

DEC 16 2013

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December 12, 2013

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 collaborative effort to deliver EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS) education to Maine's farmworkers during the 2014 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 2013, 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. While this staffing plan differed from the previous model of two AmeriCorps members, it was largely successful. This individual offered WPS education to a total of 388 farmworkers across the state serving workers in Aroostook county, the Midcoast region, and DownEast, Maine. Through careful planning, this individual was able to fulfill trainings requested by all growers for whom we have historically provided services. The table below breaks down, by service category, important outcomes in 2013 completed by this staff person.

Worker Protection Standard Trainings	388
Take Home Exposure Trainings	176
Heat Stress Trainings	260
Total	824

For 2014, the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) has committed \$3,010 to EMDC and MMHP in support of WPS training. EMDC and MMHP plan to use these funds to recruiting 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 8, 2013 to discuss this opportunity.

Best Regards,



Elizabeth Charles
Enabling Services Coordinator
Maine Migrant Health Program



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