

Aim: help protect farmworkers from heat, pesticides

The Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs is partnering with Help New Mexico to celebrate National Farmworker Awareness Week by participating in its annual National Long-Sleeve Shirt Drive. AFOP, a national organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families, will be collecting shirts from March 26-31.

“We are looking for lightly-worn, light-colored, long-sleeve shirts,” Vashti Kelly, AFOP’s Health & Safety Programs Manager said. “These shirts will be donated to farmworkers across the nation so they can protect themselves from pesticide exposure and heat-related illnesses.”

Help New Mexico, a nonprofit dedicated to creating self-sufficiency and promoting economic opportunities to strengthen families throughout the state, will be working directly with communities to spread awareness about AFOP’s drive and about National Farmworker Awareness Week, also taking place from March 26-31.

“A lot of New Mexicans support their families with farm work, so it’s very important for our organization to get involved,” Help New Mexico’s Resource Development Manager, Cindy Myers said. “Their contributions to our communities is invaluable.”

More information…

Drop-off boxes for shirts can be found at these locations.

-Albuquerque - 5101 Copper Albuquerque NM 87108

-Las Cruces - 715 E. Idaho Las Cruces, NM Ave 88001

-Gallup - 601 West Aztec Ave Gallup, New Mexico 87301

-Farmington - 501 Airport Drive, Suite 255, Farmington, New Mexico 87401.

-Espanola - 1302 Calle de la Merced, Suite C Española, NM 87532

-Las Vegas - 1214 National Ave. Las Vegas, NM 87701