Vermont Farm Health & Safety Coalition

Coalition Activities

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

Regional Partners:
- 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.
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.