


Jean McCandless, Farm Health Task Force, April 23, 2015 Power Point re Organizational Activities

Vermont Farm Health Task Force



Creating Common Ground Solutions for Farm Health and Safety

Task Force Mission

- Maintain a vital organization working to support a healthy, stable farm workforce in Vermont.
- Use *common ground* approach focused on shared health and safety needs of everyone living and working on our farms.
- Promote state and organizational policies/programs to improve quality of life in the farming community.

What are we trying to fix?

- Lack of adequate dental, primary care, medical specialists and behavioral health services in rural areas.
- Few trained practitioners knowledgeable about Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Safety.
- Many farmers and farm families are still not enrolled in the state health care system.

Organization

- Statewide membership organization
- Four standing workgroups:
 - Farm Safety
 - Practitioner Education
 - Farm Worker Health
 - Outreach and Education
- Steering Committee
- Quarterly Meetings



Task Force Activities

1. Create partnerships and funding to develop services for state's agricultural workforce.
2. Educate farm families, health practitioners, agricultural professionals and general public about unique health and safety needs of the agricultural community.
3. Run Health and Wellness Booths at Annual Farm Show and County Fairs.

4. Provide Migrant Workers training in Farm First Aid and emergencies, equipment safety, pesticides, etc.
5. Present 50-hour Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Safety Trainings every two years.
6. Pilot model for county-based agricultural medicine collaborative service delivery.

Fall, 2015 Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Safety Training

Comprehensive multidisciplinary 50-hour training course

Occupational and environmental medicine and public health

On-site and webinars

You're invited to attend!

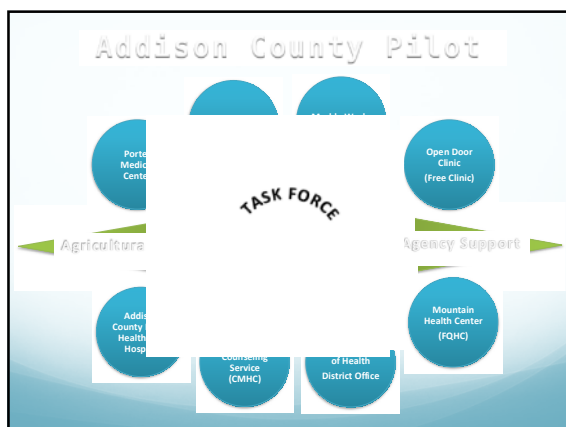
County Agricultural Medicine Collaboratives

Develop county coalitions of trained, certified rural health practitioners who can:

1. Recognize, diagnose, and treat agricultural illnesses and conditions;
2. Utilize new Agricultural Medicine protocols for:
 - health histories;
 - screening and diagnostic procedures;
 - specialist referrals;
 - managing farm medical emergencies.

Addison County Pilot Collaborative

- Create and test model for county-wide agricultural primary care system
- Increase expertise and services of member organizations
- Wait for results of 2015 HRSA Rural Health Planning Grant application



WHAT FARMERS NEED!

- Increased Health Connect enrollment
- FARM-SPECIFIC health care in rural areas.
 - Practitioners trained in Agricultural Medicine
 - Full primary care services for farm patients
 - Incentivized health and safety education

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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THANK YOU!

