BRIDGING GAPS
EQUITABLE HEALTHCARE ACCESS FOR MIGRANTS IN ALBERTA

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

- ~70,000 undocumented migrant workers in Alberta
- ~500,000 in Canada

MIGRANT WORKERS CAN LOSE LEGAL STATUS THROUGH

- employers revoking their visas
- cannot return to their home countries due to war, violence or extreme poverty

WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION, THESE PEOPLES CANNOT ACCESS

- provincial insurace
- hospitals
- family physicians
- walk in clinics
- publically funded vaccines (COVID-19, annual flu shot)

HOW CAN PHARMACISTS HELP?

- Provide general health advice and minor ailment care without insurance or provincial health care number
- Prescribe medications for first access or emergencies
- Extend prescriptions
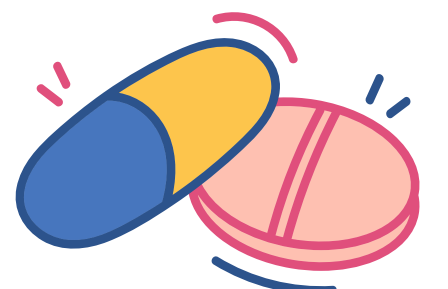- Waive dispensing fees
- Provide free delivery

CODE OF ETHICS- PRINCIPLE 1:
HOLD THE WELLBEING OF THE PATIENT TO BE YOUR PRIMARY CONCERN

PHARMACY RESOURCES

- Shoppers Drug Mart Care Clinic
  - 10907 82nd Ave NW
  - 10116 150 St NW
  - 254 87 Ave and 156 St
  - 3812 118 Ave

- "Interim Federal Health Program"
  - temporary drug and health care coverage porvided by the Government of Canada for those with legal documentation

CLINICAL RESOURCES

- 811 - free general health advice
- 211 - general social services
- 911 - emergency services (will never be denied care in an emergency)
- New Canadians Health Centre Edmonton (https://www.nchcedmonton.org/)

OTHER RESOURCES

- Wellness Together Canada - free mental health support (https://www.wellnesstogether.ca/en-ca/)
- Migrante - help with healthcare fees and referrals (migrantealberta.ca)
- Basic Need Services - emergency food programs (https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/nutrition/Page16163.aspx)
- Bissell Centre - housing, employment, mental health and other support (https://bissellcentre.org)
- Shine Dental Clinic - free dental care (https://www.shinedentistry.org)
- Momentum Counseling Services - no papers needed counseling program (780-757-0900)

migrantealberta.ca