

Overview

Sun River Health is one of the largest providers of community-based health care services to agricultural workers in New York State, serving over 9,000 individuals across five counties in 2018¹. The Hudson Valley and Long Island, where Sun River Health has numerous health centers, are home to orchards, vegetable farms, vineyards, greenhouses, nurseries, and dairy and poultry farms. The New York agriculture sector generates \$21.2B in sales, with a downstream economic impact of \$39.4B, and over 160,000 jobs².

In order for New York State's agriculture sector to continue to thrive and keep pace with other states, it is critical that the workforce has access to health care services that maximize productivity and ensure long term health. An estimated \$160 million per year is lost due to illness among agricultural workers nationally³, while only 42% of agricultural worker patients have health insurance, and 75% live at or below the federal poverty level⁴. Agricultural workers are a vulnerable and underserved community, and Sun River Health has a long history of innovative practices to overcome barriers agricultural workers face in accessing health care.

Our Work

- + Collaborations with local farmers, faith leaders, and businesses to identify and assist workers who need health services
- + On-site services across our network tailored to agricultural workers, such as language-competent services, transportation, case management, medical interpretation, safety training, and specialty care navigation
- + Mobile Health Centers in the Hudson Valley and on Long Island that visit rural regions to provide primary and dental care in rural communities
- + Events at local farms and health centers providing occupational health and safety services, health screenings, health education, and migrant health vouchers



Figure 1 Outreach Staff Assisting Farmworker

About Sun River Health

Founded over 40 years ago as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Sun River Health is one of the nation's largest community health providers. The Sun River Health network of 43 health centers throughout the Hudson Valley, New York City, and Long Island provides affordable, accessible care to over 225,000 patients annually. The network's exceptional primary care practitioners, specialists, and support staff have made Sun River Health a destination for convenient, high-quality care for all. In 2018, Brightpoint Health, an FQHC network with sites in all five boroughs of New York City, joined Sun River Health.

¹ Sun River Health Informatics UDS report, January 2019

² Farm Credit East report, Northeast Economic Engine, June 2015

³ Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index Report, May 2013

⁴ Sun River Health Informatics UDS report, January 2019