



**Nomination**  
**Public health and primary care**  
**Delhi Family Health Team**  
**Crisis Response for Covid-19 Outbreak n Migrant Worker Congregate**

Migrant workers constitute a large portion of the workforce in rural Haldimand, Norfolk and Brant Counties. In HN there are 204 farms that hire and house over 3,300 Seasonal Agricultural Workers (SAW). Farm owners are charged with ensuring all workers were isolated on arrival for the 14-day period prior to initiation onto the farm setting. Living conditions are set up in congregate settings, mostly in the form of bunkhouses. In situations where there is communicable disease outbreak within the migrant farmer population, an interdisciplinary Primary Care Response Team (PCRT) has been set up, based on the June 2020 Covid-19 experiences of the Delhi FHT, Public Health, EMS, Norfolk General Hospital (NGH) and farm owners. This response involves physical screening, testing, assessment and treatment of workers when an outbreak



had been declared by Public Health. Additionally, identification, treatment and follow up of comorbidities or non-pandemic illness will be treated or referred as appropriate by the PCRT. Being involved in the migrant worker outbreak at a local farm was an experience unlike any we have ever had in any our professional careers. What started as a professional and moral obligation

to attend to the needs of our community and its members, became a lesson in culture, quality care in an unpredictable environment, organization in the face of chaos, and collaboration between our community members. As a team we work, learn, celebrate and grieve together. The purpose of our involvement was to provide high level care, medical assessments, triage, and treatment to the workers in need. The hope was to provide early intervention and reduce hospital admissions. However, the lesser known, but equally important components, such as the compassion, advocacy, respect, and the relationships built between the care providers and the workers is the purpose of this letter. The human and emotional component of healthcare should not go unrecognized. It is our hope to highlight some of our team's personal and emotional experiences here.