistance.
- DHS has also created a webpage specifically for [Food Access](#) during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The page contains information on how to [Find Food Locally](#), the [Oregon Food Bank](#), and various other food resources.

Oregon Department of Education – In addition to educational resources ODE also provides multiple food related resources available to farmworkers families in need.

- The ODE [List of School Districts](#) provides information on local schools providing free meals to children during the pandemic.
- The [Pandemic EBT](#) application is also managed by ODE.

Housing Resources

Safe Sheltering – Farmworker housing continues to be a problem in the state of Oregon regardless of COVID-19. Farmworkers have long been housed in sub-standard, crowded living conditions which could potentially lend themselves to disproportionate propagation of COVID-19. In order to mitigate this potential, the Food Security and Farmworker Safety Program has allocated funding both accessible to farmers and farmworkers themselves. It will be your responsibility to help educate farmers about this assistance in addition to referring farmworkers to services available to them.

- Farmers can apply for funding to modify existing on site housing and for offsite housing expenditures at hotels by completing the [FSFS housing application](#).

- Oregon Human Development Corporation was allotted funds from the FSFS to provide rental relief to farmworkers living offsite. You can refer farmworkers directly to your local OHDC office for assistance or assist them in completing the [Rental Relief Application](#).

Rental Assistance – In addition to the resources above, the state of Oregon has also made assistance funds available to assist families impacted by COVID-19 and who cannot afford to pay rent or mortgage month to month.

- Funds will be distributed through [Local Agencies and Organizations](#). Find agencies in your area using this [Map](#).
- 211 Info [Housing and Rental](#) assistance webpage contains information for locate housing and rental assistance.

Utility Assistance Resources

Utility Assistance –

[211 Info](#) can help locate utility assistance programs across Oregon using their [Online Database](#) search tool.

Childcare Resources

Employment Related Daycare –

- Oregon Department of Education Early Learning Division [ERDC Webpage](#) and [FAQ](#) provide information on how to find childcare for frontline workers.
- [211 Info](#) has additional information regarding childcare resources available in Oregon.

Worker Rights Resources

Sick Leave – Another crucial resource available to farmworkers. All workers in Oregon are entitled to a full 2 weeks paid sick leave should they contract COVID-19.

- Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries [Workplace Laws](#) webpage provides information on paid sick leave rights for workers.

Reporting Workplace Violations – In order to help protect farmworkers from unsafe working conditions during the COVID-19 period, the state has several resources for reporting workplace hazards.

- [OSHA Workplace Hazard Reporting](#) process allows workers to report employers who are not following the interim COVID-19 [OSHA Workplace Guidance](#) which has been developed to protect frontline workers.
- The State Monitor Advocate, [Fernando Gutierrez](#) can help with addressing workplace violations during COVID-19. He can be reached at: [503-947-1996](tel:503-947-1996)

Public Charge Resources

US Citizenship and Immigration Service – The federal governments page on all things related to immigration. As you provide information regarding services you will likely come across questions related to public charge. It will be a good idea to visit these sites frequently to keep up to speed on updates.

- For updates regarding the public charge rule as it applies to COVID-19 you can visit the [USCIS Response to COVID-19 Page](#) for more information.

Oregon Immigration Resource – Local to Oregon source of information regarding public charge.

- Visit [Oregon Immigration Resource](#) for updates

Protecting Immigrant Families – Protecting Immigrant Families is a national level source of information regarding immigration and likely has the most concise analysis of public charge available.

- Visit their [General Overview](#) of public benefits and Public Charge for accurate information on how public benefits impact public charge.

Legal Resources

Legal Aid –

- [Oregon Legal Aid](#) services have offices around the state of Oregon and provide services specifically to farmworkers.

Innovation Law Lab –

- The [Innovation Law Lab](#) provides representation for immigrants, refugees and asylees facing deportation and other immigration issues.

Oregon Immigration Resource –

- [OIR Legal Resources Page](#)