

Migrant Health

Migrant and Community Health Centers (M/CHCs) have a strong commitment to providing multilingual, multicultural, quality health care to their patients. The President's Initiative to expand the healthcare system has created a need for an additional 4,100 providers. Recruitment and retention of clinicians is one of the most critical issues facing M/CHCs..

The following resources are available for midwives and health care administrators interested in learning more about serving migrant populations:

The Migrant Clinicians Network

The Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) recognizes that orientation is paramount, including M/CHC history, language training, and the unique clinical problems associated with migrant populations. MCN is available to provide on site technical assistance, as well as professional development and peer networking. See www.migrantclinician.org for additional information.

MCN also sponsors an annual **New Provider Practicum in Migrant Health**. The practicum provides a four-month working and learning experience in a Migrant Health Center for new health care professionals. The purpose of the Practicum is to increase the understanding of migrant health care issues for the participant as they consider working with underserved populations. A stipend of approximately \$15,000 is paid for this experience.

Who is eligible to apply?

- Students or graduates of a Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse-Midwife, or Dental Hygienist program in good standing, with expected graduation by June 15th.
- Individuals with experience in rural, underserved or multicultural settings.
- Those with strong proficiency in Spanish.
- Migrant Health Centers: Apply to host a clinician to work in your health center for four months.

Deadline for application is usually December 31st. For a practicum application and more information, please see www.migrantclinician.org/development/practicum or contact: Candace Kugel, CRNP, CNM at ckugel@migrantclinician.org.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) (<http://www.hrsa.gov/>) provides grants to community nonprofit organizations for a broad array of culturally and linguistically competent medical and support services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families. There are also links to other sites, including the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health, non-governmental sites, and migrant contacts. See <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/nacmh/default.htm>, or contact them at: Migrant Health Program, Bureau of Primary Health Care, Dept. of Health & Human Services, (301) 594-4303.

Revised 11/28/05; 6/30/08

The ACNM "QuickInfo" series was developed by the Department of Professional Services to respond to common inquiries, summarizing ACNM resources regarding a particular topic, as well as listing selected literature and a variety of other resources. Your feedback is welcomed; contact Professional Services at (240) 485-1800 or info@acnm.org.