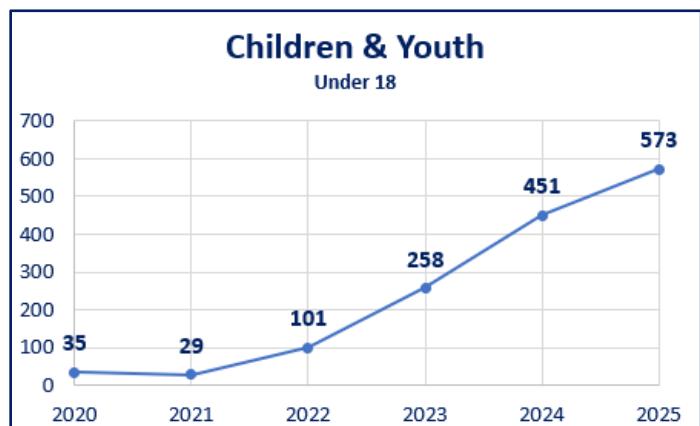
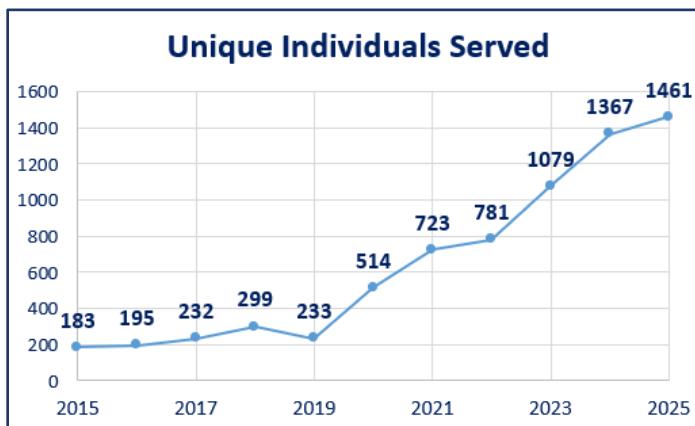


BRIDGES TO HEALTH

Bridges to Health (BTH) is a health outreach and care coordination program for migrant and immigrant workers and families across Vermont who are not otherwise served by existing programs. BTH began informally as a farmworker outreach program within UVM Extension in 2010 and has responded to meet the growing health and related needs associated with the recent and rapid increase in workers and families in the service industry and building trades.



Eight regionally based Community Health Workers, a Program Coordinator and 60+ volunteers address needs identified by the communities they serve. Community Health Workers:

- ✓ Provide navigational supports within an increasingly complex and complicated health system
- ✓ Serve as liaisons, cultural brokers, health educators, advocates, and interpreters between individuals and community-based organizations
- ✓ Empower clients to make timely health decisions
- ✓ Promote health, reduce disparities, and improve service delivery
- ✓ Improve access to care and quality of life at an individual, family and household level
- ✓ Coordinate outreach efforts in collaboration with local health and social service organizations to assist them in enhancing services and addressing systemic barriers to care



State funding of \$500,000 in FY 2027 is needed to help sustain BTH as they make a necessary transition from their current home at the University of Vermont to a fiscal sponsorship with Vermont's Free & Referral Clinics.

PROGRAM IMPACT: 2025

1450 Unique individuals served (*101% increase from 2021*)

- 573 children 0-17 years old
 - 54 VT born babies
- 528 households across 14 counties
 - 122 cities and towns
 - 130 farms
 - 379 families

594 Health insurance enrollments & renewals for **556 individuals**

251 Financial assistance & sliding fee applications approved

195 Beneficiaries of CSAs and/or food box delivery programs in collaboration with community partners

29 Farmworker households supported to grow kitchen gardens in Northern VT

168 Individuals connected to WIC and food access programs

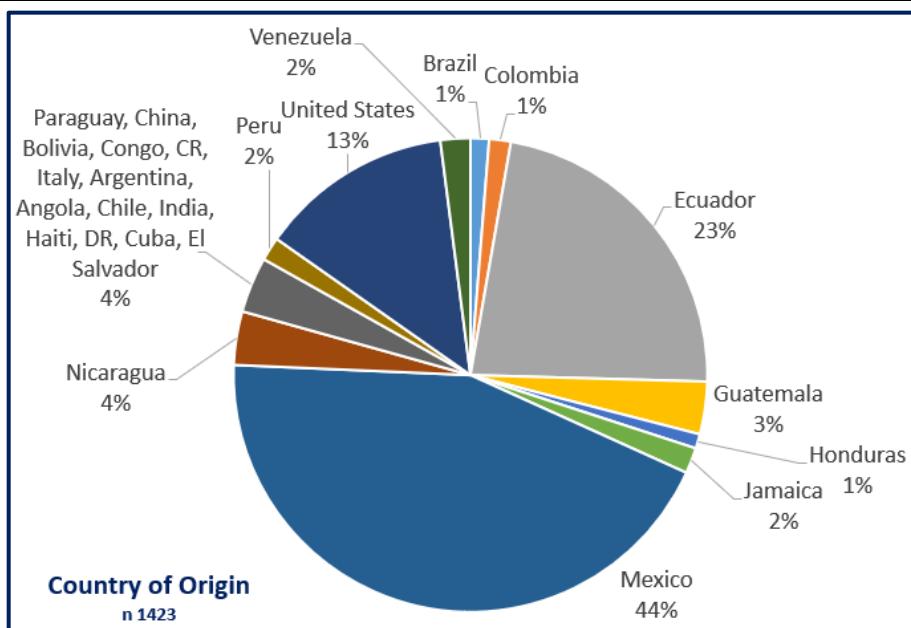
3271 Health & social services appointments coordinated (*40% increase from last year*)

- 745 rides to appointments coordinated or provided
- 434 medical appointments interpreted by BTH staff and volunteers
- 71 pregnant individuals connected to prenatal care
- 19% - dental needs, primarily acute
- 59% - children and pregnant individuals

71 Farm & community-based health and vaccine clinics (with health care partners & volunteers)

- 10 counties
- 396 unique individuals
- 439 vaccines administered

2648 Health and social service pathways (needs) identified with desired outcome reached: *medical home established, health insurance enrollment, financial assistance approval, prescription cost reduced, enrollment in social service or food program, car seat secured, acute health issue resolved*



Contact Naomi Wolcott-MacCausland for more information about
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