

## BILINGUAL WORKER PROTECTION OUTREACH AND BUILDING LARIMER COUNTY

### INTRODUCTION

The internship “ Bilingual Worker Protection Outreach And Building” I was able to be apart of this summer was under the guidance of Lisa Blecker and Sarah Hirnyck.

This position was designed to support to the pesticide safety education program in multiple ways including coordinating the dissemination of the US EPA worker protection standard (WPS) training materials, translate WPS training materials from English to Spanish, schedule trainings and outreach activities. This position worked cooperatively with the CSU Pesticide Outreach Specialist, and campus-based and Extension faculty and staff to accomplish work.

My position was created to work collaboratively to map out a WPS outreach program and plan and schedule trainings, facilitate curriculum translations from English to Spanish, collate existing worker protection (WPS) training materials, organize materials, and share with stakeholders.

### INTERNSHIP GOALS

My own personal goals for this internship included growing my confidence in working in professional spaces within my field of study as well as growing connections with professionals in the field of agriculture and Spanish.

### HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO MY EDUCATION?

As a student double majoring in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics and Spanish, this internship was right up my alley. I was not only able to grow my skills in the translation field, but also grew in my confidence of the agricultural field.

This internship will allow me to move forward with my education with a new found confidence.

### WHAT I DID

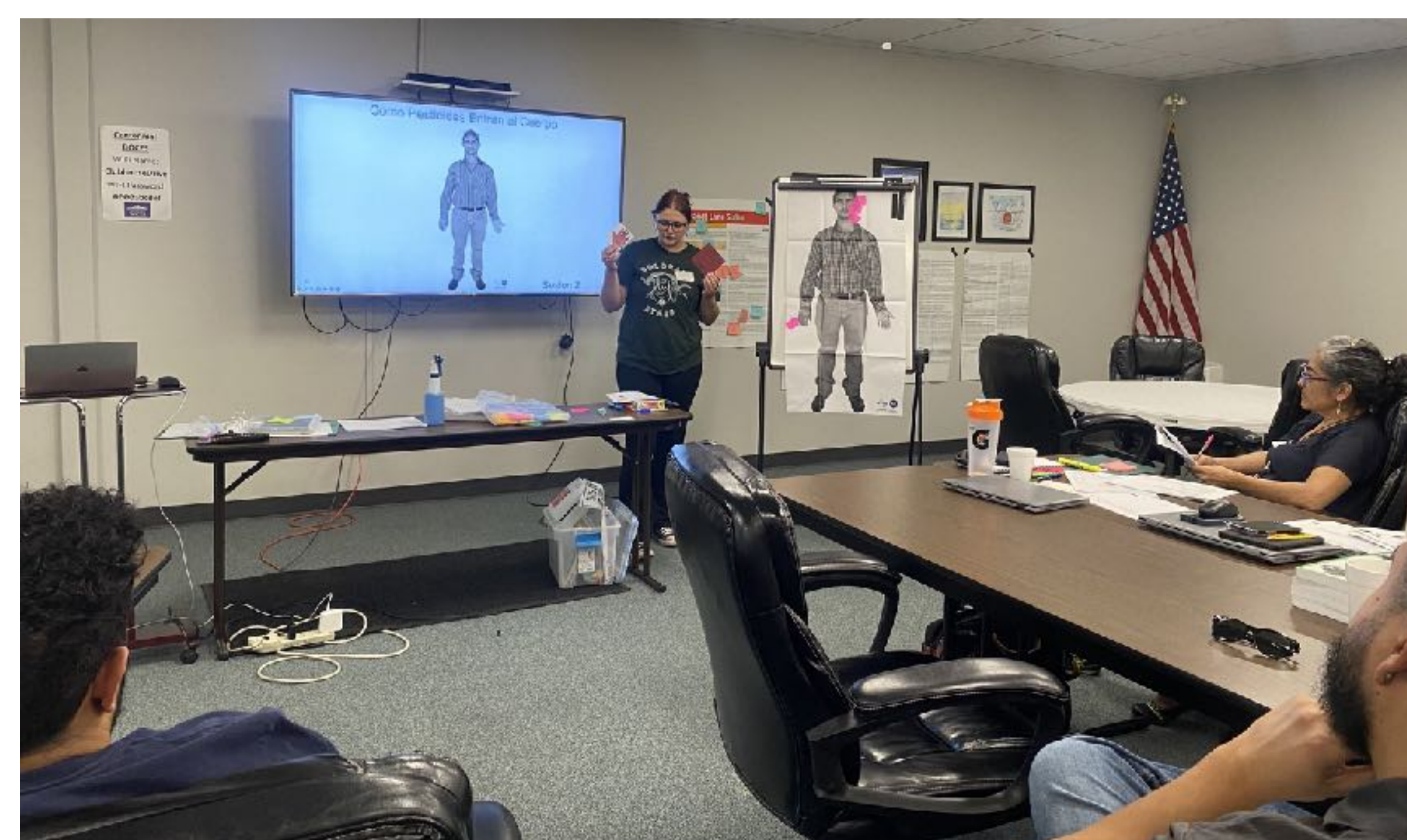
Over the course of the months of June, July, and August I worked with Lisa Blecker, Sarah Hirnyck, as well as other staff to complete the task of translating a training kit for trainers of migrant workers from English to Spanish. The training kit included training on how to stay safe from pesticides while working in the field.

In the beginning of the internship, I had the privilege to witness a training session conducted by Lisa and Sarah in English, which provided a background to what I would be doing over the course of the next few months

I spent the first six weeks translating around 70 pages of documents from English to Spanish as well as other resources that would be used in the training sessions and handed out to the trainers.

At the end of the internship, I had the wonderful opportunity to be able to present the training alongside Lisa Blecker and Sarah Hirnyck to the Northern Colorado Agriculture Worker Network of whom would conduct training sessions to migrant workers in the future. In figure 1, you can see me presenting the training kit. During the last week of the internship, the Northern Colorado Agriculture Worker Network hosted a migrant worker appreciation picnic to show gratitude to those that work in the field in Colorado.

Figure 1.



### WHAT I LEARNED

Throughout the internship, I learned how to collaborate with a group to make sure what I was translating was the best possible option and would reach the widest audience possible. I also learned how to create stronger relationship with those in higher positions than myself and how to keep myself accountable for work that would actually matter in the future.

I learned the in and outs of how pesticides can affect the human body and how we can best prevent against the negative effects of them. Not only did I learn that, but I also learned how trainings on pesticide safety can be conducted to best prepare fieldworkers. I learned how to be an efficient trainer and how to best prepare to give very important trainings to other. I also learned how to be confident in my Spanish skills in front of native speakers and know that my abilities can always be improved no matter the subject

Overall, I learned so much about how I work as an individual and as a group member in professional spaces and gained so much confidence in my skills.

Table 1.

In figure 1, I am presenting on how pesticides enter the body and why they are dangerous. I called up participants to place sticky notes on the person on the poster “Miguel” to demonstrate which body parts absorb the most amount of pesticides and how to limit them.

### NEXT STEPS

Next, I would like to continue to be able to translate in the field of agriculture, economics or any field for that matter. I hope to be able to use my Spanish in future research projects or travel to study how agricultural economics applies in other countries.

For the next two years at least, I will continue my education and grow my skills as an economist as well as a translator.