

Migrant labor
(1965 folder)

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

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1965

THE MIGRANT

and

THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT :

An explanation of the assistance available under the
Economic Opportunity Act to assist the migrant and
seasonal agricultural worker and his family.

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"We must open the doors of
opportunity. But we must also
equip our people to walk through
those doors."

Lyndon B. Johnson
President
United States

"Surely, it is not beyond our
resources nor our ingenuity to
include in our war against poverty
these always "excluded" Americans
(the migrants)."

Sargent Shriver
Director

U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity

PROVISIONS FOR MIGRANT LABOR PROGRAMS

Programs of assistance for migrants and seasonal farm workers may be undertaken either under Title III-B or Title II-A of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE UNDER TITLE III-B

Title III-B of the Act provides for housing, sanitation facilities, educational and day care projects for seasonal farm workers and their families.

Housing and Sanitation

Facilities meeting special needs or circumstances

Examples include:

- rest camps on migrant routes
- peak or short season special camp or field facilities
- facilities in camps or fields which are experimental in design, operation or materials

Education

- ...For children or adults
- ...Summer schools or regular sessions
- ...For basic literacy or for special needs including:

- guidance and counseling
- social work services in school
- personal or community relations
- pre-school preparation
- adult work skills
- citizenship
- job search methods
- health education
- family management
- training as Community Action Program aides

Day Care

- ...Health care, immunization, etc
- ...Educational activities
- ...Language development
- ...Lunches, other nutrition
- ...Recreation
- ...Cultural enrichment
- ...Community orientation
- ...Other needs

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE UNDER TITLE II-A

Title II-A provides for the establishment of Community Action Programs. In communities where migrants live or work, assistance can be made available to them through such Programs.

A Community Action Program can be devised which concentrates on the needs of migrant farm workers.

In a Title II-A Community Action Program, financial assistance can be granted for many of the programs eligible for assistance under Title III-B plus the following additional kinds of projects.

- ...Establishment and operation of migrant opportunity centers, including:

- migrant participation in program planning
 - social service referrals
 - recreation
 - reading, etc.

- ...Manpower training
- ...Continued counseling and assistance before and after a migrant leaves agricultural work
- ...Demonstration projects which seek to test and develop new methods of assisting migrants
- ...Development of programs to aid migrants and seasonal farm workers and their families

WHO MAY APPLY FOR A MIGRANT FARM WORKER PROGRAM?

Under either Title III-B or Title II-A the following are eligible to apply:

- public agencies
- private non-profit organizations concerned with problems of migrant and the impoverished
- combinations of the above

Under either Title II-A (Community Action Program) or under Title III-B, direct grants can be made to public and private non-profit agencies for purposes of assisting migrant farm workers.

In addition under Title III-B, direct loans for the purpose of improving housing and sanitation facilities for migrant farm workers may be made to:

- institutions
- organizations
- farm associations

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS UNDER THE MIGRANT FARM WORKER PROGRAM?

- any individual (and his family) whose primary employment is performing agricultural labor on a seasonal or other temporary basis
- and who is a citizen or legally admitted resident of the United States on a permanent basis

WHAT FINANCIAL RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?

Up to 90 percent of the cost of a project can be paid by the Office of Economic Opportunity, provided that:

the community maintains or increases its previous level of effort in related activity,

and

the project would increase opportunities for the worker and his family to achieve economic independence and social self-sufficiency.

HOW TO BEGIN YOUR PROGRAM

Whether you propose to undertake a special migrant farm worker program under Title III-B or a more complete Community Action Program under Title II-A, you should:

1. Bring together the civic, church and governmental agencies concerned with welfare, health, housing, education, labor and employment. Secure representative leaders from business, farm groups and organized labor. Include representatives of migrants or ex-migrants.

The key to the successful program is involvement of as many facets of your community as possible.

2. Form an operating committee (Community Action Organization).
3. Assemble available information on poverty in the community, including information on the migrants, seasonal farm workers and their families, and on the characteristics of their poverty.
4. List the problems in order of priority; enlist ideas for solving these problems.

The key to a successful plan is to find solutions which have long-range effects and which are tailored to attack the basic causes of poverty in your community.

5. Develop a tentative set of proposals. In the proposals outline the particular problems of your community on which you wish to concentrate and identify the specific projects you propose to undertake to solve those problems.
6. Survey your local resources. In your community what talents, services, facilities, public and private organizations, state and local public assistance programs exist which might be utilized for this special project. Secure the support of as many of these as possible for your program.
7. Survey the federal programs in your area which may be useful, such as: Job Corps Centers, Manpower Development and Training Act programs, Neighborhood Youth Corps projects, Migrant Health Act programs, etc.
8. Select or organize an agency (public or private non-profit) willing and qualified to accept and administer funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity. If more than one such agency is advisable, work out plans for coordination.
9. You may wish, at any point, to consult with the State Coordinator, State Office of Economic Opportunity, in your state or directly with Community Action Programs, U. S. Office of Economic Opportunity, Washington, D. C.

APPLYING FOR A PROGRAM

Once you have taken the preliminary steps, you should be ready to make a formal application for a program to assist migrant farm workers under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

For Application Forms Contact:

The Coordinator
(Your State) Office of Economic
Opportunity
The Governor's Office or
(Your State Capital)

The Office of Economic
Opportunity
Attention: Community
Action Programs
Washington, D. C. 20506

Ask For:

- ...A set of Community Action Program Applications
- ...The Guide to Community Action Program Grants

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

FOR A TITLE II-A COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

Fill out appropriate application forms in compliance with the instructions in the Guide to Community Action Program Grants.

FOR A TITLE III-B MIGRANT PROGRAM ONLY

1. Prepare Community Action Programs Forms 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 10.
2. To accompany the forms, prepare a Migrant Program Letter providing such information as:
 - ...the general characteristics of the seasonal labor force in your area including:
 - numbers
 - travel patterns
 - home base of residence
 - length of stay in your area
 - circumstances or conditions which make the project proposal appropriate and important.
 - ...beginning and ending dates of project proposal
 - ...preliminary plans and specifications for any construction or material alteration of housing and/or sanitation facilities

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YOU MAY SECURE ADVICE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM:

Your State Coordinator or
State Office of Economic
Opportunity
State Capital

The Office of Economic
Opportunity
Attention: C.A.P.
Washington, D. C. 20506