Hosted by MAFO, a National Partnership of Farmworkers and Rural Organizations

Sunday, December 8, 2019

08:00 AM – 05:00 PM Registration

Monday, December 9, 2019

08:00 AM – 09:00 AM
Opening Plenary Session: Inter-Regional State Prospective
Conference Host: Dr. Jose Simon Villa, Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer, East Coast Migrant Head Start Project, and MAFO Board Member
Invited Speakers:
Kate Greenberg, Colorado’s Commissioner of Agriculture
Courtney Arbour, Division Director, Workforce Development Division, Texas Workforce Commission
Joe M Barela, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
Clarke Becker, Director, Colorado Rural Workforce Consortium

09:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Employer ABCs of Recruitment: Agricultural Recruitment System & H2A:
Join us for a general overview of recruitment strategies using the Ag Recruitment System for domestic workers and H2A for temporary international agricultural workers. We’ll explore the benefits and considerations of each.
Presenters: Betty Velasquez, Sub Area Director, Southeast & South-Central Sub Areas; Olga Ruiz, State Monitor Advocate, Colorado Department of Labor & Employment, Kerri Owen, Foreign Labor Certification Coordinator at the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Provider Strengthening Communities through the 2020 Census
This workshop will provide participants with an overview of the 2020 Census, focusing on why the Census is important, easy and safe. The session will provide localized information and tools for effectively reaching hard to count populations. Participants will interact to discuss participants’ barriers within their communities and explore how their trusted voices can help ensure a complete and accurate count in 2020.
Presenters: Ana Mostacero and Noel Rincon, Partnership Specialists, Dallas Regional Census Center

Break – 10:00 AM – 10:20 AM

10:20 AM – 11:30 AM
Employer Compliance!!! “Make it right today for a better tomorrow”
This session will provide an opportunity to ask any employment related questions you may have about rights and responsibilities in the workplace by employers. It will offer tools employers need to operate in compliance with the variety of labor laws enforced by US DOL Wage and Hour Division. WHD offers numerous useful compliance resources intended to provide employers with readily accessible, easy-to-understand information relevant to both their rights and responsibilities under the law.
Migrant MSPA, field sanitation, housing, and payroll.
Presenters: Janet Wilson, Assistant District Director, US Department of Labor

Provider Social Determinants of Health:
The social determinants of health are the economic and social conditions that influence individual and group differences in health status. They are the health promoting factors found in one’s living and working conditions (such as the distribution of income, wealth, influence, and power). How can we address or impact them?
Presenter: Gwyn Barley, PhD, Vice President of Community Partnerships and Grants

Lunch – 11:30 AM – 01:00 PM
Employer

Trends and Motivators in the Domestic Agricultural Workforce:
This session will provide an overview of trends in the demographic and employment characteristics of the U.S. crop workforce with a focus on the mountain states. The session will also present an overview of potential mechanisms to increase worker retention, desire to work, and productivity.

Presenter: Ali Hill, Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Colorado State University, Fort Collins

Provider

Educational Options for Farmworkers: Beyond ESL
The session will explore the alternatives or educational options for farmworkers, Farmworker’s minimal or lack of education compounded with chronic seasonal employment and underemployment places them in a vulnerable position. Agency representatives will present their programs and work to address farmworker education.

Presenters: TBA

Employer

Leveraging USDA Rural Development Funds for Farmworker Housing:
From project inception to utilization, we’ll explore how growers can work with USDA-Rural Development to create viable farmworker housing for domestic and international farmworkers.

Presenter: Jo Unliedt, Farm Worker Housing Specialist, Community Resources & Housing Development Corporation

Provider

Services for Those Lacking Documentation:
This session will explain Colorado’s legislation and rules related to individuals’ immigration status. However, it is important to be aware of the relationship and tension between state and federal law when it comes to issues involving immigration.

Presenters: TBA

Coalition / Community Services Overview
Each area of Colorado has unique off-farm services available to farmworkers such as healthcare, education, housing, etc. Hear short presentations from various service providers highlighting valuable resources that can help retain farmworkers.

Presenters: Workforce, Migrant Education, Migrant Head Start, 167 NFJP (Rocky Mountain SER), Legal Aid and Health Care.

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Registration

08:00 AM – 05:00 PM

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Public Charge Propose Rule
Public charge is an assessment under immigration law that is made when certain persons who are not citizens of the U.S. apply to enter the U.S. and when a person applies to become a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR). It does not apply to applications to become a citizen. Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, the government may deny an application for immigration status to a person who “is likely at any time to become a public charge.”

The new rule drastically changes the factors used to determine whether a person is “likely” to become a public charge in the future. It also changes the definition of “public charge.” The consequences are that many immigrants who contribute to our economy and support their families will be deemed unfairly to be a “public charge” and denied immigration status. How does it impact farmworkers?

Presenter: Alexic Guild, Senior Health Policy Analyst, Farmworker Justice

Break – 09:30 AM – 09:50 AM

Coalition’s Work Review and Future Planning.
1. Mission & Vision
2. Outcomes
3. Successes/Creating Partnerships
4. Addressing Challenges
Coalitions Presenting: La Junta, Greely, Monte Vista

Group Facilitator: Betty Velasquez, Sub Area Director, Southeast & South-Central Sub Areas
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM – 01:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch on your own</td>
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<tr>
<td>01:00 PM – 01:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Talent Found: Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC)</strong>&lt;br&gt;The TalentFOUND gateway connects individuals and businesses with the most relevant tools and resources of the Colorado talent development network, helping students, job seekers, workers, and employers create their own unique paths to career and business success.&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenters:</strong> Betty Velasquez, Sub Area Director, Southeast &amp; South-Central Sub Areas; Olga Ruiz, State Monitor Advocate, Colorado Department of Labor &amp; Employment; Kerri Owen, Foreign Labor Certification Coordinator at the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment</td>
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<td>Break – 01:45 PM – 02:00 PM</td>
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<td>02:15 PM – 03:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Colorado’s 2020 Census: Farmworker Complete Count Committee &amp; Partnership</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Presenters:</strong> Vicki McIntire, Assistant Regional Census Manager, Dallas Regional Census Center</td>
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<td>03:00 PM – 04:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Closing Plenary Session:</strong>&lt;br&gt;Lalo Zavala, CEO MAFO</td>
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**NEW WORKSHOP: 2020 Census – Farmworkers Count**

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