

WDC Farm Worker Health Task Force
(Formerly Low German Mennonites from Mexico Task Force)
2023 Annual Report

The Farm Worker Health Task Force collaborates with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to provide health promoters to work as part of the Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program (KSFHP). KDHE provides the funds from federal grants for the Western District Conference to pay the health promoters. KSFHP provides services to farmworker families at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Among the services they provide are interpreting services, vouchers for medical assistance, and educational opportunities. The health promoters work with Low German, Spanish, and English-speaking clients. The health promoters identify farmworker families in need of medical, dental, vision or mental health assistance. If there are services that KSFHP Vouchers could not cover, they connect these families to other community resources.

Because of COVID 19, health promoters stopped doing home visits to clients, and only did clients' visits via phone. They are just now returning to some home visits which is best practice in some scenarios like health promotion among clients with chronic conditions or clients that are pregnant. This spring they had a tour with four meetings in three cities that included the farm workers, health promoters, and case managers.

Task Force Members: Margaret Goering, Chair; Kathy Neufeld Dunn, secretary and Western District Conference Staff Representative, Lotti Boschmann, Carola Ratzlaff, Mary Duerksen, Alicia Roth, KSFHP Program Analyst and Amy Swanson, KSFHP Program Director, ex officio member.

-Margaret Goering, Chair