

PPDC Farmworker & Clinician Work Group
Meeting Notes
September 29, 2021

Workgroup Attendance

Name	Organization	Attended
Walter Alarcon	The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (CDC-NIOSH)	
Ruben Arroyo	California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA)	
Kaci Buhl	Oregon State University, Department of Environmental & Molecular Toxicology	X
Allison Crittenden	American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF)	
Ricardo Davalos	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)	X
Africa Dórame-Avalos	Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.	
Jeannie Economos	Farm Workers Association of Florida	X
Iris Figueroa	Farmworker Justice	
Melanie Forti Rogenhofer	Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)	
Katie Karberg MD	Bayer Crop Science	X
Patsy Laird	Syngenta/ American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE)	X
Amy Liebman	Migrant Clinicians Network	
Dominica Navarro	Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides	X
Mily Treviño-Sauceda (Co-Chair)	Alianza Nacional de Campesinas	X
Emma Torres	Campesinos Sin Fronteras	X

EPA Co-Chairs: Steve Schaible and Carolyn Schroeder

Other Attendees:

EPA Office of Pesticide Programs: Aidan Black, Kelsi Grogan, Ana Rivera-Lupianez, Stephanie Burkhardt, Thomas Lopiano, Shannon Jewell, Elizabeth Evans

September 29 PPDC WG Meeting Agenda

1. Admin and meeting notes check in – 10 mins
 - a. Looking for farmworker representatives for the full PPDC
 - b. September 15 meeting notes
 - c. Meeting schedule review
 - i. October 6th workgroup meeting
 - ii. October 8th final draft of recommendations due
 - iii. October 27-28th Full PPDC meeting
3. Farmworker Training Recommendations – 50 mins
 - a. Continue farmworker training discussion from last meeting
 - b. Patsy to share screen and draft/edit recommendations based on group input
4. Clinician Training Recommendations – 50 mins
 - a. Discuss clinician training draft recommendations
 - b. Katie to share screen and draft/edit recommendations based on group input
5. Action items/homework – 10 mins
 - a. Next steps for finalizing recommendations

Admin and Meeting Notes Check In

- Full PPDC announcement
 - Looking for more farmworker representatives, only one applied and they would like to have more farmworker voices on the PPDC
 - Willing to reach out if anyone has something in mind. Speak now or call/ email.
 - Contact information in case you know anyone that might like to join the Pesticide Program Advisory Committee (PPDC): jewell.shannon@epa.gov, phone number: 571-289-9911.
 - Charter that tells about the PPDC:
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-02/documents/2020-ppdc-charter.pdf>.
- Timeline
 - October 6th final workgroup meeting
 - October 8th final draft of recommendations due
 - October 22nd powerpoint presentation due
 - October 27-28th Full PPDC meeting

Farmworker Training Discussion

Charge Question 1: How should EPA evaluate appropriateness & effectiveness of farmworker protection activities?

- Discussed at 9/15 PPDC WG meeting

Charge Question 2: How should EPA engage stakeholders in decisions to fund farmworker protection activities?

- It was suggested that more stakeholders be invited to serve in decision making roles on advisory boards that are influential towards farmworker protection.
 - Several members spoke to the need for people from grassroots groups to be included in groups that make actual decisions
 - Workgroup members expressed experience of working on boards that they felt did not accomplish anything and/or were not listened to
 - Some members suggested inviting farmworkers on advisory boards and make more meetings accommodating (i.e. simultaneous translation, time for interpretation, freedom to speak in preferred language)
 - Need to be patient with farmworkers to give them time being comfortable in new role; cannot expect farmworkers to participate or feel accepted just by inviting them; inviting farmworkers by itself is not enough, must actively work with them to provide background and seek feedback on how to improve working relationship
 - Mentoring and educating on role of advisory board member should be part of the responsibility of bringing a farmworker onto the board and should be made available to farmworkers
 - Other members added that having a "majority" of farmworkers on advisory boards doesn't make sense for advisory boards that serve more than farmworkers as important as it is to have farmworkers represented
 - The groups that develop WPS materials require much expertise (i.e. types of crops, forests, greenhouses, other locations and situations, etc.)
- It was suggested that EPA consider requiring cooperative agreements/grantees to involve farmworkers in decision making (i.e. input on WPS materials)

- EPA clarified that it cannot dictate what current cooperative agreements do, so recommendation should be geared toward future requests for applications
- A member shared their experience of receiving very diverse feedback/input from farmworkers and the difficulty of pleasing such a diverse community of workers
 - Examples of communities included Russian speaking in Oregon, Spanish speaking in California, and Pacific Islander community that all have very different perspectives and preferences (i.e. media used for WPS materials)
- A member proposed that greater transparency be required for cooperative agreement recipients/grantees when reaching out to farmworker community
- Another member suggested that EPA increase funding of cooperative agreements to improve ability to serve more farmworker communities
 - Specifically, so WPS materials can be provided in more languages (i.e. Creole in Florida)
 - In addition, crop and situation specific training/WPS materials would be ideal if more funding is available
 - A member expressed that the availability of many materials can be confusing for growers and that the grower's point of view should be considered in material development as they play a major role in providing materials to farmworkers

Charge Question 3: How and when should EPA reach out to stakeholders, including farmworker community-based organizations, in their development of analyses on appropriateness and effectiveness of such activities?

- EPA needs to start with needs assessment
 - Use focus groups to get feedback directly from community on how to be more effective
 - Some members expressed that this could be combined with other draft recommendations
- EPA should also reach out to farmworker organizations for their feedback on any complaints, problems, or other issues that they hear about from farmworkers on how effectively the employers are giving priority to the training
 - Members expressed that this recommendation should be used for enforcement
 - EPA asked for clarification on the best mechanism to use for this outreach
 - Possible recommendation: quarterly check in with EPA and key farmworker organizations
 - Other members expressed support for this idea and added that enforcement people be included

Action Items

- Workgroup decided to hold Farmworker and Clinician training discussion on Tuesday 10/5 to focus on prioritizing recommendations