South Carolina Legal Services

Migrant Priorities

Employment Conditions

Cases

Wage Problems (Getting all wages, not getting minimum wage, illegal deductions).
Abuse by contractors, false promises, lack of toilets, clean drinking water, and hand washing at work.
Discrimination on the job such as: age, disability, nationality, race, religion, or sex
Retaliation for reporting violations of law or claiming your rights
Sexual harassment
Problems in nurseries, canneries, packing sheds
Housing where required to be provided by the employer

Matters

Publish and distribute educational information materials in English and Spanish explaining legal rights of migrant farm workers; provide extensive outreach in the field to Migrant farm workers to identify clients with unmet legal needs and educate clients

Goals

Improve working conditions for Migrant farm workers; coordinate with legal services staff for the provision of traditional legal services to eligible Migrant clients; educate migrant farm workers as to their legal rights to allow them to make informed decisions

Objective/Measurable Outcome

Provide legal representation in the appropriate judicial/administrative forum for 30 Migrant farm-workers; distribute 500 bilingual brochures to raise the awareness of Migrant farm workers and the general public as to the legal rights of Migrants; and provide at least four trainings to migrant advocates on issues affecting migrant farm workers

Education and Schools

Cases

Discrimination in schools, including unjust suspension or expulsion of students
Problems with migrant education programs

Matters

Publish and distribute legal education brochures in English and Spanish regarding education and school issues; provide extensive outreach in the field to migrant farm-workers to train clients regarding education and school issues

Goals

Insure access to education for children of migrant farm workers

United Way of the Midlands Community Partner

LSC

Stuart M. Andrews, Jr. – Chairman; Wilbur E. Johnson – Vice Chairman; Jonathan Moody- 1st Vice Chair - Emma Bradley – Secretary; C. Daniel Vega – Treasurer

Objectives/Measurable Outcomes

Provide legal representation in the appropriate judicial/administrative forum for 5 migrant farm-workers; distribute 500 bilingual brochures to help ensure the immigration rights of Migrant farm-workers are protected through education and information; respond to 200 inquiries from private attorneys, community leaders, Migrant advocates, and basic field staff on immigration and naturalization issues; provide four trainings to migrant workers on their rights to a free and appropriate education for their minor children

Civil Rights

Cases

Violation by Law Enforcement

Violation by the Bureau of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (now USCIS, formerly known as the INS)

The need to educate people about the changes in immigration law

Matters

Educate Migrant farm-workers as to their legal rights to allow them to make informed decisions about civil rights issues

Provide training to legal services staff and other advocates about civil rights available to Migrant farm-workers

Goals

Assure protection of civil rights of migrant farm workers

Objectives/Measurable Outcomes

Provide legal representation in the appropriate judicial/administrative forum for 5 migrant farm workers

Housing Problems

Matters

Educate Migrant farm-workers as to their legal rights to allow them to make informed decisions about housing issues; provide extensive outreach in the field to Migrant farm workers to identify and educate clients about their housing rights

Goals

To increase supply of safe, affordable housing, to improve compliance with housing codes and municipal codes and to prevent homelessness and redlining

Objectives/Measurable Outcomes

To conduct quarterly trainings to equip clients to remedy and identify housing problems

To distribute 500 bilingual brochures to equip clients to police compliance with housing and municipal codes

To coordinate assistance by basic field program

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South Carolina Legal Services

Health Care Problems

Cases

Pesticide poisoning.

Problems getting help from farm worker or low-income medical clinics.

Matters

To distribute 500 bilingual brochures addressing access to health care including mental health

To train clients to recognize government benefits that can include access to health care

To conduct quarterly trainings on health care issues, including pesticide poisoning.

Goal

To allow migrant farm worker clients and their children to live healthier lives.

Objectives/Measurable Outcomes

Provide legal representation in the appropriate judicial/administrative forum for two migrant farm workers

Consumer Problems

Matters

Educate Migrant farm workers as to their legal rights to allow them to make informed decisions about consumer issues

Provide extensive outreach in the field to Migrant farm workers to identify and educate clients about their consumer rights including distribution of 500 bilingual brochures

Conduct quarterly trainings addressing problems with sales and loans; warranty issues, bankruptcy and utility cut-offs

Refer consumer cases for farm worker families to the basic field program where appropriate

Goals

To equip migrant farm worker families to be informed consumers; to assure enforcement of existing consumer protections and to avoid bad outcomes

Objectives/Measurable Outcomes

To distribute 500 bilingual brochures

To participate in regional consumer protection education projects aimed at migrants

To provide quarterly community legal education on warranties, consumer protection code and other sources of consumer law

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