



# Non-Governmental Organizations Serving Farmworkers in Florida<sup>1</sup>

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## Introduction

This document is a compilation of the non-governmental organizations that serve farmworkers in Florida. It is a resource for people interested in studying or assisting farmworkers in Florida in any or all of the following areas: advocacy, childcare, education, emergency services, health, housing, immigration assistance, job training, legal advocacy, and ministry.

This document contains an "acronym index" that is alphabetized by acronym and is cross-referenced for organizations (alphabetized by full names). Part I of the main document gives information about organizations with a direct presence in Florida, and Part II does the same for those that have no presence but do have some form of relationship with Florida or provide services for Florida farmworkers. [Note: A similar document produced by COFFO (Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organizations) is an excellent reference for government and non-government organizations at <http://www.coffo.org/farmworkerdirectory2009.html>.]

The information was gathered from the Internet and other primary sources, and verified through personal communication with senior staff of the individual organizations. The information in this document was formatted in the following manner:

- Formal name of the organization (acronym)
- Primary contact information
- Major area of focus and a brief overview of services offered
- Origins of organization
- Funding sources

## Acronym Index

### *Part I: Organizations with a Florida Presence*

ALPI – Agriculture and Labor Program, Inc.

AFOP – Association of Farm Worker Opportunity Programs

CCFC – Centro Campesino Farmworker Center, Inc.

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COFFO – Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organizations

CIW – Coalition of Immokalee Workers

ECMHSP – East Coast Migrant Head Start Project

ESCORT – Eastern Stream Center on Resources and Training

ECA – Everglades Community Association (see Rural Neighborhoods, Inc., aka RNI)

FACHC – Florida Association of Community Health Centers

FCC – Florida Catholic Conference

FHSI – Farmworker Health Services, Inc. (see Health Outreach Partners, aka HOP)

FSHI – Farmworkers Self-Help, Inc.

FLS – Florida Legal Services, Inc.

FRLS – Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc.

FSHI – Farmworkers Self Help, Inc.

FWAF – Farmworker Association of Florida

FNPH – Florida Non-Profit Housing, Inc.

HFHI – Habitat for Humanity International

HAC – Housing Assistance Council

IASWFL – Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida

MFJP – Migrant Farmworker Justice Project

NFWM – National Farm Worker Ministry

RCMA – Redlands Christian Migrant Association

RNI – Rural Neighborhoods, Inc.

## **Part II: National Organizations with No Direct Florida Presence**

FJ – Farmworker Justice

FLOC – Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO

HOP – Health Outreach Partners

IWJ – Interfaith Worker Justice

MAFO – National Partnership of Farmworker Organizations

MCN – Migrant Clinicians Network

MHP – Migrant Health Promotion

MLAP – Migrant Legal Action Program

NCFH – National Center for Farmworker Health

UFW – United Farm Workers

## **Part I: Organizations with a Florida Presence**

### ***Agriculture and Labor Program, Inc. (ALPI)***

<http://www.alpi.org>

Florida Office: 300 Lynchburg Road, Lake Alfred, FL 33850-9000 (mailing address: Post Office Box 3126, Winter Haven, FL 33885) Phone: (863) 956-3491. Fax: (863) 956-3357.

Eastern Region Administration Office: 720 Delaware Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34950. Phone: (772) 466-2631. Fax: (772) 464-3035

Focus: Education, Daycare, Housing

- ALPI is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organization, providing various services directly and indirectly, in 21 different Florida counties. This includes Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) in 6 counties (Collier, Hendry, Glades, Martin, Polk, and St. Lucie) and Emergency Assistance for farmworkers in 19 counties (Collier, Dade, Highlands, Hardee, Desoto, Hendry, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Seminole, and

Volusia). ALPI also serves as the Head/Early Head Start Grantee for St. Lucie County and a Head Start Delegate Agency in Polk County. The services are provided for 685 preschool-aged children and 40 infants and toddlers annually.

- ALPI has built and maintains 58 units of affordable rental housing. It provides emergency services; transportation; vocational training; GED, ESOL, and other literacy programs; and functions as a "clearinghouse for natural disasters that may affect farm workers."

Origins: Founded in the late 1970s as a central agency for subsidized child care and grantee agency for the Head Start program. In 1993, the Farmers Home Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture funded ALPI with \$2.7 million to build 58 units of affordable rental housing for farmworkers. ALPI is a descendent of the Coca-Cola Company's *Agricultural and Labor Project*, which was established in 1968 to improve the quality of life for farmworkers in Florida citrus operations (this is the only project of its type funded by Coca-Cola.) Prior to the establishment of the early Learning Coalitions in 2002, ALPI served as the Central Agency for Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, and Okeechobee Counties, and managed a subsidized childcare services network that served over 5,000 children annually.

Funding: United Way; Subsidized Child Care; VPK; Pre-K; Public Schools; Department of Education; local, state, and federal governments; and corporate foundations.

### **Association of Farm Worker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)**

<http://www.afoprograms.org>

Florida Office: Florida Department of Education, 8402 Laurel Fair Circle, Suite 212, Tampa, FL 33610. Phone: (813) 744-6303

National Office: 1726 M Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20036. Phone: (202) 828-6006. Focus: Employment, Job Training

- AFOP is a national, member-supported association of 52 agencies that are grantees of Section 167 of the Workforce Investment Act of

1998, providing job training, pesticide safety education, and emergency assistance. Other services of member agencies may include food and clothing banks, Head Start, health issues, ESOL, and housing.

- AFOP works with the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) of the United States Department of Justice to provide outreach and training workshops for farmworker service providers within AFOP member organizations, as well as agricultural employers and groups that work closely with the member organizations. Training workshop topics include immigration-related unfair employment practices, hiring and employment regulations, and updates on employment verification procedures. AFOP also adapts and translates educational materials from the OSC and distributes them within its network.
- In Florida, the Department of Education is the grantee, which is unique because in most states the grantees are non-profit organizations. The Adult Migrant Program and Services department of the Florida Department of Education distributes funds to 14 sub-recipient agencies, mainly community colleges, community-based organizations, county governments, and schools.

Origins: In the 1960s, the Florida Department of Education was one of five organizations chartered to provide technical assistance and advocacy to sub-organizations. Originally its funding came from CEDA (Community Education Development Association), and now from Section 167 of The Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Funding: The Florida organization is funded by the National Farmworkers Jobs Program (authorized by Section 167 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998). AFOP nationally is funded by membership dues, newsletter subscriptions, and conference fees from the 52 grantee agencies.

### **Centro Campesino Farmworker Center, Inc. (CCFC)**

<http://www.centrocampesino.org>

Florida Office: 35801 SW 186th Avenue  
(mailing address: Post Office Box 343449), Florida  
City, FL 33034. Phone: (305) 245-7738

Focus: Housing, Education, Job Training

- Operating as a private, nonprofit community development corporation, CCFC is dedicated to advancing the quality of life for migrant and seasonal farmworker families and other low-income Florida families. The organization has developed affordable housing and home-ownership opportunities in Miami-Dade and Palm Beach Counties, and rental housing in Miami-Dade County for families and senior citizens. It provides weatherization and rehabilitation services for low-income homeowners (who may also be elderly or disabled) in eight rural Florida counties (Collier, Hendry, Charlotte, Glades, DeSoto, Highlands, Okeechobee and, and provides ongoing counseling to first-time homebuyers and to homeowners facing foreclosure as part of the National Foreclosure Mitigation Center program.
- In Miami-Dade County only, CCFC operates free after-school tutoring and summer camp programs for 200 children in three locations and is designated as a *Twenty-first Century Community Learning Center* by the Florida Department of Education. The organization offers job-skills training to help farmworkers transition to other forms of employment, including property maintenance, janitorial services, construction, clerical, and information technology (computers).

Origins: Formed in 1973 to improve housing conditions of farmworkers

Funding: Federal and state grants, partnerships, donations

**Coalition of Florida Farmworker  
Organizations (COFFO)**

<http://www.coffo.org>

Florida Headquarters Office: 778 West Palm  
Drive, Florida City, FL 33034. Phone: (305)

246-0357. Fax: 305-246-2445. Email:  
[coffo.inc@coffo.org](mailto:coffo.inc@coffo.org)

Florida Immigration and Literacy Office: 21  
South Krome Avenue, Homestead, FL 33030. Phone:  
(305) 247-4779. Fax: (305) 242-0701, Email:  
[coffoimmigration@coffo.org](mailto:coffoimmigration@coffo.org)

Regional Office: 214-A South First Street,  
Immokalee, FL 34142 (mailing address: Post Office  
Box 1969, Immokalee, FL 34143). Phone: (239)  
657-7272. Fax: (239) 657-6909. Email:  
[Immokalee@coffo.org](mailto:Immokalee@coffo.org)

Focus: Advocacy, Education, Immigration  
Services

- COFFO's mission is to "better the standard of living for agriculture workers and rural poor, through Economic Upgrading, Advocacy, Human Dignity, Educational and Cultural Advancement." It is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors, with coalition members in 13 Florida counties.
- COFFO programs include after-school and summer programs for farmworker and Haitian youth between the ages of nine and thirteen, providing field trips and tutoring and homework assistance in reading, physical education, social science, and music. It also offers family literacy training, teen pregnancy prevention (classes on abstinence), emergency financial assistance to prevent evictions, temporary emergency housing, funds for utility cut-offs, and emergency food vouchers. COFFO assists farmworkers with tax preparation and budgets, helps resolve immigration issues, refers farmworkers to vocational programs, and offers scholarships. Note: Not all programs are offered in all locations.

Origins: Founded in 1980 for the purpose of  
bettering the standard of living for agricultural  
workers and the rural poor

Funding: Grants

**Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW)**

<http://www.ciw-online.org>

Florida Office: Post Office Box 603, Immokalee, FL, 34143. Phone: (239) 657-8311. Fax: (239) 657-5055. Email: [workers@ciw-online.org](mailto:workers@ciw-online.org)

Focus: Advocacy

- CIW is a community-based organization of approximately 4,000 members who are mainly Latino, Mayan Indian, and Haitian immigrants. It focuses on leadership development to help members develop skills in community education and organization.
- CIW was organized to fight for, among other things, a fair wage for farmworkers; more respect from bosses and industry; better and cheaper housing; stronger laws and stronger enforcement against those who would violate workers' rights; the right to organize without fear of retaliation; and an end to indentured servitude in the fields. It has achieved a national presence through marches, work stoppages, boycotts, and public protests for better wages and conditions for farmworkers, and against slavery.

Origins: Began in 1993 in an Immokalee, Florida church

Funding: Foundations, individual donors, churches

**East Coast Migrant Head Start Project (ECMHSP)**

Florida Direct Services (Western Region)  
Office: 3700 DMG Drive, Lakeland, FL 33811.  
Phone: (863) 299-7100, or toll-free (800) 282-8260.  
Fax: (863) 299-7484

Florida Direct Services (Eastern Region) Office:  
1111 SE Federal Highway-Suite 226, Stuart, FL 34994. Phone: (772) 781-2334, or toll-free (866) 781-2372. Fax: (888) 781-2372

National Office: <http://www.ecmhsp.org>, 1501 Lee Highway, Suite 208, Arlington, VA 22209.  
Phone: (703)-243-7522. Fax: (703)-243-1259. Email: [ecmhsp@ecmhsp.org](mailto:ecmhsp@ecmhsp.org)

Focus: Education, Early Childhood

- ECMHSP is a private, non-profit agency, operating as a migrant Head Start grantee that contracts with and provides funding to delegate agencies across the U.S. eastern coast and operates direct services programs that provide Head Start services for children of migrant farmworkers. It operates a tracking system called PROMIS, a continuity program that tracks children's education and health records up and down the migrant stream on the eastern coast of the United States. To be qualified for the migrant Head Start program, the family must meet the federal poverty guidelines, 51 percent of the family's income must be derived from agriculture, and families must migrate interstate or intrastate. Parents have representation from the local level on up to regional offices. Parents are provided training on the eight Head Start Performance Standards management systems of the program so that they can actively participate in shared governance with management and the governing body.
- Two types of programs are funded and supported: (1) Direct Services, with offices in Alabama, Florida and North Carolina), and (2) Delegate Agencies, 36 centers in 7 states, providing migrant Head Start services that are funded and monitored for Head Start compliance by ECMHSP.

Origins: Established in 1974 in Florida (RCMA was one of the early delegates) to provide continuity of Head Start services to children of migrant farmworkers on the eastern coast of the United States.

Funding: Federal funds from the Office of Head Start (Migrant Programs Branch of the Office of Head Start Administration for Children, Youth and Families and the Department of Health and Human Services.)

### ***Eastern Stream Center for Resources and Training (ESCORT)***

Florida Office (ESCORT South): Satellite office at 3750 Gunn Highway, Suite 107, Tampa, FL 33618. Phone: 813-963-6677. Fax: (813) 964-8985 [ESCORT also has staff in Orlando and Gainesville, FL]

National Office: <http://www.escort.org> and <http://www.easternstream.org>, Bugbee Hall 304, State University College, Oneonta, NY 13820. Phone: (800) 451-8058. Fax: (607) 436-3606

Focus: Education

- ESCORT serves as a national resource center, partnering with federal, state, and local education agencies to help improve the educational and support services for migrant youth. The staff provides professional development, consultation, and technical assistance as requested by educators and other stakeholders in the lives of migrant children. Staff has expertise in program development, evaluation, teaching strategies for at-risk students such as migrant youth, low-performing readers, English language learners, and students with disabilities.
- The National Migrant Education Hotline (800) 234-8848 serves migrant farmworker families, connecting farmworkers to migrant education offices at 45 locations across the United States.

Origins: Founded in 1986

Funding: Federal, state and local education sources

### ***Farmworker Association of Florida (FWAF)***

<http://www.floridafarmworkers.org>

Florida Office: 1264 Apopka Boulevard, Apopka, FL 32703. Phone: (407) 886-5151

Focus: Advocacy, Training

- FWAF is a membership organization of over 8,000 farmworker families in 15 Florida counties: Orange, Lake, Sumter, Seminole, Polk, Volusia, Putnam, Dade, Hendry, Collier, Lee, Osceola, Indian River, Brevard, and St. Lucie.

The goal is to empower farmworker and rural low-income communities to respond to and gain control over the social, political, economic, workplace, health, and environmental justice issues impacting their lives. FWAF addresses community-identified problems, including working and living conditions; discrimination and exploitation in the workplace and in society; wage theft; access to social and medical services; and problems with local law enforcement, U.S. Border Patrol, and state and federal agencies.

- Since the early 1990s, FWAF has addressed pesticide exposure, field sanitation, and other workplace health and safety issues; educated and trained members on their rights in the workplace and society; secured the passage of Florida's Right-to-Know law and the Alfredo Bahena Act to protect farmworkers; filed complaints for employer violations of worker protections, and advocated the government for better enforcement of those protections; and participated in several community and academic research studies on the effects of pesticides and other workplace hazards on farmworkers.

Origins: Started in 1983 by a group of farmworkers in Central Florida who were seeking to improve living and working conditions for farmworkers. FWAF was incorporated in May 1986 (initially called Farmworker Association of Central Florida). In the early 1990s, it gained improvements in wages and working conditions for workers in over 60 Central Florida companies, and continues to address injustices suffered by farmworkers.

Funding: Grants from private foundations and government sources, donations, local fundraising, memberships

### ***Farmworkers Self-Help, Inc. (FSHI)***

<http://www.fshflorida.org>

Florida Office: 37240 Calle de Milagros / Lock Street, Dade City, FL 33523. Phone: (352) 567-1432. Fax: (352) 437-4744

Focus: Advocacy

- FSHI is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation partnering with organizations in other areas of Florida on common issues for farmworkers. FSHI facilitates self-development, self-help, and grassroots organizing.
- While facilitating self-development of the whole person through community organizing, education, advocacy, justice and empowerment is its primary focus, FSHI also provides emergency food, clothing, shelter, medical, and immigration assistance to farmworkers.

Origins: Organized in 1982 as a grassroots effort by immigrant Mexican and Mexican-American migrant farmworkers and former farmworkers to find solutions to the problems of the farmworker population. The original impetus for organizing was the abusive tactics of the U.S. Border Patrol toward the Hispanic population.

Funding: Foundations, individuals, churches

### **Florida Association of Community Health Centers (FACHC)**

<http://www.fachc.org>

Florida Office: 2340 Hansen Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Phone: (850) 942-1822, or toll-free (800) 456-8263. Fax: (850) 942-9902. Email: [fachc@fachc.org](mailto:fachc@fachc.org)

Focus: Health

- FACHC is an organization of member community health centers, and is the leading state advocate for community-based health care programs. Its primary mission is to "improve access to quality health services by bringing together agencies, legislators, and key persons able to affect health care services." Focusing on Florida's Federally Qualified Community Health Centers, FACHC plays a vital role in educating federal, state, and local policy makers about issues relating to health care and the role of the health centers. It maintains a strong presence in Tallahassee and works with the Florida Legislature, the Governor's Office, the Department of Health, and the Agency for Health

Care Administration. It also contracts with a Governmental Consultant to help its efforts in the legislature.

- FACHC provides trainings upon request, including Orientation to Farmworker Health; Culturally Competent Care with Latinos, Including Farmworkers and Other Mobile Populations; Farmworker Identification and Verification Training; Training for FQHC Boards; Strategic Planning (assists migrant health organizations); FQHC 101 (outlines FQHC program requirements).

Origins: Founded in 1981

Funding: Federal

### **Florida Catholic Conference (FCC)**

<http://www.flacathconf.org>

Florida Office: 201 West Park Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301-7760. Phone: (850) 205-6826

Focus: Advocacy, Faith-Based

- FCC is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, representing the seven Catholic dioceses of the Province of Miami as an advocate/liaison to Florida's state government and a nonpartisan public policy voice on behalf of the Catholic Bishops of Florida.
- Its advocacy areas include social issues (environment, farmworkers, immigration, prison ministry, marriage and family); respect life; health; and education. FCC has a Farmworker Justice Committee, with representation from each diocese, and four different farmworker organizations (CIW, FWAFF, UFW, and Farmworker Self-Help).

Origins: Established on February 1, 1969 by five Florida Catholic bishops

Funding: Catholic dioceses

### **Florida Legal Services, Inc. (FLS)**

<http://www.floridalegal.org>

Florida Office (Headquarters; Policy Advocacy, Legislative, and Administrative Office): 2425 Torrey Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32303. Phone: (850) 385-7900, Fax: (850) 385-9998

Miami Advocacy Office: 3000 Biscayne Boulevard., Suite 450, Miami, FL 33137. Phone: (305) 573-0092. Fax: (305) 576-9664

Migrant Farmworker Justice Project Office: 508 Lucerne Avenue, Lake Worth, FL 33460. Phone: (561) 582-3921. Fax: (561) 582-4884

Focus: Legal Assistance, Advocacy

- FLS is a non-profit organization, providing civil legal assistance to people who would not otherwise have the means to obtain a lawyer, including farmworkers. It fulfills its statewide mission primarily by working with local legal aid and legal service programs, and by providing service delivery coordination, training, case consultation, and technical assistance.
- FLS also is the coordinating organization for the first-in-the-nation comprehensive Florida Supreme Court Voluntary Pro Bono Attorney Plan. Migrant Farmworker Justice Project (see separate listing) provides direct legal representation to undocumented and other farmworkers ineligible for assistance through federally-funded legal services programs. Policies are established by a volunteer board of directors. The Migrant Farmworker Justice Project (MFJP) is a special advocacy project of FLS.

Origins: Founded in 1973

Funding: The Florida Bar Foundation and The Florida Bar

### ***Florida Non-Profit Housing, Inc. (FNPH)***

<http://www.fnph.org>

Florida Office: 3909 Kenilworth Boulevard (Post Office Box 1987), Sebring, FL 33870. Phone: (863) 385-2519. Fax: (863) 385-1643. Email: [fnph@earthlink.net](mailto:fnph@earthlink.net)

Focus: Housing

- FNPH is the successor organization of the American Friends Service Committee's Florida Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Housing effort. It provides Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) to nonprofit housing providers. Services include assisting existing or developing new organizations to develop affordable housing; helping with applications for funding; training boards of directors and staff; conducting conferences; and publishing newsletters and reports. FNPH concentrates primarily on two programs: Mutual Self-Help Housing and Rental Housing for Farmworkers.
- Florida agencies currently served by FNPH include: Belle Glade Housing Authority; Casa San Juan Bosco, Inc.; Collier County Housing Authority; Florida Non-Profit Services, Inc.; Highlands County Housing Authority; Authority of the City of Pompano Beach; and Indian River County Housing Authority.

Origins: Formed in 1978 with the initial goal of providing farmworker housing in Florida. Today, the service area has expanded to include 10 additional U.S. eastern coast and southern states plus the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The base has expanded to include all low-income families.

Funding: United States Department of Labor funds FNPH as a "lead agency" for the Southeast Housing Consortium (SEHC) and the United States Department of Agriculture/Rural Housing Service

### ***Florida Rural Legal Services (FRLS)***

<http://www.frls.org>

Florida Office: Migrant Farm Worker Unit, 3210 Cleveland Avenue, Suite 101-A, Fort Myers, FL 33901. Phone: (239) 334-4554

Focus: Legal Assistance

- FLRS is a private, non-profit corporation, providing free legal assistance to indigents and low-income elderly people in 13 counties in south-central Florida and to migrant workers throughout the state of Florida. FRLS has a large staff, including 25 attorneys in 6 offices,



handling 4,000–5,000 cases per year. Some staff members are fluent in Spanish and Haitian Creole.

- FLRS migrant services include the areas of workers' rights, employment discrimination, human trafficking, housing rights, unemployment compensation, and food stamps.

Origins: Founded in 1966 as a private, non-profit corporation

Funding: Legal Services Corporation and the Florida Bar Foundation

### ***Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI)***

Florida Office: 64 affiliates in Florida. Complete list at

<http://www.habitat.org/cd/local/affiliate.aspx?place=88>

National Office: <http://www.habitat.org> , Habitat for Humanity International, 270 Peachtree Street North, Suite 1300, Atlanta, GA 30303. Phone: (800) 422-4828

Focus: Housing

- HFHI is a nonprofit, non-denominational Christian housing ministry, serving low-income families (includes farmworkers in Florida). It works locally in communities around the world to build decent, affordable houses on a partnership model with owners who put in 500 hours of "sweat equity" and are granted "no-profit" mortgages.
- HFHI has built over 300,000 houses around the world, providing housing to more than 1.5 million people in 3,000 communities.

Origins: Originally founded in 1942 by Clarence and Florence Jordan and Martin and Mabel England in 1942, and later in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller at Koinonia Farm, a community of shared resources in Sumter County, Georgia

Funding: Individuals, corporations, faith groups

### ***Housing Assistance Council (HAC)***

Southeast Office (Florida): Housing Assistance Council, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, Suite 1500, Atlanta, GA 30308. Phone: (404) 892-4824. Fax: (404) 892-1204

National Office: <http://www.ruralhome.org>, 1025 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 606, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone: (202) 842-8600. E-mail: [hac@ruralhome.org](mailto:hac@ruralhome.org)

Focus: Housing

- HAC is a nonprofit corporation with the objective of improving housing conditions for the rural poor. It helps local organizations develop single and multi-family homes for ownership through self-help "sweat equity" construction methods, and assists non-profits to develop rental units. HAC maintains a special emphasis on high-need groups, including farmworkers. It provides loans, technical assistance, training, research, and information.
- HAC is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), and it supports the Self-Help Homeowner Opportunity Program (SHOP).

Origins: Founded 1971

Funding: Grants, loans, contracts, and contributions, including Habitat for Humanity International, United States Department of Agriculture, the MacArthur Foundation, United States Department of Health and Human Services Compassion Capital Fund, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, and United States Department of the Treasury

### ***Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida (IASWFL)***

Internet: <http://www.interfaithact.org>

Florida Office: Post Office Box 509, Immokalee, FL 34143. Phone: 239-986-0688. Email: [info@interfaithact.org](mailto:info@interfaithact.org)

Focus: Advocacy, Faith-Based

- IASWFL is a 501(c)(3) private non-profit organization. It is a network of people of faith who work in partnership with farmworkers for fair wages and conditions in the fields, including an end to modern-day slavery rings.
- IASWFL works with people of faith throughout Southwest Florida as well as the state and the country.

Founded: 1998

Funding: Foundations, religious organizations and congregations, individuals

### ***Migrant Farmworker Justice Project (MFJP)***

<http://www.floridalegal.org/>

Florida Office: 508 Lucerne Avenue, Lake Worth, FL33460. Phone:582-3921. Fax:(561) 582-4884

Focus: Legal Assistance, Advocacy

- MFJP is committed to ensuring that the full range of legal advocacy is available to workers who work in Florida's fields and groves. MFJP provides free legal assistance to farmworkers throughout Florida, regardless of immigration status, on employment matters, particularly those relating to wages.
- MFJP engages in legislative and administrative advocacy, and class actions.

Origins: Established in 1996 as a special advocacy project of Florida Legal Services.

Funding: Florida Bar Foundation

### ***National Farm Worker Ministry (NFWM)***

Florida Office: Post Office Box 1589, Deland, FL 32721. Telephone/Fax: (386) 738-2269

National Office: <http://www.nfwm.org> , 438 North Skinker Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63130. Phone (314) 726-6470. Fax: (314) 726-6427

Focus: Advocacy, Faith-Based

- NFWM brings together national denominations, state councils of churches, religious orders, congregations, and individuals to act with farmworkers to achieve fundamental change in their living and working conditions.
- Grounded in faith, NFWM educates constituents and works with farmworkers nationwide, organizing vigils, picketing, and boycotts.works actively with the CIW (Coalition of Immokalee Workers).

Origins: Began in 1920 as a ministry providing food, clothing, and daycare services to farmworkers. In the 1960s, when United Farm Workers founder César Chávez called on the religious community to change its emphasis from charity to justice, NFWM became the vehicle for people of faith to respond to that call. According to Arturo Rodriguez, President, United Farm Workers, "Without the religious support it would have been impossible to win our campaigns...the presence of NFWM has proved critical in many areas."

Funding: Individual contributions, member organizations

### ***Redlands Christian Migrant Association (RCMA)***

<http://www.rcma.org>

Florida Office: 402 West Main Street, Immokalee, FL 34142. Phone: (239) 658-3560, or toll-free (800) 282-6540

Focus: Education, Child Care

- RCMA is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organization, and the largest non-profit child care provider in Florida focused on farmworker children and other low-income rural families, serving close to 8,000 children in over 75 centers. More than one-half of its childcare centers are nationally accredited. It also has two charter schools, one in Immokalee and another in Wimauma.

- RCMA's main principles are to incorporate the family into child development, include health and educational activities in child development, and hire previous farmworkers as staff.

Origins: Childcare founded October 1, 1965, by Mennonite Church volunteers in the Redlands area of South Florida, with a volunteer board of directors overseeing the organization

Funding: Local, state, and federal grants; United Way; growers and agriculture industry associations; community foundations and individuals

### ***Rural Neighborhoods, Inc. (RNI)***

Florida Office: Post Office Box 343529, Homestead, FL 33034. Phone: (305) 242-2142. Fax: (305) 242-2143

Focus: Housing developer and provider

- RNI is a 501(c) private charitable organization. As a group of 15 limited liability corporations, it provides housing in South Florida and separately owns each of the projects. All of the housing is rental properties, primarily targeted to agricultural employees.
- RNI has 835 rental units in operation or under construction, as well as 290 SRO-beds for single workers.
- RNI was formerly the Everglades Community Association. It has housing in Fort Pierce, Homestead, Immokalee, LaBelle, Okeechobee, and Ruskin

Origins: Founded in 1982

Funding: Federal, state and local financing

## **Part II: Organizations with No Direct Florida Presence**

### ***Farmworker Justice (FJ)***

<http://www.fwjjustice.org>

National Office: 1010 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 915, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone: (202) 783-2628. Fax: (202) 783-2361

Focus: Advocacy, Training

- FJ is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit corporation with an independent board of directors. Its purpose is to improve the living and working conditions of migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the United States by engaging in litigation, administrative, and legislative advocacy; technical assistance; and public education. FJ's main focus is on wages, working conditions, immigration and welfare reform, women's issues, and safety and health, with an emphasis on HIV/AIDS prevention and protection from pesticide poisoning. The organization monitors and analyzes decisions by Congress, the White House, the courts, and administrative agencies that affect farmworkers.
- FJ provides direct training of farmworkers on leadership development as *promotores de salud* (lay health educators) focused on HIV/AIDS prevention and related issues. It co-sponsors conferences to train lawyers and paralegals about agricultural employment law, and publishes training materials, scholarly articles, newsletters, alerts and other materials. FJ staff often travel to Mexico to educate farmworkers about their rights when they are employed in the United States under the H-2A temporary foreign worker program.
- FJ develops agendas in collaboration with farmworkers, for improving the effectiveness of federal and state regulation of the agricultural workplace. It meets with high-level agency officials, submits written comments on proposed regulations, and files formal complaints.

Origins: Founded in 1981. In 1996, it became a subsidiary corporation of the National Council of La Raza, a national organization that supports Latinos in all lines of work, promoting fairness and equity for farmworkers related to housing, education and health care

Funding: Individual donations

### **Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO (FLOC)**

<http://www.floc.com>

National Office: 1221 Broadway Street, Toledo, OH 42609. Phone: (419) 243-3456

Focus: Advocacy, Unionization

- FLOC is a social movement and labor union. Its constitution states: "It shall be the general purpose of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee to form and comprise a Union of people to work for the betterment of farmworkers and former farmworkers, and all other persons, regardless of race, color, citizenship, age, sex, creed, place of national origin, who for any reason have been excluded from full enjoyment of social, economic and political rights."
- While FLOC's primary members are farmworkers, it also is involved with immigrants, Latinos, and other justice-oriented coalitions. FLOC's vision emphasizes human rights as the standard and self-determination as the process of giving the workers a direct voice.

Origins: Began in the mid-1960s when migrant farmworkers, led by Baldemar Velásquez, organized in Ohio

Funding: Private individuals, foundations and churches

### **Health Outreach Partners (HOP)**

<http://www.outreach-partners.org>

National Office: 405 14th Street, Suite 909, Oakland, CA 94612. Phone: (510) 268-0091. Fax: (510) 268-0093

Focus: Health

- HOP provides programmatic support services to health centers, Head Start programs, health departments, and other organizations providing health services to U.S. farmworkers. HOP was formerly known as Farmworker Health Services, Inc. (FHSI).

- HOP operates nationwide, mostly with migrant health centers and community centers, to provide training, consultation, and information services on outreach strategies, cultural competencies, etc. to health outreach programs in community centers or migrant health center staffs, using "train the trainer" models.

Origins: Founded in 1970 as FHSI, HOP placed outreach staff from Maine to Florida, a staff that moved with the farmworkers. In 2001, it transitioned into a national technical training assistance organization.

Funding: Various sources; funding partially dictates what type of organizations HOP serves

### **Interfaith Worker Justice (IWJ)**

<http://www.iwj.org>

National Office: 1020 West Bryn Mawr Avenue., Chicago, IL 60660. Phone (773) 728-8400. Fax: (773) 728-8409

Focus: Advocacy, Faith-Based

- IWJ engages the religious community in low-wage worker campaigns and rebuilding partnerships with the labor movement. IWJ has organized a national network of more than 70 interfaith committees, workers' centers and student groups, making it the leading national organization working to strengthen the religious community's involvement in issues of workplace justice.
- Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida is an affiliate.

Origins: Founded in 1996

Funding: Individual contributions

### **Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN)**

<http://www.migrantclinician.org>

National office: Post Office Box 164285, Austin, TX 78716. Phone: (512) 327-2017. Fax: (512) 327-0719

Satellite Offices: Chico, CA; State College, PA; Quantico, MD; and Ferndale, WA.

Focus: Health

- As a national non-profit organization with more than 5,000 constituents, and governed by a board of directors consisting of clinicians, researchers, and public health professionals with expertise in direct care and health care policy, MCN provides migrant-specific resources to clinicians; in-person and web-based continuing education for nursing, medical, and health education; and a trans-border (domestic and international) case management program for migrants requiring ongoing care for a variety of medical conditions.
- MCN's Health Network project provides a central "home" for medical records, care referral, and continuity of care for migrant and seasonal farmworkers and other mobile poor. Its mission is "to be a force for health care justice for the mobile poor."

Origins: Founded in 1985 with seed money from the Bureau of Primary Health Care, Migrant Health Program

Funding: Diversified, including individuals

### **Migrant Health Promotion (MHP)**

Michigan Office: 224 West Michigan Avenue, Saline, MI 48176. Phone: (734) 944-0244, or toll-free (800) 700-6927. Fax: (734) 944-1405.

Texas Office: <http://www.migranthealth.org>, 536 South Texas Boulevard, Suite 117, Weslaco, TX 78596. Phone: (956) 968-3600, or toll-free (800) 461-8394. Fax: (956) 968-3737

Focus: Health

- MHP provides low-cost training and technical assistance services for *Promotor(a)* (Health Promoter) programs to improve the health of farmworkers. There are about 13 community health centers in Florida that provide services to migrants, several of these have *Promotor(a)* programs linking the migrant and seasonal farmworking communities to the health centers.

- MHP's online services provide free training material downloads for various health topics, as well as information about grants and how to apply for them.

Origins: Founded in 1983 with a small grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services; the National Migrant Worker Council, Inc., an association of Catholic sisters, religious leaders and volunteers, shaped the vision

Funding: Federal grants, foundations and private donors

### **Migrant Legal Action Program (MLAP)**

<http://www.mlapp.org>

National Office: 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 915, Washington, D.C. 20036. Phone: (202) 775-7780

Focus: Legal Advocacy

- MLAP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, working through local service providers to provide legal representation and a "national voice" for migrant and seasonal farmworkers. It works to enforce rights and improve public policies related to working conditions, housing, education, health, nutrition.
- MLAP is involved in litigation, legislative, and administrative advocacy, and training and technical assistance.

Origins: Founded in 1974

Funding: Individual contributions, law firms, other non-profit groups; contributions given through electronic portals

### **National Center for Farmworker Health (NCFH)**

<http://www.ncfh.org>

National Office: 1770 FM 967, Buda, TX 78610. Phone: (512) 312-2700, or toll-free (800) 531-5120. Fax: (512) 312-2600

## Focus: Health

- NCFH is a private non-profit organization, providing training, technical assistance, and information resources to a national network of 500+ federally-funded community and migrant health centers (C/MHCs), including migrant health centers in Florida. With the mission of improving the health status of the national farmworker population, NCFH is recognized as a primary partner in support of the work of Health Centers to improve the health status of one of the most disenfranchised minority populations in the United States.
- NCFH services and products include on-site technical assistance; hands-on training; newsletters; directories; conferences; a migrant health library; a multi-media resource center; a toll-free information and referral line (Call for Health) for patients, providers, and patient advocates; several e-groups for dissemination and communication amongst migrant health advocates.

Origins: After the 1972 Federal Advisory Committee Act, the National Migrant Referral Project (NMRP) was formed through a family planning grant and placed bilingual, bicultural social workers in "upstream" (northern) health centers to train staffs on farmworker culture and issues; the Act also created child, adult, and prenatal portable health records, and a directory of federally-funded health centers. In 1989, the corporate name was changed to the National Migrant Resource Program and the Migrant Clinicians Network was funded as one of its projects; in 1996, the name was changed to National Center for Farmworker Health (NCFH).

Funding: Cooperative agreement with Health Resources and Services Administration

***National Partnership of Farmworker Organization (MAFO)***

<http://www.mafofarmworker.com>

National Office: 2701 South Chase Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Phone: (414) 389-6000

## Focus: Education, Advocacy

- MAFO is a national association of 167 adult education training providers. The organization is made up of seven farmworker organizations across the United States, one of which is Florida's COFFO. Note: MAFO and AFOP are basically the same, as both assist in the development of national and state policies that affect the farmworker population nationwide, and represent issues facing migrants and the farmworker organizations that serve them at the national level; they have access to the White House and agency administration.
- MAFO organizes and provides a national conference for farmworkers, farmworker organizations, and federal and state agencies as a forum for addressing issues and policies impacting the farmworker population.

Origins: Developed in the early 1970s as the Midwest Association of Farmworker Organizations (MAFO) to coordinate the delivery service to migrant and seasonal farmworkers that migrated from Texas to the Midwest in search of work; at that time, MAFO was primarily a Midwest organization (AFOP was the east coast organization).

Funding: Grant funds from federal, state and local sources

***United Farm Workers (UFW)***

Florida Office: Located in Quincy, FL, the Florida office was closed in late July 2009.

National Office: <http://www.ufw.org>, 29700 Woodford-Tehachapi Road, Keene, CA 93531. Phone: (661) 823-6250. Email: [execoffice@ufw.org](mailto:execoffice@ufw.org)

Focus: Advocacy, Unionization

- UFW is the nation's first successful and largest farmworkers union; it is currently active in 10 states, operating in Florida through other organization. The UFW operates in major agricultural industries.
- The UFW sponsors laws and regulations, including a California regulation to prevent heat

deaths and supports the AgJobs immigration reform bill; UFW is involved in immigration reform.

Origins: Founded in 1962 by Cesar Chavez

Funding: Membership fees, public donations