PCUN

Organizing farm workers since 1977
Organizing for better work conditions.
During the COVID-19 Pandemic

WE ARE GRAVELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE FARMWORKER COMMUNITY, THEIR FAMILIES AND THE SECURITY OF OUR ENTIRE FOOD SUPPLY.
Severe coronavirus outbreaks stagger some meat-packing plants in Washington

The disease had claimed the life of a longtime plant worker, 60-year-old J. Guadalupe Olivera Mendoza, who went home ill in March and died Monday after more than a week on a hospital ventilator.
Four days after the Oregon Health Authority announced a cluster of coronavirus cases in the Willamette Valley, the agency had no new updates.

As of Thursday, there were 48 positive cases at two Townsend Farms locations in Fairview and Cornelius — 41 people in Multnomah County and seven people in Washington County, OHA said. The agency said there were 13 additional pending tests at that time.
Major virus outbreak hits Pacific Seafood

By Nicole Bales, The Astorian; Sep 24, 2020

The seafood processor used a private laboratory to conduct testing of about 160 workers. After 77 workers tested positive, the company chose to test about 140 other workers.
For Latinos and Covid-19, Doctors Are Seeing an ‘Alarming’ Disparity

The outsized infection rate among Hispanics in some states could hobble efforts to quash the spread of Covid-19, prompting states like Oregon to step up testing and take emergency measures.
Points of much needed intervention

- PPE, Disinfection, and Social Distancing
- Inspections; any and all employer provided housing must get an inspection from OR-OSHA, including any hotels, and motels paid for by employers.
- Positive Reinforcements for workers that need to Quarantine or Self-Isolate
- Monthly Testing in high risk industries
- Regular temperature checking
- Better cross communication and pollination between state, county, and city agencies.
Thank you!

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Get involved! Sign up on:

www.pcun.org
Break out session

- Roundtable discussion and Report back: kathlee
- Questions
  - What stood out to you in my presentation?
  - Where are the intersections between farmworkers, immigration, and capitalism?
  - How are you individually or UU as a collective using this moment as a catalyst for change?
  - What are some solutions you would like to lift up? Universal Basic Income?
  - Other things you’d like to share?
Tests of workers at Central Washington orchard finds dozens of COVID-19 cases without symptoms

UPDATED: Fri., April 24, 2020

The company says of the 71 agricultural workers who were tested, 36 were positive for COVID-19.
COVID-19 outbreak hits fruit-packing company in Oregon’s Hood River Valley
These conditions have made it very Common for Ag Workers to experience:

- Women to experience sexual violence in the fields
- Wage Theft of workers
- Discrimination

And with COVID-19

- Labor contractors and employers not following COVID-19 temp rules
- Not providing proper PPE
- Unsafe living conditions that put folks at risk!
● We need immigration reform!
● Legalization with a pathway to citizenship.
● Without this we are creating a second class of people that the system makes easy to exploit and take advantage of.
What’s PCUN doing?

- Thanks to our advocacy we are the only state in the Country that has enacted temporary OSHA Rule in Field Sanitation, Transportation, and Labor Housing.
- We’re currently working on a comprehensive plan with Oregon Governor to mobilize resources, logistics, and housing, financial relief for workers in order to set the plan up to succeed.
- Advocating for farmworkers, and BIPOC communities in the federal stimulus.
We need your support!

- $25 million dollars to disperse to over 6000+ undocumented workers in Oregon affected by COVID19