



## Migrant Labor Housing

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The Migrant Labor Housing Program is designed to ensure the safety of housing occupied by five or more migrant agricultural workers. Licensure indicates safe water supplies, fire and structural safety, proper sanitation facilities, proper food preparation, storage facilities, and waste treatment and disposal.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Migrant workers play an important role in the planting, cultivating, harvesting, and packaging of 38 labor-intensive crops grown in Michigan. These crops generate \$2.3 billion in farm gate revenues each year. Quality housing is needed to retain Michigan's reputation as a good place to work and attract this much-needed seasonal workforce.

### 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Program staff worked diligently with stakeholders to ensure safe inspection and licensing continued while concurrently working on addressing MDARD's Pandemic Public Health Measures In Migrant Agricultural Worker Housing Emergency Rules. Staff worked with producers to ensure COVID-19 emergency preparedness plans were drafted and posted, as well as isolation housing was inspected and approved. More than 25,000 free Binax COVID-19 testing kits were distributed to housing and farm operations, drastically reducing COVID-19 outbreaks in migrant housing.
- Program staff worked one-on-one with more than 500 housing providers conducting more than 3,000 housing inspections. The program's efforts ensured Staff responded on time to a record number of plan reviews and H-2A requests while meeting 100 percent of inspection requests for existing camps.
- Staff continued to update and improve the electronic inspection system.
- Staff continued to work with the U.S. Department of Labor and other regulatory partners.
- A new Migrant Labor Housing Advisory Board was established. The Board held several meetings to address agricultural labor housing challenges, recommendations to improve housing, and the quality of living for these workers and their families.

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Applications</b>						
Not opening/rescinded	43	200	77	83	94	64
Opening	833	853	871	870	829	881
<b>Inspections</b>						
Licensing	1,136	1,132	1,110	1,097	1,059	1,117
H-2A	305	608	752	919	980	1,172
CAP-Follow up	480	558	510	535	422	325
Occupancy	820	830	843	829	753	752
Enforcement/Referrals	12	10	2	6	1	72
Plan Review	154	180	111	82	91	132
Status Check				93	135	208
COVID-19*					1,230	1,108
Total*	2,401	2,443	2,236	2,181	3,590	3,769
<b>Licensing</b>						
Camps	801	811	840	815	830	881
Units	4,147	4,046	4,278	4,052	4,062	3,937
Capacity	24,862	25,054	26,166	25,215	26,734	29,002

\* Inspections cover multiple components of camp operation. The total is less than the sum of the individual components.

## 2022 PROGRAM GOALS:

- Continue effort on a document management system to automate and expedite licensing.
- Continue working with program stakeholders and local health departments on next year's development and implementation of COVID-19 mitigation measures at licensed migrant housing camps.
- Work with the Migrant Labor Housing Advisory Board to improve housing and living conditions for the agricultural labor workforce in the state.
- Improve the geographic information system mapping of all migrant labor housing.
- Ensure preventative measures are in place to keep staff, farmers, and workers from getting COVID-19 and ensure safe housing at each camp location.
- To educate and facilitate climate change by encouraging more camps to install solar panels to offset electrical needs and to begin a camp recycling pilot program.
- Boost Migrant Resource Center participation and awareness locally to inform community of help and services available to migrant workers.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Fruit and vegetable growers
- Migrant farm workers and advocates
- Consumer of fresh fruits and vegetables
- H-2A guest workers program

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Public Health Code, Public Act 368, 1978, Part 124, as amended.