



Participants in Framework's **Together, Apart: Outreach During COVID-19** event on May 14, 2020 shared their ideas for connecting with vulnerable populations at risk for labor trafficking and exploitation during the pandemic. Those ideas, along with guidance from the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are outlined below.

### CONSIDERATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENT

- Be thoughtful about how information included in distribution materials may create risk for victims and those sharing the materials.
- Help clients and former clients stay connected—consider providing phones and minutes using funding from available grants, fundraising campaigns, and/or business initiatives so they can stay in touch with you and other supports.
- Reach out to past clients to assess their risk for exploitation in the workplace and offer the support you have available—be it financial, emotional, informational, or other.
- Provide educational materials to workers you encounter so they may be a resource for others.
- Utilize social media pages, WhatsApp, and radio to share and promote resources and information.

#### A Note on Safety

When connecting with past and potential clients, safety is paramount—within and outside the context of a pandemic. Outreach activities, while potentially lifesaving, may also increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission within communities and between outreach workers and community members. Follow your organization's guidance and allow yourself to prioritize your own wellbeing. When we take care of ourselves, we also take care of each other.

### LEVERAGING ACCESS POINTS & POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- Identify partners who may already have contact with exploited workers, increase their knowledge about labor trafficking, and facilitate distribution of “know your rights” and other outreach campaign materials.
  - **Stakeholders who may have access to exploited workers at their worksites**
    - Consular officers
    - Inspectors (e.g., health departments, USDA, DOL, code enforcers)
    - Suppliers and distributors
    - Labor union representatives



- **Access points where exploited workers encounter community and business partners**
  - Grocery stores and local markets
  - Health care facilities
  - Laundromats
  - Money transfer centers
  - Online platforms and social media
  - Post offices
  - Religious centers
- Consider opportunities to deepen existing relationships to make sure allies understand risk factors for labor trafficking and how they can connect potential victims with support.
- Engage past clients to share educational materials with their communities.

## RESOURCES

- **Conducting Outreach to Labor Trafficking Victims** - Resource from the National Human Trafficking Hotline on conducting outreach to potential victims of labor trafficking outside the context of COVID-19
- **Farmworkers' COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Fund** - Funds to address the immediate needs of the farmworker community and mitigate the risks of the pandemic
- **Guidance from the World Health Organization (WHO)** - Report: Community-based health Care, Including Outreach and Campaigns, in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- **Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**
  - Community Mitigation Framework (p. 7 has guidance for community and faith-based organizations—including activities to serve “high-risk or vulnerable” communities when the local COVID-19 risk level is “none to minimal,” “minimal to moderate,” and “substantial.”
  - Most recent CDC recommendations on safety in the workplace related to COVID-19
- **Hispanic Federation** - Various resources available for non-profits during COVID-19—including an emergency assistance fund for Latino non-profits and list of foundations offering special assistance during COVID-19

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To learn more about Framework or to request training, technical assistance, or individualized support on labor trafficking, visit us on our website.

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