

Federally Qualified Health Centers: THE **HEART** OF HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Health Care for New York's Most Vulnerable: Migrant Farmworkers

Appropriate \$430,000 for Migrant Health Care Programs

- The Executive Budget appropriates \$406,000 to Migrant Health Care programs. **Adding \$24,000 would restore funding to SFY 2012-13 levels.**
- Since 2012, when state funding for Migrant Health Care programs was reduced, FQHCs have seen a **15% increase in the number of migrant and seasonal agricultural workers served**, yet funding levels have remained stagnant.
- Migrant Health Care funding allows health centers and other eligible providers to serve over **21,000 migrant and seasonal agricultural workers** and their families, an extremely vulnerable population that is integral to New York State's agribusiness.
- It is estimated that **61 percent of farmworkers live in poverty**, with a median income of less than \$11,000 annually.
- New York's migrant health centers keep farmworkers healthy by providing primary and preventive health care services, including culturally competent outreach, interpretation, transportation, health education and dental care.
- FQHCs have experienced **exponential growth in the number of migrant and seasonal agricultural workers they serve**. Between 2008 and 2014, the number of migrant workers served by FQHCs increased by more than 35%.