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December 4, 2014

Mr. Henry Jennings
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Dear Mr. Jennings,

The Maine Migrant Health Program (MMHP) and Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) would like to inform the Maine Board of Pesticides Control of a continued collaborative effort to deliver EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS) education to Maine's farmworkers during the 2015 harvest season.

The outcomes of MMHP's outreach has been possible through language proficiency, notably in Spanish and Creole, in serving the migrant population in Maine. Staff members with bilingual skills have been key in educating farmworkers about pesticide safety in the fields and risks of take home exposure in addition to heat stress concerns.

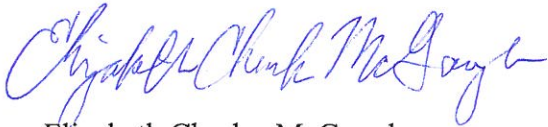
In 2014, through support of the Maine Board of Pesticides Control, MMHP and EMDC collaborated to hire a staff person to deliver WPS trainings throughout the state. This model of a single staff member allows for coverage in the southern/central region of the state during June, Aroostook county in July, and midcoast Maine and Washington county in August. During 2014, this individual offered WPS education to a total of 274 farmworkers across the state. The table below breaks down, by service category, important outcomes in 2014 completed by this staff person.

Worker Protection Standard Trainings	274
Take Home Exposure Trainings	218
Heat Stress Trainings	278
Total	770

For 2015, the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) has committed \$3,000 to EMDC and MMHP in support of WPS training. EMDC and MMHP plan to use these funds to recruit one summer temporary Pesticide Safety Training staff member who will provide direct services to farmworkers in Aroostook County, Midcoast, and DownEast areas of the state. To help support this position, we request from the Maine Board of Pesticides Control a contribution of \$3,500 which we would leverage with the funds from AFOP. Total funds would be used to directly support hourly wage of the staff person, as well as travel required to reach farmworkers, growers and partners. We request that the funding be made directly to MMHP.

We thank the Board for its past support and for considering this current proposal. To contact the Maine Migrant Health Program, you are welcome to email Elizabeth (echarles@mainemigrant.org) or call at 207-441-1633. For more information regarding Eastern Maine Development Corporation or the AFOP Health and Safety program, please feel free to contact Chris by email (chuh@emdc.org) or phone (207-610-1521). We look forward to meeting with the Board on January 14, 2015 to discuss this opportunity.

Best Regards,



Elizabeth Charles McGough
Enabling Services Coordinator
Maine Migrant Health Program



Christopher Huh, MPA
Program Manager
Farmworker Jobs Program
Eastern Maine Development Corporation