

Who are these people and why are they lined up in Beamsville?

They are Spanish speaking farmworkers. There are about 600 of them in the Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln area. It's Feb. 11, and these people are new arrivals. They are lined up for a 'gratis' meal put on by the Migrant Farmworkers Project at St. Alban's Anglican Church in Beamsville.

They speak little or no English and many will be working 10-12 hour days for the next 5-8 months for our welfare and to support families back home. For some, it's their first Canadian winter.



For the next 30 Sundays, from 6 pm to 9 pm they will have a Spanish 'Community Centre' where they can...

- Socialize in a wholesome, friendly environment in their own language
- See a volunteer doctor and nurse in our new Triage Clinic, served in Spanish
- Receive a welcome bag with a welcome note, toiletries & personal hygiene products
- Get free winter clothing (some new arrivals have no winter coats, gloves or boots)
- Get a safe used bicycle and free bike lights (we gave out 1,000 LED bike lights last year)
- Get a bike helmet & reflective vest.
- Participate in a Spanish worship service
- Access free WIFI and use the free Internet Café to call spouses and children they left behind
- Participate in English classes provided by Brock University
- Take a pesticide safety course provided by the University of Guelph
- Get their taxes done at tax time in Spanish

Why do we do it? We care. Our farms need them. We need our farms. Where would Niagara's economy be without its farms, wineries and farm supply industries? And, how would a loss of our farms and wine industry affect other local businesses?

Adopt a Sunday. Will you, your business or organization adopt a Sunday? We need to have 25 Sundays adopted. Adoption has 2 options; 1) donate \$500 for bussing and a meal, 2) donate \$200 for transportation and your organization puts on a meal for 60 – 100 people. It's a great way to give back from the abundance and blessings in your life. In helping them, you help protect our economy and to shape this community. We can't do this alone.

We need volunteers: Doctors, nurses, volunteer drivers, translators, kitchen/server helpers and bike repair people. We need financial support. Maintaining this project cost money we frankly don't have.

To donate: Send donations payable to St. Alban's Anglican Church, 4341 Ontario St. Beamsville, ON, L0R 1B0. Tax receipts for \$25 or more. Mark it MFP (Migrant Farmworkers Project). And thank you!

Donate your old bike: They need bikes for transportation. If you have an old bike you no longer use, why not donate it? We will refurbish it, ensure it is safe and provide it to them.

Contact: For info contact Mike Hahn 905-577-2756 (voice or text). Email mhahn@cib.ca.

A big THANK YOU to: Brock University, Town of Lincoln, The Rotary Club of Grimsby, WomEnchant, Chimpanzee, Aure Wines, Bibles for Missions, Trinity United Church Beamsville, Bethany Community Church, Lakemount Worship Center, St. Andrews Church Grimsby, Mountainview Cycle, Anglican Foundation, Niagara Community Foundation, Shoppers Drug Mart Beamsville, Grimsby Benevolent Fund, Tim Hortons Grimsby and County Cycle. **Won't you join this list?**

Migrant Farmworkers Project, website: www.stalbansbeamsville.org, phone 905-563-4518
St. Alban's Anglican Church, 4341 Ontario St. Beamsville, ON, L0R 1B0