

# NEBRASKA



## Migrant Education Program

### 2018-2019 PROFILE

#### HELPING THE MIGRANT STUDENTS OF NEBRASKA

For years, the Nebraska Migrant Education Program primarily provided summer services from sunup to sundown for the children of hundreds of seasonal farmworkers who migrated with their families to the western part of the state to work in the sugar beet and bean fields. Over time, and with changes to qualifying work and eligibility within the migrant program, work expanded across the state and migrant workers were working in seasonal and temporary jobs across the state that qualified their children for migrant program services. With these changes, the organization of the migrant program grew to include not only district but regional programs to reach school age children as well as out-of-school youth.

The Nebraska MEP is administered at the state level and sub grants to 14 LEA/LOAs. The Nebraska plan to identify and serve migrant children and youth is organized in five regions. The regions serve the state with regional and project recruiters to identify and meet the needs of migrant children on a statewide basis.

Services provided to the OSY in the program include home-based GED tutoring through coordination with community agencies, technology needed to learn English through self-paced interactive lessons, on-site weekly classes to work on English skills, and support services like hygiene kits, transportation, interpreter support, studying for driver license tests, and assistance in registering/interview and testing process for GED classes.



# MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

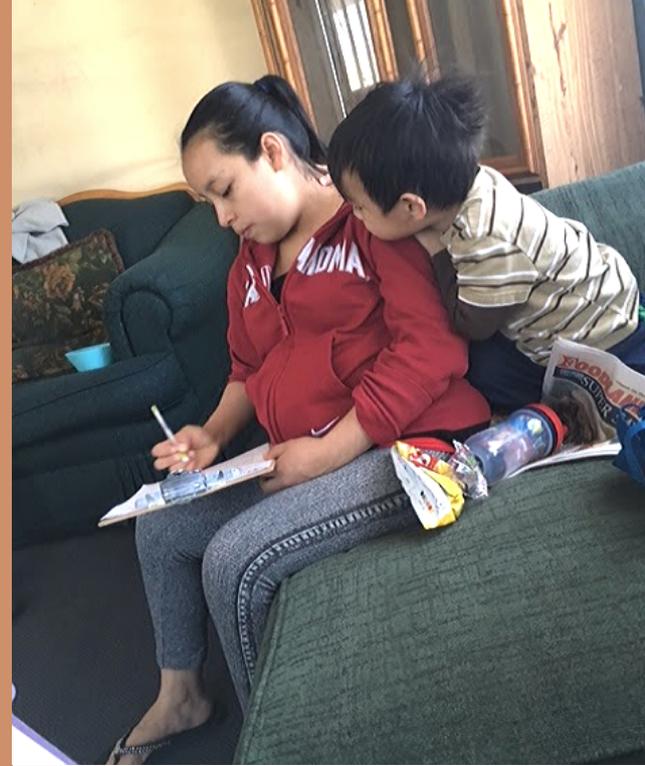
State migrant education programs are required to:

- properly and timely identify and recruit all eligible migrant children in the state, including securing pertinent information to document the basis of a child's eligibility.
- ensure that the special educational needs of migrant children are identified and addressed.
- provide migrant students with the opportunity to meet the same challenging state academic content standards that all children in the state are expected to meet.
- promote interstate and intrastate coordination of services for migrant children, including providing for educational continuity through the timely transfer of pertinent school records.

- encourage family literacy services for migrant students and their families.

To the extent feasible, all state migrant education programs are also required to provide for advocacy and outreach for migratory children and their families on such topics as education, health, nutrition, and social services.

They must also provide professional development programs for teachers and other program personnel; family literacy programs; the integration of information technology into MEP activities; and programs to facilitate the transition of secondary school students to post-secondary education or employment.



**"Not only did [the student] learn a lot from our activity, but she gained confidence, focused on what she wants to accomplish in life, keeping in mind where she is from and where she is headed in life."**

- MEP Service Provider



# THE MIGRANT CHILD

According to sections 1115(c)(1)(A) (incorporated into the MEP by sections 1304(c)(2), 1115(b), and 1309(3) of the ESEA, and 34 C.F.R. § 200.103(a)), a child is a "migratory child" if the following conditions are met:

1. The child is not older than 21 years of age; and
2. a. The child is entitled to a free public education (through grade 12) under state law; or  
b. The child is not yet at a grade level at which the LEA provides a free public education; and
3. The child made a qualifying move in the preceding 36 months as a migratory agricultural worker or a migratory fisher, or did so with, or to join a parent/guardian or spouse who is a migratory agricultural worker or a migratory fisher; and
4. With regard to the qualifying move identified in paragraph 3, above, the child moved due to economic necessity from one residence to another residence, and—
  - a. from one school district to another; or
  - b. in a state that is comprised of a single school district, has moved from one administrative area to another within such district; or
  - c. resides in a school district of more than 15,000 square miles and migrates a distance of 20 miles or more to a temporary residence.

## OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH (OSY)

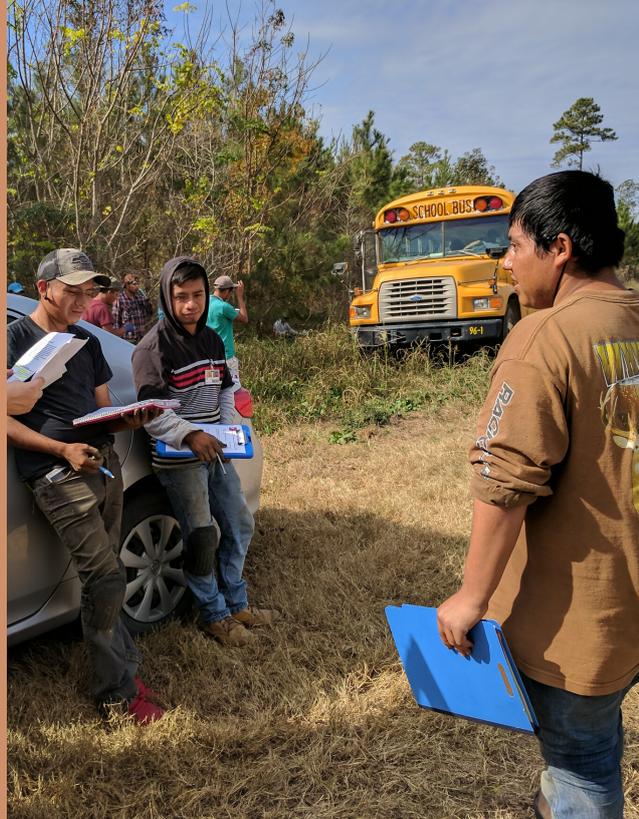
Out-of-school youth are migrant youth younger than the age of 22 who are entitled to a free public education in the state but are not currently enrolled in a K-12 institution. This could include students who have dropped out of school prior to the previous school year, youth who are working on a HSED outside of a K-12 institution, and youth who are "here-to-work" only.



# IDENTIFICATION & RECRUITMENT

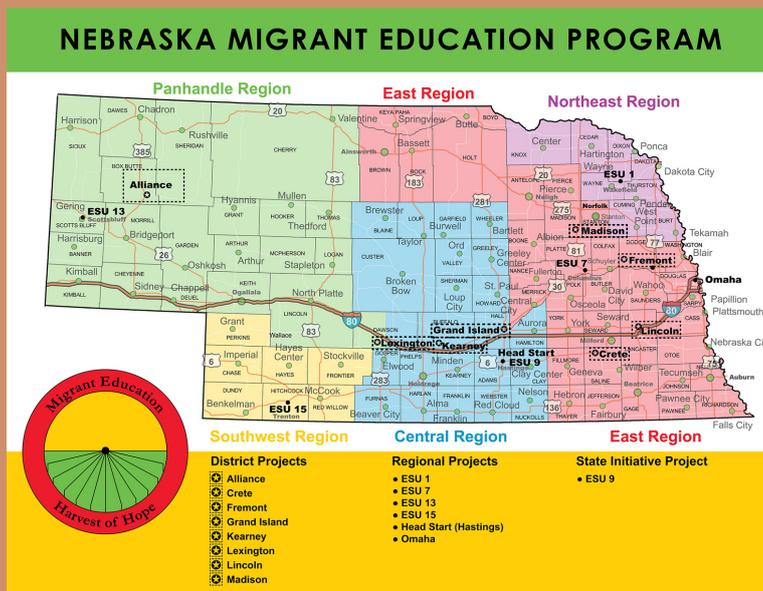
The Nebraska MEP has established the following goals to ensure the proper and timely identification of eligible migrant children through an active state-wide ID&R process:

1. Ensure quality and consistency through training recruiters on how to identify and recruit migrant children and make appropriate eligibility determinations.
2. Deploy recruiters to carry out statewide identification and recruitment efforts and monitor their progress.
3. Implement quality control procedures to ensure the reasonable accuracy of eligibility determinations.
4. Promote interstate and intrastate coordination through collaborative efforts.



**"Due to the highly mobile lifestyle of migratory agricultural workers and their children, eligible migrant children are often marginalized and difficult to find. But locating potentially eligible migratory children is the essence of the Migrant Education Program. For those migratory children who are the most difficult to find are often the children who are most in need of MEP services and programs."**

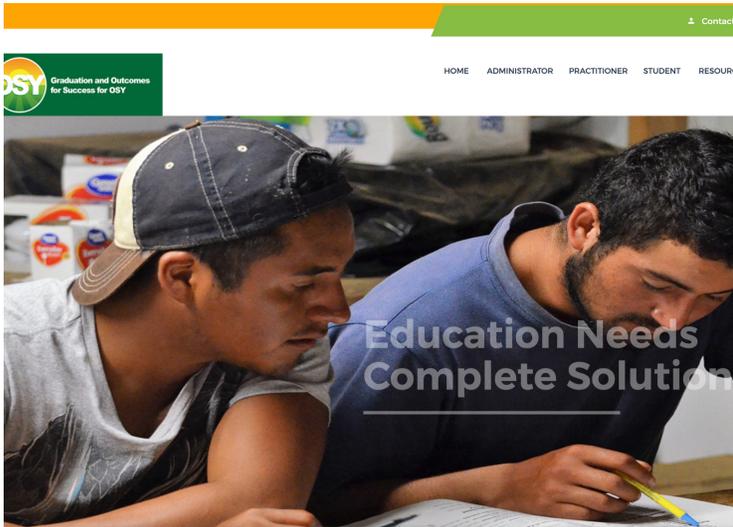
*-Identification and Recruitment Rapid Response Consortium*



The state ID&R plan includes 10 district and four regional recruiters who conduct ID&R activities on a statewide basis. There are five statewide centers divided into regions. The centers serve the state with regional recruiters collaborating with project recruiters and community and district liaisons. Ninety percent of Nebraska recruiters scored at the Mastery level in completing the ID&R Competency Assessment.



# YEAR 4 RESOURCES AND MATERIALS



[www.osymigrant.net](http://www.osymigrant.net)

Year 4 analytics reported 8,068 unique visitors, 13,654 unique sessions, and 61,094 page views - a significant increase from Year 3 numbers.



## English for Daily Life and Preparing for College

The Curriculum and Materials Development Work Group produced two important new resources: English for Daily Life and Preparing for College.

English for Daily Life was designed to help students learn English in a variety of life situations. These include electronic resources for banking, emergencies, going to the doctor, and more.

Preparing for College was designed to help students begin to think about and prepare for post-secondary studies. This resource includes 14 lessons to help students on their post-secondary journey.



### OSY Interactive ELL Lessons

**Emergencies**

Learn about what an emergency is, when to call 911, how to stay calm, how to protect yourself from pesticide poisoning, and more.

**Banking and Numbers**

Learn about different types of accounts and services banks use. Also practice learning different numbers, prices, and more.



### Professional Development for Instructors Resources

#### Professional Development "Using Differentiation Strategies"



COSOSY's Professional Development for Instructors offers a detailed lesson on "Using Differentiation Strategies when Working with Various Learning Styles". This PowerPoint presentation includes valuable information about providing effective academic support when working with students who have varying levels of skill and different learning styles. Participants will discover how to teach the same material to different students in the most appropriate ways to facilitate effective learning.

#### Professional Development "One-on-one and Small Group Instruction"

COSOSY's Professional Development for Instructors offers a detailed lesson on "One-on-One and Small Group Instruction". This PowerPoint presentation includes multiple teaching strategies to use in both one-on-one and small group learning situations. The tips include a list of questions to consider before instruction begins, as well as a side-by-side comparison of the different settings. Participants will be able to teach confidently in either situation while drawing on best practices from both experiences.

#### Professional Development "Working with Language Learners"

COSOSY's Professional Development for Instructors offers a detailed lesson on "Working with Language Learners". This PowerPoint presentation includes multiple strategies to use when working with OSY with different levels of language ability, literacy levels, and general educational levels. Participants will be able to teach students to improve in all four areas of language - listening, speaking, reading and writing.

## Professional Development

New modules were created and posted on the GOSOSY website:

- Addressing the Needs of OSY: One-on-One and Small Group Instruction
- Addressing the Needs of OSY: Working with Language Learners
- Addressing the Needs of OSY: Using Differentiation Strategies When Working with Various Learning Styles

# YEAR 4 RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

## GOSOSY Newsletter

Three issues of the GOSOSY quarterly newsletter were produced during Year 4. The newsletter contains articles and photographs submitted by consortium states. These articles have addressed GOSOSY programs, materials, state supports for OSY, highlights of collaborations across the states, renewed focus on mental health and personal wellness, research highlights, and more. Of particular interest have been the state spotlight and success stories featured in every issue.

All back issues of the GOSOSY newsletter can be found at [www.osymigrant.org](http://www.osymigrant.org).



mini-quizzes and training materials to help with ID&R scenarios and professional development. These cover a variety of topics such as qualifying moves, migrant children and workers, QAD, to-join moves and more. [Access these new resources here.](#)

**New IRRRC Newsletter Format**  
Many of you have viewed our Ag Trends Newsletters over the years. We are formalizing this process a bit and once a month you will get an ag trends update from IRRRC in the form of an email. These will be archived on our website. We hope the content is helpful for your ID&R program and staff.

IRRC is one of the current MEP Consortium Incentive Grant (CIG) projects. Our CIG project ends in 2020 and we are hoping to apply for a new one next year.

If your state is interested in learning more about being an IRRRC participating state in the next CIG competition, please let us know. Our focus is on improving the proper and timely identification of all migrant children.

**U.S. Hemp Crop Report**

The map above shows where cultivation of Hemp is allowed for commercial, research, or pilot programs. [Click on it](#) for additional information. Below the infographic shows all of the uses hemp has.

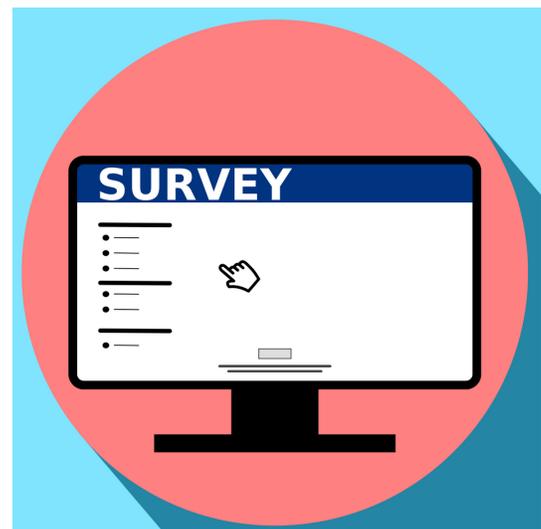
## AgTrends Newsletter

Two issues of the AgTrends newsletter were produced during Year 4. The newsletter is a joint effort between GOSOSY and the Identification and Recruitment Rapid Response Consortium (IRRC). The newsletter addresses agricultural trends and their impact on ID&R efforts and the OSY population. Year 4 articles included topics of H2-A workers, export news, contamination of crops, agriculture technology, and specific state ag industries.

All back issues of the AgTrends newsletter can be found at [www.idr-consortium.net](http://www.idr-consortium.net).

## Year 4 Follow-up Survey

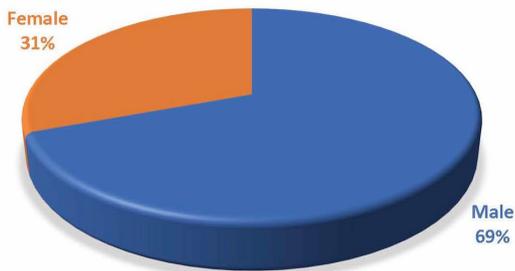
One year after the Dissemination Event and after participants had sufficient time to train others and provide services based on the Dissemination Event, GOSOSY conducted a follow-up survey asking to what extent staff used strategies or materials. 53 responses representing all GOSOSY states showed 94% using strategies or materials from the Dissemination Event. The mean rating on the five point scale was 4.3 and no respondents indicated that materials and strategies were "not at all useful" or "not so useful."





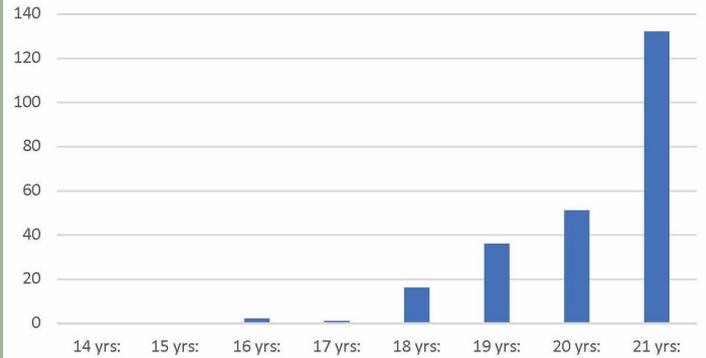
# 2018-19 Student Profile Data from the OSY of Nebraska

## GENDER

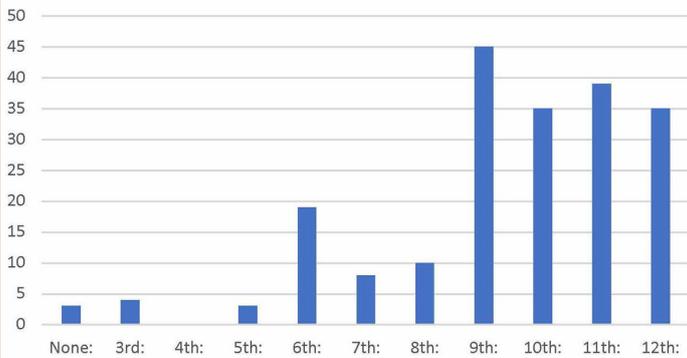


238 responses

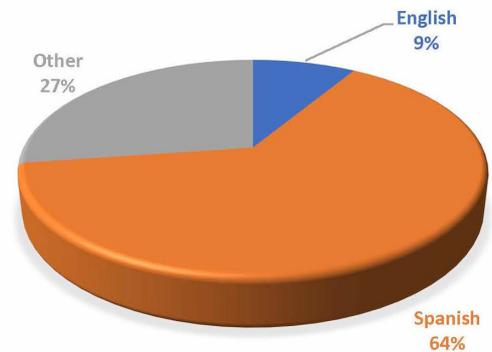
## AGE



## LAST GRADE ATTENDED

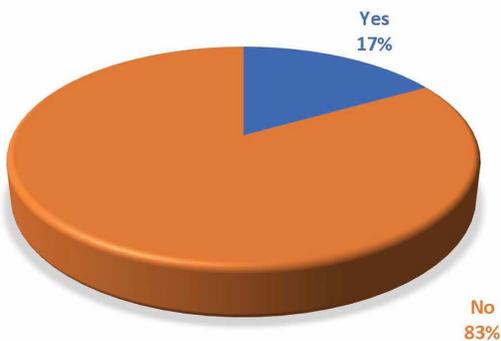


## HOME LANGUAGE



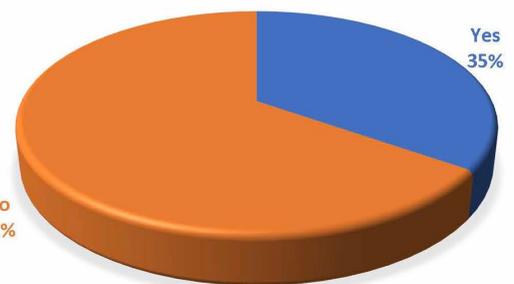
198 responses

## ENGLISH ORAL LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY



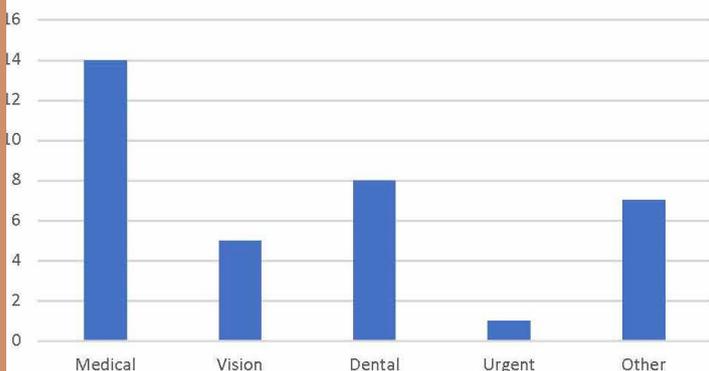
191 responses

## ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION

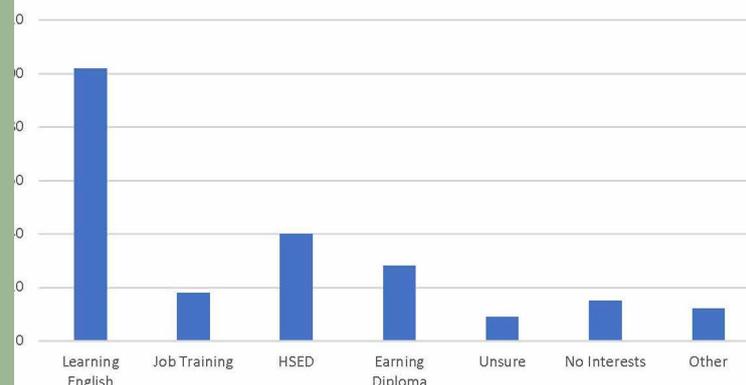


201 responses

## HEALTH NEEDS



## EXPRESSED INTEREST IN



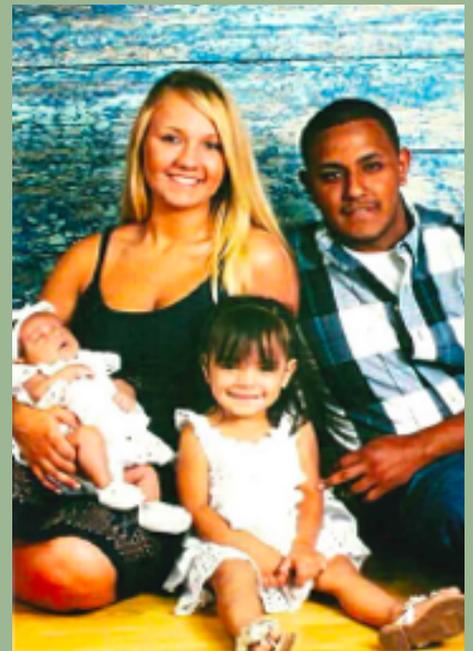
# SUCCESS STORY

## NEBRASKA

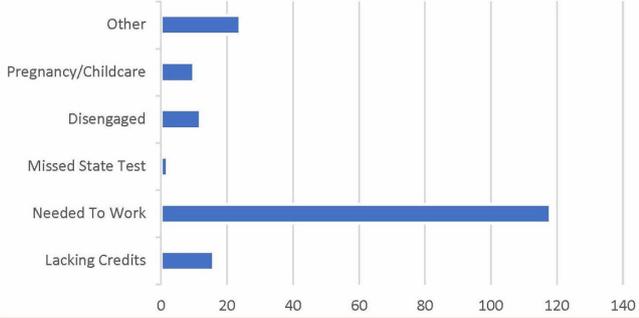
Ricardo's family was in the MEP when he started his last year of high school. But he left after only a few weeks because he needed to work to support the new family he was starting. As a result, his MEP status changed to an Out-of-School Youth (OSY). His plan was to save part of his earnings so he could work and go to school at the same time. Finally, he had some money saved up, but family responsibilities caused his education to be put on hold again.

Ricardo finally decided he had to get started again on his GED studies through the MEP and was able to achieve his goal with the help of service providers and community collaborations.

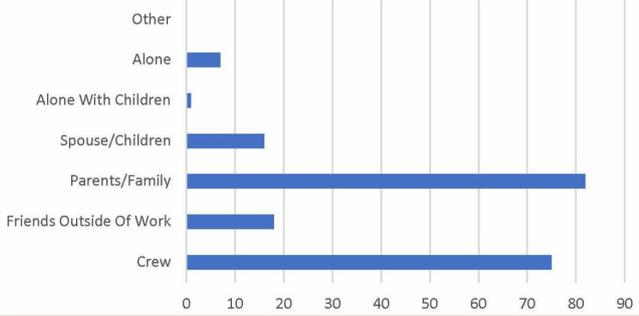
Words of advice from this happy and proud new recipient of high school credentials? "Always stay focused! Maybe you'll stumble along the way, but at the end of the day, you get up and keep trying. Don't give up and a good thing will come out of your work. You have to look at your future."



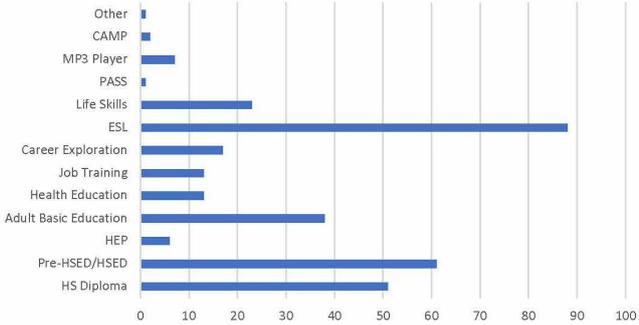
**REASONS FOR LEAVING SCHOOL**



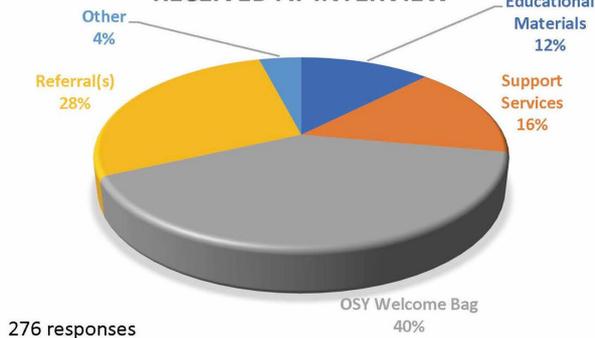
**HOUSING: YOUTH LIVES WITH**



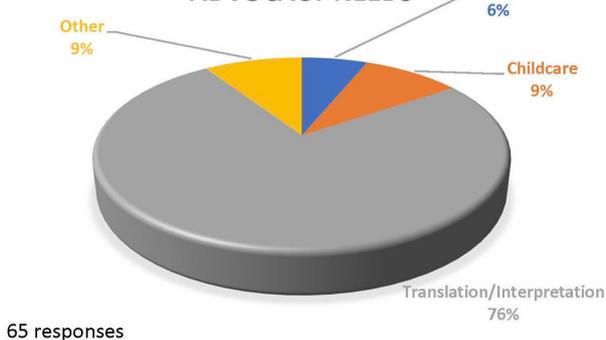
**OSY IS CANDIDATE FOR**



**RECEIVED AT INTERVIEW**



**ADVOCACY NEEDS**



# OSY SUCCESS STORIES

## OPEN LETTER FROM OSY WHO COMPLETED HEP PROGRAM

Please receive my heartfelt greeting,

I would like to express my gratitude to you for all the changes made in my life after being included in the Migrant Education Program. I will never forget that just when I thought my student life and professional education was over, you knocked on my door and included me and my fellow peers in this educational program. And even though I came back home very tired from the backbreaking farm work, you were always there insisting and showing me the options. I had to set new goals and ensure compliance of these. This is how I joined the High School Equivalency Preparation Program at the local community college. I must confess that it was not easy. And although you provided me with all the resources such as study guides, internet access, computer, books, and transportation there were many times where I thought about quitting. However, your constant visits, text messages, and phone calls allowed me to keep my motivation until the completion of my goals and graduation.

I would like for this message to reach other young workers that, like me, did not have the opportunity to continue with their formal studies. I want to let them know that it is possible and that all you need is to have perseverance and dedication. I can now fulfill my dream to keep studying and achieve professional growth - a goal that I had before, but thought it could not be possible. Now I know that I will accomplish everything I put my mind to. I am sure I will achieve my dream of becoming a medical doctor, to help save lives, and be someone of whom my family and society could feel proud. To sum up, I would like to let the Migrant Education Program staff and the teachers at my community college know that I will forever be thankful, you will always be in my mind and will have a special place in my heart.

I hope that you can continue with this wonderful work that you do to help, motivate, and transform the lives of young farm workers.

Sincerely,  
Estefani



# *In the words of OSY*

"Leadership Day impacted my view of college. I used to be too scared to think about college or anything after high school, but since I visited the college, I can see myself walking on campus to classes." - Isabel



"Your program is very helpful. The only thing I know here is how to go to the corner store and wait for the ride that takes me to work. With your help I am finding out that there is more than just hard work here and that I can become someone in this country." - Enyer



"They would help me understand... [my advocate] was a lady who helped me so much! She pushed me to get things done, I'm very thankful for all that she has done for me. If it wasn't for the migrant program, I wouldn't have been able to move to Texas and get a great job." - Amanda

"Thank you for helping me. Now I have hope and I know that a better future waits for me."  
- Karina

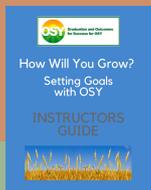




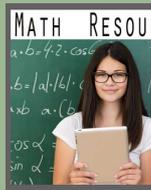
Nebraska is a member state of the 18-member Graduation and Outcomes for Success for Out-of-School Youth (GOSOSY) Consortium, funded by the Office of Migrant Education. The OSY consortium was created to build capacity in states with a growing secondary-aged migrant out-of-school youth population. In 2018-2019 there were 18 member states and 12 partner states.



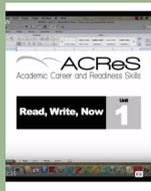
The State Steering Team and Technical Support Team each meet a few times per year.



The 2018 Dissemination Event, featuring keynote speaker John Quiñones, drew more than 250 MEP staff members from 35 states and offered more than 60 breakout sessions.



GOSOSY offers free resources and materials on its website that can be used by anyone working with migrant students in any state. In the last two years the consortium has put considerable emphasis on goal setting with students, the effects of trauma in the migrant student population, and professional development specifically for those providing instruction in the field. In Year 5 of this iteration, GOSOSY is concentrating on increased collaboration between the states and other organizations serving our target population.



Instructional Services Offered by Consortium States	
Adult Basic Education Study Program	High School Equivalency Program (HEP)
Balanced Literacy	Home Visits
Basic Math	Human Rights Watch Education Program
Basic Literacy	iPods/Instruction-cognate book with CD
Bilingual GED classes	iPods/MP3 ESL
Career awareness instruction	Language Arts
College Preparation	Leadership Development
Computer literacy/instruction	Lessons that specifically target needs, such as domestic violence
Consumer and citizenship instruction	Life Skills Lessons
Counseling for re-enrollment in school	Living in America Curriculum
Creating high school graduation plans	Math Instruction
Credit accrual and recovery	Mini-lessons on hygiene and health
English Immersion	Mini-lessons on legal rights
Enrollment in Alternative Ed courses	Organic Farming Classes
E-Plaza	Out-of-State TAKS Testing
ESL	Portable Assisted Study Program (PASS)
Evening secondary classes	Photography/documentary projects
Exploration of job opportunities	Reading Instruction
Face-to-face Instructional Materials	READY (Resources in Education and Development for Youth)
Family Literacy	Resume Writing
Field Trips	Science Instruction
Financial Literacy	Social Studies Instruction
GED classes/tutoring and Pre-GED	Summer School
Goal Setting	Tutoring
GRASP	Vocational/Career Education
Health and nutrition Education	Youth Advisory Council Development



More information is found at [www.osymigrant.org](http://www.osymigrant.org).