

Action Plan: Temporary Foreign Worker Engagement

On November 12, 2020 the Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP), in collaboration with the Office of Irek Kusmierczyk, and with the support of the municipalities of Leamington and Kingsville, the City of Windsor, the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers, the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation, the Migrant Worker Community Program, and C.A.R.E for International Workers, held a Community Conversation on the Economic and Social Impact of Temporary Foreign Workers in Windsor-Essex.

During the conversation, both live and in the concurrent group chat, as well as through outreach and a survey that followed, WE LIP asked partners to help identify priorities for next steps in our Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) initiatives. Planning partners had the opportunity to review draft results, and worked together to craft the priorities listed in the tables below. Included are potential ways in which WE LIP can continue working with current and future partners to help advance this very important work.

 <h3>Increase earliest access to equitable health care</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to facilitate Workplace Wellness for Agri-Food Workers & HUB Connect Task Forces • Inform the Ontario Health West Seasonal Worker Strategy • Continue partnership with CMHA & other mental health programs • Community Conversations around TFW Health Care • Support funding applications for TFW Health initiatives • Share information with the community, employers, and TFWs • Coordinate the development of resources for culturally responsive messaging 	 <h3>Safe employer-provided & private housing</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share key findings of the Government of Canada's minimum accommodation requirement survey • Task Force around TFW Housing • Host Housing Information sessions • Share information with the community, employers, and TFWs • Coordinate the development of resources for culturally responsive messaging • Coordinate the production of a multi-lingual (Spanish/English/Thai) manual for workers 	 <h3>Healthy & safe working conditions</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate a TFW Healthy & Safe Working Conditions Task Force • Coordinate the development of resources for culturally responsive messaging • Share information with the community, employers, and TFWs relevant to Healthy & Safe Working Conditions • Host Information sessions on Healthy & Safe Working Conditions 	 <h3>Worker & community informed collaborations</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate integration of migrant worker support organizations with eligible settlement services • Survey TFW & Agri-food employees • Continue partnerships with TFW support organizations to support initiatives, & strengthen operations, such as: Develop & facilitate training for support organizations to deliver integration/settlement programs; Strategies to encourage TFW participation on solution focused task forces & committees; • Education & Social Supports for quarantined/isolated workers, such as: Phone a friend program; COVID-19 testing & vaccination protocols; How to access health care - prevention & primary care; On line ESL classes • Messaging Task Force • Support services in first-language initiatives • ESL supports for farm workers 	 <h3>Linguistic & cultural safety</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUB Connect App Sub-Committee to increase utilization build capacity as a messaging tool • TFW Linguistic and/or Messaging Task Force. • Continue Economic & Social Impact of TFWs Task Force and positive messaging campaign • Survey to identify language needs • Develop resources for TFW messaging • Support TFW Language resources & ESL for TFWs • Support second language programs for community members
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