



COVID-19 Impacts

PHOTO: PIXABAY

Extension education reduces risk of COVID-19 levels for migrant farmworkers

A recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report on COVID-19 indicated to some communities that COVID-19 is no longer a concern. Because migrant workers constitute a significant labor source for agriculture, ensuring the health and wellness of this worker population is a priority for vaccine education outreach. Extension programs tested for various health-care issues in migrant communities and educated participants on vaccine knowledge to reduce risk of emerging variants.

Successful examples include:

- **Florida's** CAFE Latino program is helping meet the needs of the Latino/Hispanic population with education on fatal diseases found throughout Mexico, Central and South America and offer local community resources for further management. In addition to offering health screenings for chronic conditions such as hypertension and diabetes that often go undiagnosed, farmworkers also receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- **Georgia** Extension programs are educating growers and agricultural workers through tailgate education, multilingual vaccine education videos and vaccine clinics. Vaccine education through 4-H lessons is being developed for both 5th-grade and middle-school audiences. The program aims to educate parents and increase vaccine knowledge among adults. Science-based vaccine education videos are posted on social media, microtargeting populations with low vaccination rates.
- In **Tennessee**, Extension Collaborative on Immunization Teaching and Engagement (EXCITE) implemented a two-phase initiative to educate rural and underserved communities about the health benefits of, not only the COVID-19 vaccinations, but all adult vaccinations.

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