



FARMWORKER HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

SUPPORTING VENTURA COUNTY FARMWORKERS

October 2020

Dear Community Member,

Many farmworkers in our community are experiencing devastating economic impacts due to Covid-19. Although farmworkers are designated "essential workers", many have lost their jobs, experienced reduced work hours, or have needed to stay home to care for children or sick family members. These men and women who tend the crops and make possible the green vistas and fresh food that we all enjoy are now struggling to meet basic needs.

We are a group of agricultural employers and farmworker advocates addressing the urgent need to keep farmworkers from becoming homeless by creating this *Farmworker Household Assistance Program* (FHAP), to be supported by private donations.

Our partners in this emergency program are *House Farm Workers!* (HFW) the fund sponsors, Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF) which is hosting the FHAP Fund, and the County of Ventura which is not only providing matching dollars but administering the program through its Farm Worker Resource Program (FRP) housed in the Human Services Agency. Neither VCCF nor the County are charging administrative fees, so every dollar donated will go directly to households in need via grants of \$1200 or more.

In the month of September, 101 donors large and small gave \$145,000 which, when matched, will help 242 farm worker families. When we set the original goal to raise \$250,000 which the Board of Supervisors agreed to match, we had no idea that so many families were struggling.

The Farm Worker Resource Program has received 4000 applications for assistance. Our new fundraising goal, in response to this overwhelming need, is \$400,000 – ambitious but doable with your support.

Attached are a donation form and FHAP fact sheet. We can't do it without you! Please give generously and soon.

With gratitude,

Supporters of Farmworkers and the FHAP

Genevieve Flores-Haro
Mizteco/Indigena Community
Organizing Project

Ellen Brokaw
Brokaw Ranch Company
House Farm Workers!

Linda Braunschweiger
Housing Trust Fund Ventura County
House Farm Workers!

A. Irene de Barraicua
Lideres Campesinas

Alondra Serna
House Farm Workers!

Yissel Barajas
Reiter Affiliated Companies





FARMWORKER HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FACT SHEET

SUPPORTING VENTURA COUNTY FARMWORKERS

Who will it assist?

Ventura County farmworkers who are in danger of losing their homes due to Covid-related financial hardship.

How will it be funded & administered?

Tax deductible donations will be securely deposited in a new FHAP fund at the Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF). The Foundation will in turn grant the money to the Farmworker Resource Program (FRP) in the County of Ventura's Human Services Agency. No fees will be charged by VCCF or the County.

What will the Farmworker Resource Program do?

FRP will solicit and screen applications and distribute no less than \$1200 grants directly to qualified households. The FRP is uniquely suited to this role as their mission is to connect farmworkers with needed resources and their staff is trilingual.

What are the program qualifications?

Applicants must be low-income agricultural workers and have lived in Ventura County for at least 30 days. Proof is required of Covid-related financial loss and of basic household expenses which the applicant is unable to pay.

Will there be independent oversight of the program?

The informal committee that created the program is now the FHAP Oversight/Advisory Committee. All donors and others who support farmworkers are invited to join.

How can I learn more?

Find us on [Facebook](#)! @FHAPVentura

Contact Ellen Brokaw (ellen@brokawnursery.com) for more information.



FARMWORKER HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DONATION FORM

SUPPORTING VENTURA COUNTY FARMWORKERS

To Donate online: Please visit VCCF.org and contribute to the Farmworker Household Assistance Program Fund (FHAP). You may [click here](#) to easily make your donation!

To Donate by mail:

Mail your check with this form to:

Ventura County Community Foundation
4001 Mission Oaks Blvd, Suite A, Camarillo, CA 93012

I am supporting farmworkers with a gift of: _____

Enclosed is my check made out to VCCF and designating "for FHAP Fund"

Name: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

- I would like to join the FHAP Oversight/Advisory Committee
- I would like to receive periodic program updates via e-mail

Your donation is tax deductible. Ventura County Community Foundation's tax identification number is 77-0165029.

Many thanks for your contribution!