MAKING AN IMPACT
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Farmworkers, their families, and communities face serious challenges every day. Farmworker Justice is a national voice in the fight against farmworker abuse, poverty, and health risks.

We lead programs that bring ethical standards to America’s farms—protecting the hands that feed us—and create policy changes on Capitol Hill. Farmworker Justice gives voice to 2.5 million farmworkers and their families who would not otherwise be heard.

WHO WE ARE

Farmworker Justice works to bring humane, fair, and ethical standards to our nation’s farms through action in five arenas:

1. On Capitol Hill
   - We give a voice to farmworker concerns in our nation’s capital. Through education, advocacy and defense, we stand up for farmworkers in Congress.

2. In Administrative Agencies
   - We seek policies that address root causes of farmworker vulnerabilities and demand enforcement of the laws meant to protect the nation’s farmworkers against unfair employment terms and dangerous working conditions.

3. In the Courts
   - We fight back against illegal actions by government and private employers by representing farmworkers and their organizations in lawsuits.

4. With Farmworkers and Farmworker Organizations
   - We provide training, leadership development and technical assistance on immigration rights, labor protections, occupational safety, and health.

5. In the Public Eye
   - We work to raise public awareness about farmworker challenges in the US and promote meaningful solutions to improve farmworkers’ living and working conditions.

OUR VISION

Our vision is a nation where farmworkers are organized and their organizations are equipped with the tools to:

END DISCRIMINATION against agricultural workers in labor laws and improve labor law enforcement so that farmworkers enjoy the same workplace rights that protect employees in other occupations and exercise their rights without retaliation.

PROMOTE HIGHER WAGES, better working conditions, and comprehensive immigration reform that will improve farmworkers’ lives and stabilize the agricultural workforce.

ACCESS health and job safety information to address health disparities within farmworker communities, limit exposure to toxic pesticides, and reduce preventable workplace injuries.
An estimated 2.5 million farmworkers work on farms and ranches in the United States.

Who are farmworkers?

- 72% male
- 28% female
- 500,000 children who work in agriculture
- 41% are 20-34 years old

71% foreign born
- Mexico (95%)
- Central America (3%)

70% Spanish dominant language
- Hispanic (78%)
- White (13%)
- Other (5%)
- African American (4%)

39% had no healthcare visit in last 2 years
CAPITOL HILL
We advocate to prevent abuses under the H-2A Agricultural Guestworker program

IN ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES
We advocate for occupational safety rules and help develop standards to limit farmworkers’ exposures to toxic pesticides

IN THE COURTS
Our litigation has won millions of dollars in compensation for farmworkers victimized by employers.

WITH FARMWORKERS & ORGANIZATIONS
We have trained hundreds of promotores de salud and connected with thousands of farmworkers on health issues and access.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE
Journalists, think-tanks, and the public count on us for critical information. We reach more than 2 billions readers through the press and millions on social media each year.
“IN THIS BATTLE, WE’RE FIGHTING FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF FARMWORKERS AND THEIR CHILDREN—AND FOR THEIR DIGNITY, HUMANITY, AND EQUALITY. WORKING IN HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS SHOULD NOT BE THE PRICE FARMWORKERS HAVE TO PAY TO FEED THEIR FAMILIES.”
— Shelley Davis, 2006

THE FOLLOWING IS A COLLECTION OF QUOTES FROM PROMOTORES AFTER PARTICIPATING IN ONE OF OUR OCCUPATIONAL PESTICIDE SAFETY, HEAT STRESS, AND WORKPLACE RIGHTS TRAININGS.

I LIKED LEARNING MORE ABOUT HOW TO STOP USING PESTICIDES AT HOME

I WOULD LIKE TO KEEP LEARNING MORE ABOUT HEAT STRESS SO THAT I CAN HELP MY COMMUNITY

I THOUGHT IT WAS HARD TO LEARN ABOUT THE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF PESTICIDES BECAUSE IT MAKES ME WORRY ABOUT MY FAMILY

I LIKED LEARNING MORE ABOUT HOW WE CAN CHANGE OUR LAWS TO HELP PROTECT THE FARMWORKERS MORE

I THOUGHT IT WAS SPECIAL TO SIT IN A ROOM ALL TOGETHER AND TALK ABOUT THESE HARD ISSUES

I LIKED THAT WE COULD SPEAK FROM OUR OWN EXPERIENCE, EACH WITH OUR OWN STORY AND CIRCUMSTANCES

I LIKED HEARING EVERYONE’S STORIES BUT IT WAS ALSO HARD BECAUSE IT REMINDED ME HOW DIFFICULT LIFE CAN BE

• The Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection of 1983
• The farmworker legalization program in the 1986 immigration reform
• The OSHA Field Sanitation Standard, 1987
• The EPA Worker Protection Standard on pesticides, 1992
• Department of Labor Joint Employer Regulation, 1997
• Restoration of labor protections in H-2A Guestworker Program Regulations, 2010
• EPA Worker Protection Standard on Pesticides, 2015
• EPA Certified Pesticide Applicator Regulation, 2016

SINCE BEING FOUNDED IN 1981, FARMWORKER JUSTICE HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN WINNING EVERY SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT THAT FARMWORKERS HAVE WON IN IMMIGRATION POLICY, FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT LAW AND OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.
ISMAEL IS A U.S. CITIZEN FROM ROYAL CITY, WA. ISMAEL’S ENTIRE FAMILY IS COMPRISED OF FARMWORKERS, INCLUDING HIS MOTHER, FATHER, SISTERS, AND BROTHER.

Ismael began working in the fields at the age of 13, when he first assisted his father in picking cherries. Ismael is a full-time farmworker in Washington, where he picks cherries and thins apple trees. As one of the fastest workers in his crew, Ismael is undoubtedly a hard worker. Typically, Ismael works 9 hours a day during which time he is able to thin approximately 250 apple trees. In order to maximize his salary and since he is paid on a piece-rate basis, meaning his wages are based on the quantity of produce he picks, Ismael does not often take breaks during his work. Ismael, who is only 20 years old, worries that he will not be able to sustain the pace of his work in the future due to the heavy toll it places on his body. Ismael is hopeful that he will continue to successfully secure employment as a farmworker as he has done for the last five seasons.

*Excerpt from Farmworker Justice Report Who Works the Fields: Stories of Americans Who Feed Us*