



MIGRANT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

SPONSORED BY
MOPPORTUNITIES, INC.

6611 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE

PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85040

268-0293

P R E S S R E L E A S E

ARIZONA STATE FARMWORKER DISASTER ASSISTANCE

DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF DECEMBER, ARIZONA WAS HIT BY A FREEZE WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE CROPS AND THEREBY SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG FARMWORKERS. THE HEAVY RAINFALLS THAT FOLLOWED ELIMINATED THE REMAINING JOBS BY MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR FARMWORKERS TO ENTER THE FLOODED FIELDS. THE AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE (ASCS) ESTIMATES THAT THE CROP AND FARMLAND DAMAGE TO ARIZONA CAME TO \$10.5 MILLION. THE MIGRANT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM RECEIVED \$10,000 ON DECEMBER 21, AND AN ADDITIONAL \$10,000 ON DECEMBER 22 FOR STATEWIDE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD, CLOTHING, AND UTILITY SHUT-OFF-PREVENTION ASSISTANCE. ON DECEMBER 22 AND 23 THE MIGRANT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM EXPENDED \$12,673 AND PROVIDED DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO 794 FARMWORKER FAMILIES. THE REMAINING \$7,326 WAS COMMITTED TO THE PURCHASE OF MORE FOOD, CLOTHING AND UTILITY SHUT-OFF-PREVENTION ASSISTANCE AND IS CURRENTLY BEING DISTRIBUTED.

ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1978, MOP RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL COMMITMENT OF \$10,000 FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THESE FUNDS WILL ALSO BE EXHAUSTED BY JANUARY 5, 1979.

ALTHOUGH THE RAINS HAVE CEASED MORE RAIN IS EXPECTED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. BUT EVEN WITHOUT MORE RAIN, THE AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE (ASCS) ESTIMATES THAT THE EARLIEST DATE FARMWORKERS CAN RETURN TO MINIMALLY AVAILABLE WORK IS JANUARY 15, 1979.

THERE ARE STILL OVER 16,000 FARMWORKERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN REACHED. THE MIGRANT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM IS CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO RESPOND TO THESE NEEDS BY FURTHER MOBILIZING FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 268-0293.



**FARMWORKER
DATA NETWORK**

A Colorado Migrant Council Component

LA ONDA CAMPESINA by lalo 1-2-79

HISTORY: MEXICAN-AMERICANS: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS, JOAN W. MOORE, ---IN 1959 THE MEDIAN INCOMES OF MEXICAN-AMERICAN MALES IN THE SOUTHWEST WAS \$2,768. THIS WAS 57% OF THE MEDIAN ANGLO MALE INCOME AND ONLY A LITTLE ABOVE THE NEGROES. ---SPANISH ORIGIN MEN WITH INCOME HAD LOWER MEDIAN INCOMES IN 1977 THAN MEN WHO WERE NOT OF SPANISH ORIGIN. (\$7,797. AND \$10,261. RESPECTIVELY.) FARMWORKERS MEAN INCOME IN 1977 WAS APPROX. \$3,200.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: FROM A NAFO LETTER, ---THE UNITED FARMWORKERS OF AMERICA (UFW) HAS RECENTLY BEEN UNDER ATTACK BY THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION. THE FARM BUREAU IS OBJECTING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (D.O.L.) GRANT AWARDED TO THE NATIONAL FARM WORKERS SERVICE CENTER IN KEENE, (LA PAZ) CALIFORNIA. LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR THE GRANT WERE TO BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY OF LABOR, MR. MARSHALL.

NATION: ANTICIPATING A POSSIBLE CHANGE IN STATUS FOR THE NOW ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE MIGRANT OFFICE OF D.O.L., MR. HARRY KRANZ TO PERMANENT STATUS THREE NAMES HAVE SURFACED FOR CONSIDERATION ALONG WITH MR. KRANZ. THEY ARE JOE GARCIA NOW WITH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MR. BOB MUÑOZ WITH REGIONAL D.O.L. AND MR. ARNOLD BAKER (?).

CALIFORNIA: MR. GERALD KATZ FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, 1333 BROADWAY, OAKLAND, CALIF. 94612 WILL BE RECEIVING RESEARCH PROPOSALS IN THE AREA OF AGRICULTURAL PROCESSING AND RESIDENTIAL HEATING AND COOLING PROJECTS UP TO JAN. 16. THERE ARE GRANTS OF UP TO 125 thou. FOR A PERIOD OF 1 yr.

MICHIGAN: INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, ANN ARBOR, ---IN JANUARY OF 1979, NCS (NATIONAL CHICANO STUDY) WILL BEGIN CONDUCTING ITS NATIONAL SURVEY OF PEOPLE OF MEXICAN ORIGIN. INTERVIEWING WILL BE DONE IN 78 COUNTIES ACROSS 14 STATES INCLUDING SAMPLES FROM SUCH DIVERSE AREAS AS CHICANO CENTRAL CITY BARRIOS, SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOODS, RURAL AND FARM DISTRICTS, AND MULTI-ETHNIC METROPOLITAN REGIONS.---

COLORADO: ON THE 27TH OF THIS MONTH THE COLORADO ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN (AN AFFILIATE OF THE NATIONAL) WILL HOST A ONE DAY RESEARCH CONFERENCE IN DENVER. THE DIRECTOR OF THE FDN WILL BE MAKING A PRESENTATION OF FARMWORKER CHILDREN. 1979 IS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD.

NEW MEXICO: ALBUQUERQUE, EL DIARIO, BOULDER, ---LA RAZA UNIDA MEMBER, ANTONIO DE VARGAS WAS RECENTLY AWARDED \$55,000. BY A FEDERAL COURT FOR VIOLATION OF HIS CIVIL RIGHTS BY NEW MEXICO STATE SENATOR EMILIO NARANJO AND 4 EX DEPUTIES.---