March 13, 2013

Mr. Henry Jennings
Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Dear Mr. Jennings,

The Maine Migrant Health Program (MMHP) and Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) would like to inform the Maine Board of Pesticides Control of a collaborative effort to deliver EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS) education to Maine’s farmworkers during the 2013 harvest season.

In 2012, as well as past years, the outcomes of MMHP’s outreach has been possible through language proficiency, notably in Spanish and Creole, in serving the migrant population in Maine. Summer AmeriCorps members with bilingual skills have been key in educating farmworkers about pesticide safety.

In 2012, through support of the Maine Board of Pesticides Control, MMHP and EMDC collaborated to recruit two summer AmeriCorps members, one based in Midcoast/Downeast and one based primarily in Aroostook County. Together they delivered WPS to a total of 411 farmworkers. The table below breaks down, by service category, important outcomes in 2012 completed by the two AmeriCorps members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pesticide Safety Trainings</th>
<th>411</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take Home Exposure Trainings</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Health Trainings</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referrals to other health, educational, and supportive services</td>
<td>85</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
For 2013, the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs announced that it will grant funds ($3,000) to MMHP and EMDC to support WPS training. EMDC plans to use these funds to partner with the Maine Migrant Health Program in recruiting one summer temporary Pesticide Safety Training staff member who will provide direct services to farmworkers in Aroostook County, Downeast, and Midcoast areas of the state. To help create this position, we request from the Maine Board of Pesticides Control a contribution of $3,500 which we would leverage with the funds from AFOP. Total funds would be used to directly support hourly wage of the staff person, as well as travel required to reach farmworkers, growers and partners. We request that the funding be made directly to EMDC.

We thank the Board for its past support and for considering this current proposal. For more information regarding Eastern Maine Development Corporation or the AFOP Health and Safety program, please feel free to contact me by email (chuh@emdc.org) or phone (207-610-1521). We look forward to meeting with the Board on April 1st.

Best Regards,

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

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Barbara Ginley, MPH
Executive Director
Maine Migrant Health Program