

Join Coalition members in building a healthy and safe Vermont farm workforce.

Coalition Activities

Vermont Farm Health & Safety Coalition

Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets
Addison County Migrant Worker Coalition
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont
Central Vermont Migrant Worker Coalition
Invest EAP- Farm First Program
New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH)
Open Door Clinic, Middlebury, Vermont
Orleans Veterinary Service
Peoples Health and Wellness Clinic, Barre, Vermont
University of Vermont:

- *Department of Agriculture & Animal Sciences*
- *University Extension*

Vermont Assoc. of Naturopathic Physicians
Vermont Center for Independent Living
Vermont Chiropractic Association
Vermont Congressional Delegation
Vermont Department of Health:

- *Office of Rural Health & Primary Care*
- *Climate and Health Program*
- *Injury Prevention*
- *Maternal Child Health*
- *Radiological & Toxicological Sciences*

Vermont Department of Labor:

- *Project WorkSafe*

Vermont Farm Bureau
Veteran Farmers Coalition of Vermont

Coalition Activities

- Quarterly meetings including: legislative updates, in-service trainings, program work groups, and networking opportunities.
- Single Teaching Days and Biennial 48-hour Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Safety Training on the special health and safety issues in the farming community.
- Piloting a model for new county-based collaboratives to provide agricultural medicine primary care services using trained practitioners.
- Educating farm families, health care practitioners, agricultural professionals and the general public about the unique health and safety needs of people living and working on farms.
- Building strong partnerships with state, academic, regional and local organizations in order to best meet the needs of the farming community.



A statewide membership organization committed to ensuring a healthy and safe farm workforce in Vermont.

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Mission

The mission of the Vermont Farm Health and Safety Coalition is to maintain a vital, diverse statewide organization that promotes and sustains a healthy, safe and stable farm workforce in Vermont. The organization uses a *common ground* approach which focuses on the shared health and safety needs of farmers, farm workers and farm families living and working on our Vermont farms. The Coalition and its members work to advance state and organizational policies and programs that improve the lives of all members of the farm community.

Organization

The Coalition is a Vermont Private Nonprofit Corporation with an active statewide membership that meets four times a year. Members include farmers, medical practitioners, agricultural professionals, public and behavioral health providers and staff from key state and community agencies.

The two standing Work Groups meet at the



Quarterly Meetings and throughout the year to collaborate on programs addressing key aspects of farm health and safety.

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Agricultural Medicine and Health Services Work Group Goals:

- Develop **county-based agricultural medicine primary care services** in farming communities for farm owners, Veteran farmers, local and immigrant farm workers and their family members.
- Incorporate **agricultural medicine screening and assessment tools and an EMR farm patient section** designed for farm patients, into existing rural hospital and outpatient practices.
- Provide comprehensive, multidisciplinary **Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Health and Safety trainings** for medical practitioners, EMTs and EMS districts, faculty and students from agricultural academic programs, and staff from the community and state agencies working in the farm community. Trainings will range from single teaching days to participation in state and regional conferences.

Prevention, Outreach and Education Work Group Goals:

- Develop and implement **prevention, education and outreach programs** that promote the occupational health and safety of everyone living and working on Vermont farms.
- Continue **Healthy Farmers, Healthy Farms health screening services** at the annual Vermont Farm Show.
- Implement **farm safety programs** that address the education and service needs of all age groups.
- Promote **improved health and safety of migrant farm workers** through education and training for both farm owners and farm workers. Programs focus on the specific cultural and economic needs of the diverse farm worker population.
- Participate in, and support programs that **enroll farmers and farm families in state and private health insurance.**

