



Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers



CRVFHP Advisory Council

Introduction

As a program of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers (League), the Connecticut River Valley Farmworker Health Program (CRVFHP) provides outreach services, inclusive of health education, case management and transportation, and reimbursement for defined primary care and other clinical services to eligible migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents in the Connecticut River Valley through contractual agreements with participating agencies. The CRVFHP is supported by a grant from the federal Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC), Health Resources and Services Administration.

Purpose

The Executive Board of the League has acted to create an Advisory Council for the CRVFHP as a Special Committee of the League. The purpose of the CRVFHP Advisory Council is to advise the League on CRVFHP programmatic activities and directions, and by so doing ensure that the CRVFHP reaches eligible farmworkers effectively, delivers culturally appropriate and high-quality health care services to them, and contributes to the improved health of the farmworker populations in the Connecticut River Valley. As a Section 330g Migrant Voucher Program grantee, per BPHC Policy Information Notice 2014-01, the League requested a waiver of the 51 percent patient majority governance requirement for the CRVFHP, supporting the need for an Advisory Council as an alternative mechanism plan for addressing farmworker patient representation.

Appointment and Terms

The Chair of the Board of Directors of the League appoints members to the CRVFHP Advisory Council for two-year terms corresponding to the CRVFHP program year, which is the calendar year.

Composition

The Advisory Council will have between 7 and 11 members, representing Massachusetts and Connecticut equitably. The League will attempt to recruit at least two migrant or seasonal farmworkers or their dependents who receive CRVFHP-funded services to serve as Advisory Council members; however, the Advisory Council may operate without migrant and seasonal farmworker patient presence. Representatives of agencies providing legal, housing, educational or other non-health care services to farmworkers will also be represented, along with grower representatives / employers and representatives of the Massachusetts and Connecticut Department of Public Health, as appropriate. No member of the Advisory Council will be an employee or representative of an agency funded by the CRVFHP.

Meetings and Meeting Schedule

The Advisory Council will meet at least quarterly with a defined agenda at a convenient time and location. The CRVFHP will reimburse travel expenses to meetings for Advisory Council members and provide other transportation and technological support to ensure attendance. Meeting minutes will summarize the advice and recommendations of the Advisory Council and be reported back to Advisory Council members as well as to the League President & CEO and, through the President & CEO, to the League Executive Board.