

Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network

MEMORIA HISTORICA:

Analysis of the 33 Years / Análisis de los 33 Años



CATHOLIC MIGRANT
FARMWORKER NETWORK

1972

First National Hispanic Encuentro
Calls for greater Hispanic representation.

1985

Third National Hispanic Encuentro
involved more than 500,000 Hispanics.

1982

1st formation Leadership
Team began in Zeferino Fresno with Sisters.

1970

1977

Second National Hispanic Encuentro
Was attended by Fr. Dick Notter
Recommended greater evangelization efforts

1983



Origins of CMFN in
Tucson, Az.

1986

1986

CMFN Was incorporated in Ohio
as a 501c3
Rosa Maria Salazar was the
USCCB Liaison.
CMFN became linked with the
USCCB PCMRT.



1987

Catholic Bishops approve the National pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry.

1996

Networking with regional offices
Contacts with RICOS in California
Contacts with Catholic Charities in Oakland

1991

Fr. Dick Notter became 1st part-time National Director.
1st National Consulta of Farmworker Ministry Held in Chicago with 90 Pastoral Agents.

1986

1990



Development of Leadership formation program and Connection with MACC to provide courses.

1995



Support from The Sisters of St. Francis and Temphin, Sister Karen's Humility in Mary Group, and USCCB.

1997



2000

Website was Created
Two-levels of Pastoral Leadership Courses
USCCB provided \$50,000 (5-years)
III Encuentro
Early meetings involved writing grants and visiting migrant camps.
Celine Caufield Director (-2001)

2002

Started Pastoral Visits and Formation Courses
and Bishop John Manz wrote reports
IV Encuentro

2007



Consulta II and results
presented at June 2008
PCMRT Meeting;

2009

Immersion Program II
in Ohio

1998

2001



Episcopal Visits to the Dioceses to
understand realities and
Bishop Martine and others accompany the
workers.

Hector Rodriguez Director (-2005)

2004-2006

National surveys were sent out
and collected 67 dioceses and 2,000 people
Pastoral Course I (CA)
No Director (2006-07)

2008

Immersion Program I with students from Creighton
Returning students from Omaha created,
Nebraska Migrant Action Coalition
Trips to Stockton and Ohio

2009



2010

CMFN Spring Break with Loyola of Maryland in Immokalee, FL
Service Learning III Dioceses of Stockton & Fresno
Visit to Dioceses of Little Rock, AK
Hispanic Affairs Project in CO
Sr. Karen Bernhardt (-2014)

2012

Ministerio Hispano Presente,
Pasado y Futuro:
Un Nuevo Comienzo is published
National Celebration in Chicago
Episcopal Visit in Yakima, WA
Service Learning V in North Carolina

2014



Service Learning III in FL;
Miriam Bannon Director (-
2016)

2017

Encuentro V; Ricardo Ariza
Director (~2017-2020)

2010

2011



Service Learning IV (CO); 25th Anniversary
in Sacramento (86 Pastoral Agents)

2013

Strategic Planning with Fr. Elisar Lopez
Miriam carried out survey as a result
Empowerment courses by Sr. Karen
Service learning VI: ARISE in TX
Andrea Dulac Director (1 year)

2016



Train the Trainers in CA and
2016 survey was carried out;
Feliciano Tapia Director

2021

2021

Memoria
Historica;
Fr. Tom Director



The Beginning

The networking began with **invitations** by Dick Notter, Zeferino Gonzalez, Adela Gross and included numerous others:

- Celine Caufield, Bishop Tom Daly, Bishop Manz, Bishop Roman, Sr Teresa Ann, Reyes Ruiz, Patricia Stockton, , Sr Rosa Maria Salazar, Charlotte Hobleman, Raul Rice, Enrique Lopez, Cesar Chavez, Sr Rosa Martha Zarate (San Bernardino), Las Guadalupanas, Fransicans in Minnesota, Vincentians in Michigan, Humility of Mary, Incarnate Word, MACC, SEPI, RECOSS
- The response was given life through **friendships, shared experience** with farmworkers, and **sustained through gatherings** at various venues around the country.
- The respondents brought their common gifts of **humanity, solidarity, care, compassion, dignity, justice** to recognize the profound humanity in the lives of the migrant laborers, **the concern at the working conditions** and the **invisibility** of these large and dispersed communities in church and society.

“No one can face life in isolation... We need a community that supports and helps us” [Fratelli Tutti, #8]





Spirituality

“We ourselves ...are dust of the earth (Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters.” [Laudato Si, #3]

- **Rooted in the lives** of the people
- Strengthened by the **accompaniment** of others who come with their recognizable gifts of **solidarity, compassion , service and commitment** to bring good news with their visits, the outdoor masses, the sacraments, the service and solidarity.
- **Dignity to the invisible** farmworkers and families.
- **Sense of belonging** to a larger church community.
- **Christ is here**, as is Dios Padre y su Madre Maria, **incarnate** in the lives of farmworkers.
- **“Walk together toward the Kingdom without Fear.”**
[II Consulta Nacional, 2007]

Strengths

Survival despite scarcity of resources. The Board has kept the mission moving

CMFN...

- **Pastoral Visits** give voice to the farmworker and creates listening sessions.
- **Networking** constructs bridges with local, regional, and national organizations
- **Leadership Formation** brings forth very influential power leaders in its relationship with the Church and the diocese
- **Pastoral Visits** provide credibility, listens to what people have to say in the spirit in caring for the migrant family. That is an incredible strength.

“As your words unfold, light is shed, and the simple-hearted understand.” [Salmo 119:130]



Best Practices

1. Accompaniment

- Pastoral visits local and nationally
- Liturgies
- Listening sessions

2. Networking

- Coming together of migrant pastoral workers
- Link with USCCB
- Link with MACC
- Link with SEPI
- Link with RECOSS

3. Leadership Formation programs

- MACC contribution
- SEPI
- ICLM
- Train the Trainers
- For religious and lay pastoral workers
- For farmworkers

4. Workshops

- Legal rights
- Women's retreats

5. Two National Consultations

6. Immersion program

7. Newsletter

8. Development of educational materials

9. National surveys



Achievements



Train the Trainers Workshop in Monterrey, CA. for 67 participants from 14 parishes. It provided a learning methodology of experience, reflection, and critical experiences.



Pastoral Visits in which the Bishop liaison with the USCCB, Bishop Joh Manz, writes up a report of his experience which he sends to the local bishop to help him develop pastoral migrant farmworker ministry. We would organize stations of the cross in Stockton California.



Listening Sessions among farmworkers where the Bishop was present. This helps the farmworkers to feel supported.

Challenges (and Opportunities)

Identity	Communication	Funding	Board and Staff	Formation	Support from Church and Others
We need to be the change that we wish to see (this includes commitment and responsibility).	There needs to be more follow-up from Pastoral visits to ensure farmworker visibility.	Lack of Funding	The bi-annual board meetings were positive but didn't carry out planning and agenda building.	Gain the trust of the people to work together.	Confirm USCCB Support
Define the migrant farmworker in today's context	Develop a database	"Sometimes the board has no idea how much of a budget it takes to adequately run programs"	Maintain continuity and work to develop relationships between Board and Director.	Focus on the formation development among farmworkers and pastoral agents	Seek support from the Institutional Church
Systemize the approach to planning and governance	Develop a strategy to identify and grow our network	Organize a funding development strategy	There is a need to develop teams because "we need an army of workers"	Do follow-ups and evaluations with all formation programs, workshops, and retreats	Note the reluctance to get involved in Migrant Ministry
Begin strategic planning and evaluate to ensure the meeting of objectives.	Make farmworker information available to network via social media, create webinars, and get feedback.	Maintain financial accountability by asking whether an expense supports our mission.	Strengthen commitments of board and staff while uplifting regional representation.	Train those pastoral agents who accompany farmworkers	Can also connect with universities and other stakeholders who support mission
Clarify what CMFN offers	Identify particular audience for all communications	Organize missions	Continue formation of Board and Staff.	Prepare materials for farmworkers, parishes and dioceses	Include the Church's social teaching

Challenges: “There’s a lot of Potential”

There are many parishes / dioceses / organizations that would like prepared materials on accompaniment from CMFN, but CMFN has not always been prepared to offer it.

-While 67.7% of the diocese reported that the Rural Immigrant population is growing only 62% provide outreach and evangelization to Migrants / Rural Immigrants.



Results: Achievements

Standard of the Cross

- “CMFN continues”
- CMFN has created awareness in the Church and society
- Contact and collaboration with other organizations.
- Local regions have a sense of national solidarity with CMFN
- Pastoral Visits
- Pastoral leadership formation courses and graduations
- Two National Consultas
- Immersion trips



Walking Toward the Kingdom Without Fear

“We are a community of migrant farm worker and rural immigrant, who walk towards the Kingdom without fear, giving witness as actors and not as spectators; a hardworking community in search of justice, mindful of the suffering.

We are bearers of a historical memory, the present, and the journey into the future; being a people that moves forward, breaking barriers and creating solutions.

We are a community committed to the migrant pastoral and we serve with a spirit of communion to a multicultural community. Starting with a commitment to the formation of youth in our community.

We are a farming and rural community that needs to continue its formation.

We are part of this Consulta and we give witness to what we have heard, seen and shared; we are determined to put into practice and to follow up on what we have lived.”



Creighton University - Omaha, NE
Mayo 24-27, 2007

Mission

- **Focus Farmworkers**

- To accompany the farmworkers
 - To connect with the lives of farmworkers
 - To hear their voice
- To serve both spiritual social needs
- To create stable communities that continue
- Migrant farmworkers are prophetic.
- Migrant farmworkers are key players

- **Focus Church**

- To make farmworkers visible to the church
- To open diocesan doors for work with farmworkers
- To support the diocesan directors ministering to farmworkers
- To make bishops responsible
- To help the formation of bishops' consciousness

- **Focus Network**

- To network
- To work together in end farmworker exploitation
- To produce the newsletter

- **Focus Leadership Formation**

- To develop processes of encounter, organization of communities and accompaniment
- Develop formation
- Promote the human development of migrant workers considering their spiritual and social needs
- Promote farmworkers dignity, justice and the significance of their work

- **Focus on the Signs of the Times**

- Focus on the demographic changes of migrant workers
- Understand how historical change causes us to change
- Focus on new urgency given the pandemic and the anti-immigration sentiment and pending legislation



FRAMEWORK: Together, We SOAR!



Interviews: Top Mentioned Words

Word	Frequency
CMFN	200
Farmworkers	130
Migrant	78
People	69
Pastoral	54
Ministry	51
Board	44
Networking	27
Consulta	16



Where to Next?

01 Stage

- Start locally in places where there is good reception with a PLAN
- Information and Education are important so that we can get more on board to support efforts
- Bulletin: (It went to pastoral agents, but didn't interest the farmworkers)

02 Stage

- Look for like-minded people and organizations to support the mission
- Workshops need to be more focused on the family
- Do a follow-up with Pastoral visits

03 Stage

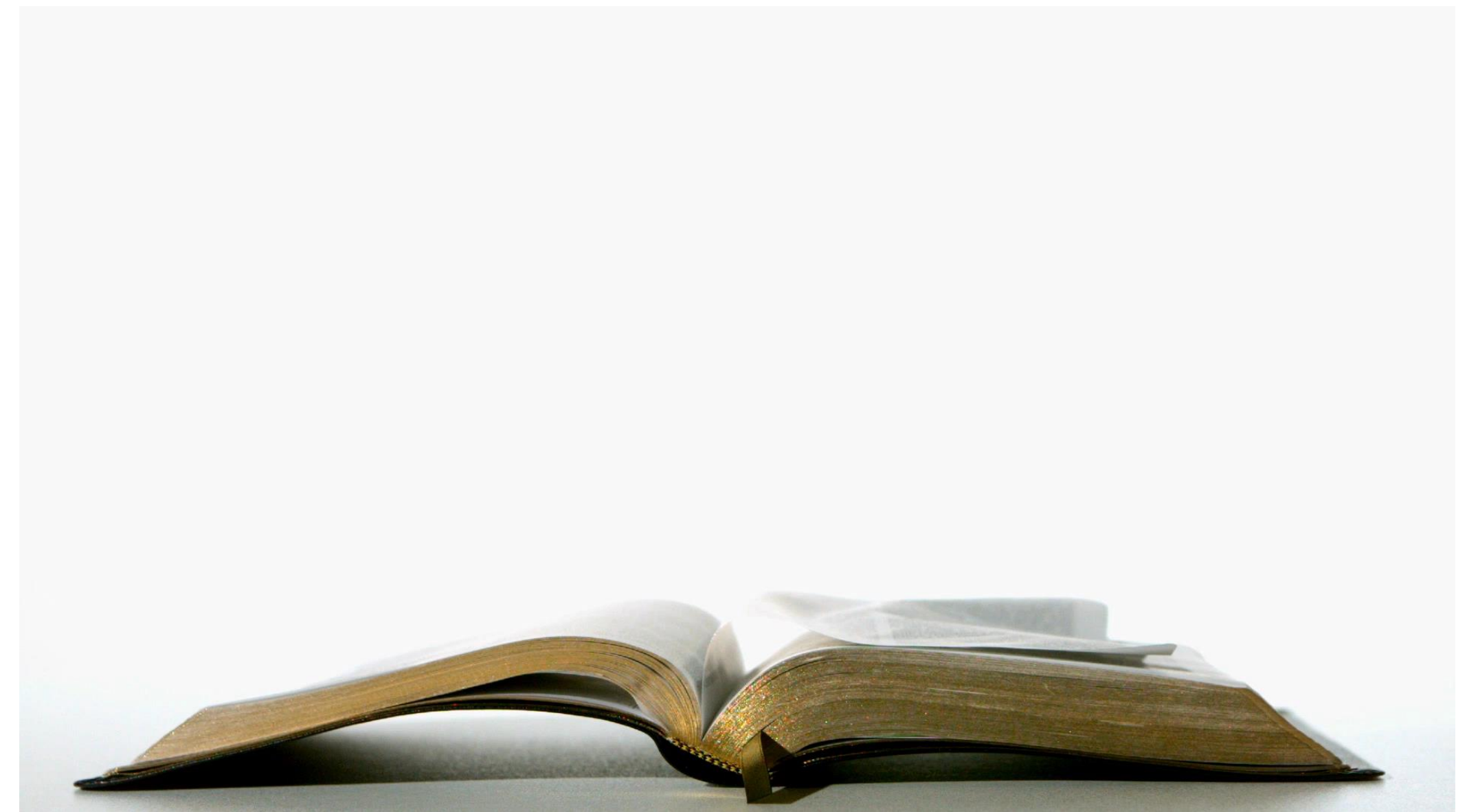
- Help the Bishops to understand the CMFN objective of coming to know, being in contact with, or understanding the reality of the farmworkers.
- Improve the business component and succession plans. This includes job descriptions, day to day financial operations, security, grant writing, and membership.
- Like NFWM, every board meeting can have an action accompanied with it.

04 Stage

- Pair Diocesan work with CMFN. Be the bridge.
- Introduce the Local community and local church to CMFN.
- There needs to be continual preparation as an organization. We ourselves need to have formation

Thank You!

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”



Small Group Discussions

1. OVERALL REACTION

- What are your first impressions of the proposal and PPT?

2. SIGNIFICANCE OF YOUR AREA

- What are some common themes or continual areas of discussion in your group topic?

3. UNDERLYING SPIRITUALITY

- What moves you and continues to CMFNs efforts strong, impactful, and deeply meaningful?

STRENGTHS

- Fr. Dick Notter, Nelly Dominiquez

BEST PRACTICES

- Salvador Carranza, Alejandro Siller

CHALLENGES

- Jose Lopez, Madeline Watkins, Carlos Luna

MISSION

- David Corrales, Teresita Kontos, Sr. Joanna Okereke