### Workers

## Essential and Vulnerable COVID-19

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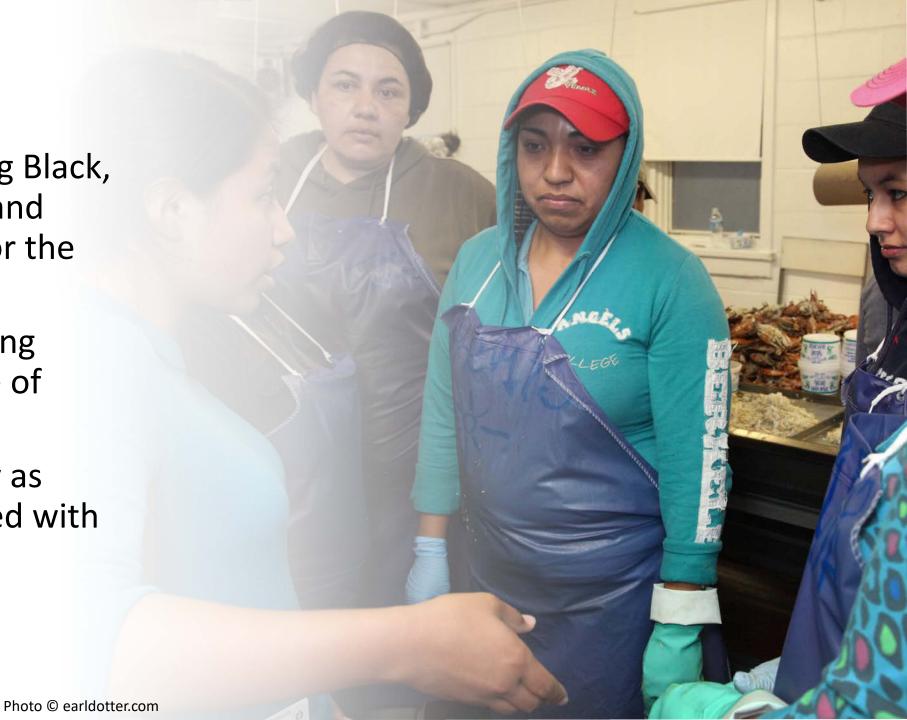
#### Michigan's asparagus harvest seemed to go well, then the COVID-19 outbreaks came

Immigrant, Black, Latinx, Communities of Color

- "Essential"
- Dangerous
- Low-wage



- COVID-19 is affecting Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other people of color the most.
- Black people are dying at 2.5 times the rate of white people.
- Latinx twice as likely as whites to get infected with COVID-19.





#### Health and safety is challenged by...

- -Migratory lifestyle
- -Cultural and language differences
- -Immigration status
- —Inherent dangers and health risks of occupation
- Lack of access to insurance or financial resources
- –Lack of regulatory protection

Social Determinants of COVID-19 Mortality

In rural counties (n=2826), counties with more non-English speaking households and more farm workers had significantly higher levels of mortality, as did counties with higher levels of poverty and more residents over the age of 65.

Fielding-Miller et. al preprint July 2020



#### Blame workers

- "Home and social conditions" cause of meatpacking outbreaks
- "Living Circumstances in Certain Cultures"
- "They go to work in school buses and they're all packed in there like sardines."



Contact Tracing?

Our essential workers survive in shadows.

• Fear

• Broken, cruel immigration system





Families of mixed immigration status often behave as if all members of family do not have documentation.



- Abandoned by feds
- State policies vary
- County policies vary
- It's up to workers, families, service providers, health centers and advocates
- And the employer
- LOCAL LOCAL LOCAL



# Partnering in Maine

