



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.

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

General COVID-19 Information and Resources

Websites

For COVID-19 updates, please visit these sites often and be sure to sign up for email updates. This website is critical to maintaining knowledge and awareness of COVID-19 resources from the State of Oregon. All sites contain information and resources in multiple languages.

- The [OHA COVID-19 Updates Webpage](#) should be a “go to” location for COVID-19 resources. OHA has incorporated a section specifically for farmworkers. It can be found under the *Community Resources for Specific Groups* section.
- Similar to the OHA COVID-19 Updates page the [CDC COVID-19 website](#) contains useful resources in multiple languages and should be visited frequently for updates and resources.
- 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 for indigenous language speakers. Particularly of interest may be Comidades Indigenas en Liderazgo’s (CIELO) [resource document](#) which contains resources in K’che’, Mam and various other 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
- The Guatemalan consulate in Seattle has developed some [COVID-19 materials in Mam](#) of public use.
- The American Public Health Association’s [COVIDGuia.org](#) website is entirely in Spanish and contains resources for specific communities. This is a great comprehensive resource.

Social Media

Social media outreach is crucial to reaching farmworkers and their families. Below are resources for sharing on social media platforms in addition to Facebook pages where you can find useful COVID-19 educational information and resources.

- CPOP is collaborating with VIVE NW/TV Jam to produce COVID-19 informational [Videos in multiple languages](#).
- The [Cultural Survival](#) webpage contains COVID-19 videos in multiple indigenous languages from around the world which can be shared via social media.
- The OHA [Spanish Facebook Page](#) provides the latest and most critical COVID-19 updates and resources in Spanish.
- The CDC [Spanish Facebook Page](#) is another great source for COVID-19 information and resources.
- 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 great 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.
- *CPOP Media Campaign-More information coming soon.*

Ag and Farmworker Guidance

Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit Oregon, state government agencies have actively responded by developing various temporary guidance documents and amended state rules and policies to help protect Oregonians.

- The [OSHA Temporary Rule](#) provides detailed information regarding what employers are responsible for doing to protect their employees.
- OSHA has also created a [YouTube Video](#) explaining the OSHA temporary rule.
- The OHA [Interim Guidance for Agricultural Workers](#) also provides prevention and safety recommendations and resources specifically for farmworkers.

Printed Materials/Materials for Printing

OHA has created a process for ordering COVID-19 printed materials.

- To order these 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. Note that preference is given to CBOs in rural counties and who serve marginalized communities.
- The [CDC Stacks](#) Public Health Publication catalogue offers multiple COVID-19 materials in various languages.
- OSHA has developed a series of [Field Sanitation Materials](#) available to the public. You can place orders directly from OSHA who will ship directly.

Webinar

OHA offers multiple webinars for partners including the Migrant Seasonal Farm Worker partner call. This webinar is another good source of information and resources for farmworkers provided by OHA.

- [Register](#) for the MSFW webinar to learn about updates and resources for Agricultural workers.

Training Resources

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.

- 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 & hand Sanitizer

The state has allocated funding to purchase masks and hand sanitizer specifically for farm workers.

- 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.
- 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. You may also contact your [Local Public Health Authority](#) for access.
- CPOP will be distributing facemasks directly to POF partners starting the week of July 27th.

Health Related Resources

Testing

Because of the disproportionate impact COVID-19 is having on frontline workers and communities of color, these communities have been designated as a priority for testing by the State. As such, asymptomatic workers and their families can and should be directed towards testing sites.

- 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.
- OHA has created a new [Testing Locator Tool](#) partners can utilize to help farmworkers access testing locations.
- 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 which has always impacted farmworker communities negatively, is access to health care services. The [Oregon Health Plan](#) is free health coverage available to those who meet income requirements. OHP, and CAWEM emergency services for undocumented immigrants, will cover COVID-19 testing and treatment.

- 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 [local certified partners](#) for help navigating and enrolling in OHP.

Contact Tracing

Providing information regarding Contact Tracing to farmworkers could help to mitigate COVID-19 outbreaks in farmworker communities.

- The OHA [Contact Collaborative](#) is a one stop shop for all information regarding contact tracing. The page contains materials for printing and sharing with the community.

Quarantine Fund

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

Mental Health

- The Oregon Health Care Association (OCHA) has developed an extensive list of local [Mental Health Resources](#) available around the state for BIPOC, Immigrant, and Refugee communities.

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.

- 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 for 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 a great starting point for education related referrals and overall collaboration with their recruitment workers.

Food Resources

Oregon Department of Human Services

- The [DHS Benenefits 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.

- 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 file complaints regarding occupational safety. The COVID-19 [OSHA Workplace Guidance](#) has been developed to protect frontline workers and employers alike.
- 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 government's page on all things related to immigration.

- 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 or 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](#)