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December 21, 2016

Megan Patterson
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Dear Ms. Patterson,

The Maine Migrant Health Program (MMHP) and Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) would like to provide an update to and a request for support from the Maine Board of Pesticides Control of a continued collaborative effort to deliver EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS) education to Maine's farmworkers during the 2017 harvest season.

In 2016, through support of the Maine Board of Pesticides Control, MMHP and EMDC collaborated to hire a staff person to deliver WPS trainings across the state during the months of June – August, especially among broccoli and blueberry workers and at a variety of diversified farms. During 2016, this individual offered WPS education to a total of 704 farmworkers across the state. This represents a 228% increase over the number of farmworkers trained in 2015. This success is attributed to increased outreach to new growers, growers' new requirement to train staff annually instead of every 5 years, a bilingual staff person (English/Spanish) and flexibility to train farmworkers per the timing and location preferable to the grower.

The table below breaks down, by education topic, important outcomes in 2016 completed by this staff person.

FWs trained in Worker Protection Standard	704
FWs trained in Take Home Exposure	704
Heat Stress Trainings	698

For 2017, the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) has committed \$3,123 to EMDC and MMHP in support of WPS training. EMDC and MMHP plan to use these funds to

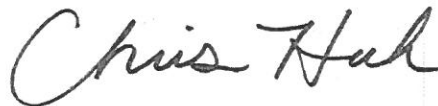
recruit one summer Pesticide Safety Training staff member who will provide direct services to farmworkers across the state. We request from the Maine Board of Pesticides Control a contribution of \$3,860 (a 5% increase over 2016) which we would leverage with the funds from AFOP. EMDC and MMHP plan to use these funds to recruit one summer staff member who will provide WPS Trainings and direct services to farmworkers across the state. Funds would cover both the hourly wage and the travel required to reach farmworkers, growers and partners. We request that the funding be made directly to MMHP.

We thank the Board for its past support and for considering this current proposal. To contact the Maine Migrant Health Program, you are welcome to email Elizabeth (echarles@mainemigrant.org) or call at 207-441-1633. For more information regarding Eastern Maine Development Corporation or the AFOP Health and Safety program, please feel free to contact Chris by email (chuh@emdc.org) or phone (207-610-1521). We look forward to meeting with the Board to discuss this opportunity.

Best Regards,



Elizabeth Charles McGough
Director of Outreach
Maine Migrant Health Program



Christopher Huh, MPA
Program Manager
Farmworker Jobs Program
Eastern Maine Development Corporation