

Personal Safety for Outreach Workers

**Michigan Interagency Migrant
Services Committee (IMSC)**

Outreach and Education
Subcommittee

In collaboration with

MDHHS - Office of Migrant Affairs, MHP Salud, and
Telamon Corporation - Migrant Head Start





Personal Safety Scenarios

Scenario #1

You (female) pull into a camp that is identified on the MDARD Camp List as an H2A camp. You park your car facing the housing units and proceed to the first unit's door. As you are walking up to the first unit, you notice a group of workers drinking alcohol and playing loud music.



- What are potential concerns in this situation? How would you address those concerns?
- Is there anything that could have been done differently?

Scenario #2

You arrive at a migrant camp for an appointment with a family. As you get out of the car, a truck pulls up next to you and someone who appears to be from the farm starts hollering out, “Who are you? What are you doing here? This is private property!”

- What do you do?
- How would you be best prepared for this scenario?



Scenario #3

While at a camp located within the fields, you are discussing your program with a number of the camp's residents. It is a windy day and many of the windows on the units are open and the children are all outside playing in the yard. You then notice that the grower is spraying his crop with pesticides close to the parameter of the living area.



- What do you do?
- Identify a few ways to educate the residents of this camp.

Scenario #4

You are doing outreach an hour and a half from your office. It is 8:00 p.m. You are driving on a country road when your check engine blinks on in your car. You are close to the last camp you planned to visit and you haven't seen a service station for miles.

- What do you do?
- What could you have done differently in preparation?



Safety Planning Procedures

- What is in place?
 - Existing policies regarding workplace injuries, blood borne pathogen training, transportation, incident reporting, and emergency preparedness
 - Incident reporting
 - Forms
 - What to include
 - Timeframe for completion



Safety Planning Procedures (cont.)

- Staff training
 - New staff orientation
 - Regular updates during staff meetings, newsletters, other
- Are there needed additions and updates?
- Implementation of new policies and procedures
 - Oversight responsibility
 - Signed acknowledgement



Thank You!

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