# **SMRLS' AGRICULTURAL WORKER PROJECT**

# Free Legal Assistance for Agricultural Workers in Minnesota and North Dakota

## **Our Main Offices**

### Southern Minnesota

55 East 5<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 1000 St. Paul, MN 55101 **651-894-6854** 1-800-652-9733 Fax: 651-228-9450

## **Red River Valley**

1015 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. Moorhead, MN 56560 **701-232-8872** I-800-832-5575 Fax: 701-232-8366

# What can you do?

- Refer agricultural workers to our program for assistance
- Request presentations for your organization or client base

#### WHO DO WE SERVE?

- Agricultural workers
  - Field workers (planting, harvesting, pollinating, sorting, detasseling, weeding, rock picking, etc.)
  - Livestock workers (dairies, hog farms, turkey farms, etc.)
  - Cannery workers (packing/handling fruits and vegetables)
  - Nursery workers (planting, harvesting, caring for trees and other plants)
  - Forestry workers
  - H-2A workers (those in the US, often from Mexico, under an H-2A visa to perform temporary agricultural work)

# WHAT IS THE GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THE AGRICULTURAL WORKER PROJECT?

We serve agricultural workers in all of Minnesota and North Dakota.

#### WITH WHICH TYPES OF LEGAL CONCERNS DO WE ASSIST?

- Employment
  - Wage theft (nonpayment of wages, overtime violations, unlawful deductions, contract violations, etc.)
  - Workplace health and safety concerns (workplace injuries, lack of access to bathrooms/drinking water, pesticide exposure, break violations, etc.)
  - Unlawful discrimination or retaliation (discriminatory termination, sexual harassment, retaliation for using workers' comp system or complaining about working conditions, etc.)
  - Issues related to recruitment (false promises, unlicensed farm labor contractors, etc.)
- Public Benefits
  - Unemployment insurance benefits
  - Expedited food stamps
- Housing
  - Health and safety concerns related to employer-provided housing
  - Housing rights of H-2A workers and domestic workers
  - Retaliatory eviction from employer-provided housing
- Immigration
  - U/T visa when related to labor violations in agricultural employment

#### WHERE MUST A POTENTIAL CLIENT BE LIVING?

 Anywhere (Texas, Mexico, etc.) as long as legal issue took place in Minnesota or North Dakota.

# HOW DO I REFER A POTENTIAL CLIENT TO THE AGRICULTURAL WORKER PROJECT?

Please provide our direct phone numbers (found in bold print on the left of this document) as we conduct our own intake.



## Agricultural Worker Project/El Proyecto Para Trabajadores Agrícolas

Are you working or have you recently worked in agriculture in Minnesota or North Dakota? Do you have a legal question or concern related to that work? If so, SMRLS' Agricultural Worker Project may be able to help. We assist agricultural workers with employment-related legal issues and are committed to improving the working and living conditions of agricultural workers in Minnesota and North Dakota.

Cases we normally handle include:

Wage theft

Workplace health and safety violations

Employer-provided housing concerns

Employment discrimination/retaliation

Employment recruitment problems

H-2A contract violations

To reach the Agricultural Worker Project, call 651-894-6854 (for Minnesota) or 701-232-8872 (for North Dakota). All of our advocates speak Spanish.

¿Usted está trabajando o ha trabajado recientemente en el trabajo agrícola en Minnesota o Dakota del Norte? ¿Tiene una pregunta o un problema legal tocante a ese trabajo? Si la respuesta es sí, es posible que El Proyecto Para Trabajadores Agrícolas pueda ayudarle. Damos ayuda a los trabajadores agrícolas con problemas legales con conexión al trabajo y tenemos un compromiso a mejorar las condiciones de trabajar y vivir a los trabajadores agrícolas en Minnesota y Dakota del Norte.

Los casos que tomamos normalmente incluyen:

Sueldos no pagados

Violaciones de salud y seguridad en el trabajo

Problemas con las viviendas que proveen los empleadores

Discriminación/represalia en el trabajo

Problemas con reclutamiento de trabajo

Violaciones de los contratos de H-2A

Para comunicarse con El Proyecto Para Trabajadores Agrícolas, llame al 651-894-6854 (para Minnesota) o 701-232-8872 (para Dakota del Norte). Se habla español.