

## **Episcopal Farmworker Ministry**

## Diocese of East Carolina Diocese of North Carolina

The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry (EFWM) responds to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of farmworkers and actively supports opportunities for them to become self-directive. Since 1982, we've worked with farmworkers and their families to create a better world for future generations. We strive to live out the Gospel of Jesus by providing welcome to neighbor and stranger alike. EFWM is a place where strangers quickly become adopted into a loving community of trust and support.

EFWM is a partnership between the Diocese of East Carolina and the Diocese of North Carolina. Our passionate and dedicated staff—Lucia, Alisson, and Patricia—oversee programming and day to day ministry. Our board, composed of clergy and laity appointed by the bishops of both dioceses, provide fiscal, fundraising and personnel leadership to the organization.

Over the past year, we have taken an intentional look at our finances, programming, staffing and board composition. We have recently hired a search firm to help us find a new Executive Director, who will prayerfully be in place by May of this year. We have so much to be excited about and are eager to live into this next phase of ministry!

We are extremely grateful for the support of Bishop Skirving, Bishop Sam Rodman and Bishop Jenneifer Brooke-Davidson, and the many churches and individuals who support us in the Diocese of East Carolina and the Diocese of North Carolina. We are also blessed by and grateful for the partnership we have with The Rev'd Fred Clarkson and the people of La Sagrada Familia, who have worked hand in hand with us during a season of programmatic and leadership transition. We look forward to the next year of continued partnership with all of you.

We have begun 2024 with several new and talented board members. We are actively recruiting a few more board members. We are looking for individuals- lay or clergy- who have expertise in the fields of finance, fundraising, HR, and immigration, and who have a passion for our mission.

In addition to our normal programs, EFWM is gearing up for our yearly backpack and school supply drive, a collection to be distributed to children mid to late summer. This will be quickly followed by our annual Christmas gift drive, with gifts given in early December. We also accept ongoing donations of food (masa flour, rice, meat, oil, beans and staple goods) and clothing. This year, between the two drives, we have supported over 1400 children, and our food distributions support an average of 250 families a month.

We are eager to connect with and engage every church in the Diocese of East Carolina with EFWM's ministry. Please let us know if you can volunteer, would like to set up a tour, want us to come speak at your church or mission fair, or if you'd like to donate to one of our drives. We hope you will come visit the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry table in the exhibit hall to connect with us and get involved!

The Rev'd Michelle Bullock Outgoing Chair of the Board of Directors, Episcopal Farmworker Ministry