This year’s theme, Communities Mobilizing for Health Equity, recognizes the importance of community building and grassroots organizing to effect change. Community and migrant health centers (C/MHCs) have been at the forefront of advancing health equity since they were first established during the civil rights movement. In the words of one of our movement’s founding fathers, Dr. H. Jack Geiger, “our concept of health is to make social change (and) to build the institutions that can make social change and keep it going.”

Today, C/MHCs serve over 25 million people in 9,200 rural and urban communities across the country. Despite our significant growth and achievements as a movement, we find ourselves at a time of unprecedented change. Uncertainties lie ahead regarding policies affecting health care, immigration, education, and community and economic development, all of which have substantial implications for community health and health equity.

Join us in San Francisco! We invite you to use this time to connect, to dialogue, to learn, to strategize, and to organize as our movement continues onward in our pursuit of health equity and justice.
The 2017 Western Forum will feature over 35 sessions on a multitude of topics. Here is the conference at a glance:

**Addressing and Mitigating Trauma and Violence**
Responding to depression and trauma among agricultural workers, improving health outcomes through violence prevention, and community-based approaches to address workplace sexual harassment and violence in agriculture.

**Agricultural Worker Updates and Trends in a Shifting Environment**
The Affordable Care Act and its impact on agricultural workers, strategies for effective outreach to migrant seasonal agricultural workers, and connecting H-2A workers to health insurance and health care.

**Organizing and Mobilizing for Health Equity**
The new environment for community and migrant health, strategies and tools to champion communities through advocacy, and methods for organizing for change.

**Leadership and Professional Development**
Growing the next generation of leadership, cultural competency, and customer service.
The Role of Clinicians: A Deeper Dive
Shared medical visits for Latinos with Type 2 diabetes, integrative health care focused on the whole person, ensuring continuity of care for migrants, and palliative care.

Methods and Models of Sustainable Outreach
Effective data collection and analysis for a responsive community health needs assessment, barriers to health care among indigenous immigrants from Mexico, patient-centered transportation solutions, and improving communication with limited English proficient populations during emergencies.

Social Determinants of Health, Immigration, and the Way Forward
Immigrant rights and what to expect in a new administration, agricultural workers’ social determinants of health, driving the message on immigrant health, and documenting health center interventions to address patients’ social determinants of health.

Fostering the Community Health Worker Workforce
The role of Promotores(as) De Salud to address mental health in Latino communities, practices and training development for community health workers (CHWs) in primary care, developing common CHW evaluation indicators, and perspectives on workforce development and the promotor model.
Special Session: Tackling Zika
An interactive training for CHWs to prevent Zika in migrant workers.

Continuation of the Promise of Delivery
New protections to prevent pesticide exposure, and best practices in promoting pediatric oral health through dental sealants.

Exploring the Impact of Artistic, Creative Avenues
Digital storytelling and CHWs, and popular theater.

Showcasing CHW Effectiveness
CHW programs to address chronic illness, and opportunities for CHWs to leverage the SNAP program for training and expanded services.

Project-oriented Solutions Toward Health Equity
Exploring a CHW-led bicycling hub to reduce chronic disease in a frontier border community, and addressing social determinants of health.
Keynote speaker: **ARTURO RODRIGUEZ**

As president of the United Farm Workers of America, Arturo S. Rodriguez is continuing to build the union Cesar Chavez founded into a powerful voice for immigrant workers by increasing its membership and pushing historic legislation on immigration reform and worker rights.

Rodriguez is leading the UFW in bringing about meaningful change for farm workers by making it easier for them to organize and negotiate union contracts. He seeks to fundamentally transform American agriculture by creating jobs offering workers decent pay, comprehensive health coverage, retirement security, protections against toxic poisons, job security and guarantees against discrimination and sexual harassment. Under Rodriguez, the UFW is working to offer innovative alternative representation through benefits and services, and to extend innovative representation to workers temporarily brought to work in U.S. agriculture. His goal is also preserving America’s food supply through a strong and viable agricultural industry.

Closing Performance: **EL TEATRO CAMPESINO**

Founded in 1965 by award-winning American playwright Luis Valdez as a means of organizing the nation’s agricultural workers through art and culture, El Teatro Campesino - literally “the Farm Workers’ theater” - has been at the forefront of using theater as an artistic generator of social change for five decades. ETC’s seminal work has impacted and influenced several artists and cultural institutions in developing an acting technique, aesthetic, and narrative of Latinos’ pursuit of social justice in the United States and internationally. From flat-bed trucks to the Broadway stage, this multigenerational company has worked to empower Chicano/Latino artists and communities from its home in San Juan Bautista, California since 1971.
**Conference fees**
- $300 regular conference
- $100 community health worker/student/AmeriCorps Volunteer

**Group registration:** Groups of four or more who register together at the regular conference rate of $300 will receive 10% off the total registration fee.

**Early bird deadline:** Ends January 31, 2017. $50 will be added to registrations after this date.

Register online at [www.NWRPCA.org](http://www.NWRPCA.org). Payment can be made by credit card or check and must be received before registration is confirmed.

**Sponsors, Exhibitors, and Advertisers**

The Western Forum offers companies and nonprofits a unique opportunity to share their missions and services to individuals and organizations committed to primary care, migrant, and community health across the United States. This is a chance to demonstrate their commitment to health equity, interact with front-line community health staff, and engage with “upstream” professionals who drive community well-being. Visit our website for more details and apply today. Contact Rosa Mitsumasu Scotti, NWRPCA's Development Specialist, for more information at rmitsumasu@nwrpca.org.

**Accommodations**

To guarantee more available rooms at our conference hotel, we are asking attendees to register for the conference prior to reserving their room. Registrants will receive the conference hotel group room reservation details in their confirmation email.