

Educational and Supportive Services *...responding to needs*

Scholarships funded by the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity enable eligible youth and adults to obtain occupational skills and attend Illinois colleges.

Migrant Education Even Start (MEES) offers literacy services to migrant families with children from birth to age eight. www.illinoismees.org

Bilingual Health Prevention and Education addresses H1N1, pesticide safety training, breast, cervical and prostate cancer, and other health issues affecting rural Latino communities.

IMC's **Technology Learning Center**, Cobden, funded by IL *Eliminate the Digital Divide*, provides bilingual technology instruction, and online access to Illinois work Net Center resources for employment and career exploration. tlc@illinoismigrant.org



Farmworker Housing provides rent subsidies (IL Housing Development Authority) and educational information, and facilitates housing development.

Emergency Services assist eligible farmworker families in crisis with referrals to local faith-based and community organizations for emergency food, shelter, counseling, translation and social services.

IMC *... serving farmworkers in IL counties*

Northern Region

Boone, DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, Lake,
Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Winnebago

Northwest Region

Henry, Knox, LaSalle, McDonough, Mercer,
Rock Island, Whiteside

North Central Region

Bureau, Fulton, Livingston, Logan, Marshall,
Mason, McLean, Peoria, Putnam,
Sangamon, Stark, Tazewell, Woodford

Central Region

Champaign, Clark, Coles, Crawford, Dewitt, Douglas, Ford,
Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, Macon, Piatt, Vermilion, Will

Southern/Southwest Region

Southern: Alexander, Gallatin, Jackson, Jefferson
Johnson, Perry, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Williamson
Southwest: Calhoun, Clinton, Madison, Saint Clair, Washington



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Illinois Migrant Council



Council Mission

... since 1966

The **Illinois Migrant Council** or **IMC** is a statewide community-based, non-profit organization with the *primary mission* of promoting employment, educational, health, housing and other opportunities for *migrant and seasonal farmworkers* and their families to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Farmworkers in Illinois

Illinois farmworkers labor on fruit and vegetable farms, dairy and sod farms and in nurseries. They plant, harvest, hoe, detassel, weed, cultivate, bunch, pick, prune, pack and load. Many have incomes that are below poverty for their families, inadequate housing, minimal education, insecure jobs and limited English language skills. At work, farmworkers may encounter occupational hazards, discrimination and health risks and disparities.

IMC's Vision

"IMC is committed to creating a course of life where migrant and seasonal farmworkers and other economically disadvantaged families will ...

- *live and work in a healthy and safe environment;*
- *earn a living wage that results in economic security;*
- *be treated equally as other workers under the law;*
- *have increased access to educational opportunities;*
- *be recognized, valued and respected politically, socially, culturally and economically for their contribution to their local communities, society and nation."*

Eloy Salazar, Executive Director

Farmworker Jobs Program

...training for jobs

Farmworkers encounter chronic unemployment and underemployment due to reduced and changing agricultural labor needs, adverse weather, and increased urbanization in rural areas.

IMC administers **Illinois' National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)** for migrant and seasonal farmworkers under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of the U.S. Department of Labor.



IMC's most recent activities are preparing participants for occupational skills training that leads to jobs in high growth industries in coordination with Illinois' Critical Skills Shortage Initiative and assisting farmworkers to access *Illinois workNet Centers*.

Case Management Services

...leading to self-sufficiency

IMC partners with local **Illinois workNet Centers** (One Stops) through *case management, information sharing and referrals for training*. IMC offers these employment services for eligible farmworkers seeking employment.

- ❖ **Employability Assessment**
- ❖ **Job Counseling**
- ❖ **English as a Second Language**
- ❖ **Job Readiness**
- ❖ **Occupational Skills Training**
- ❖ **On-the-Job Training**
- ❖ **Job Search and Placement**
- ❖ **Assistance with Co-enrollment in workNet Center Training Programs**
- ❖ **Follow Up to Assist Job Retention**

Assistance for work clothing and tools, transportation, resettlement, and child care is available for NFJP participants to complete their training or find a job.

American Recovery Assistance Act (ARRA) services are also offered for occupational training and other recovery assistance to eligible individuals and families.

*Equal Employment Opportunity Employer/Program
Auxiliary Aids/Services Available Upon Request*