**WorkforceGPS**

**YouthBuild Series**

**New Agricultural Connection Community of Practice**

**Wednesday, December 11, 2019**

*Transcript by*

*Noble Transcription Services*

*Menifee, CA*

GRACE MCCALL: And welcome to the "New Agricultural Connection Community of Practice." So without further ado, I'd like to turn things over to one of your moderators for today, Laura Ibanez, unit chief for Specialty National Programs, DNPTTA, United States Department of Labor. Take it away, Laura.

LAURA IBANEZ: Thank you, Grace. Hi, everyone. This is Laura Ibanez. Thank you for joining us today. We are excited to present a new and improved Agricultural Connection Community of Practice which is hosted on WorkforceGPS.

Juan Regalado and I will be your moderators for today's discussion. As the unit chief for Specialty National Programs, together with my team, we administer disability employment related initiatives, Work Opportunity Tax Credit, national farmworker Jobs Program, and the Monitor Advocate System.

And although many of you already know our national monitor advocate, I'd like to take a second to introduce Juan. Together with the regional monitor advocates, state monitor advocates, and outreach workers, he leads the federal state monitoring system that ensures migrant seasonal farmworkers have equitable access to career services and workforce protections offered by American Job Centers.

We're excited to be here with you today, and we'll do our best to answer any questions that you have about the new Agricultural Connection Community of Practice.

So now that I've introduced Juan and I, I'd like to take a minute to introduce our other presenters.

Our presenters include Jen Pirtle, a senior consultant for Maher and Maher.

We also have a workforce analyst from the U.S. Department of Labor. Alex Nallin primarily focuses on analyzing monthly analytics and evaluating improvements to O\*NET, which is a career exploration and job analysis tool. And on top of that, Alex is also responsible for monitoring the department's veteran's accelerated for licensed occupations, which is a grant that provides funding that aims to create educational bridge programs for transitioning veterans.

In the most recent months Alex has been assisting NFJP and the Monitor Advocate System team with performance reporting duties. So you'll get to know Alex a little bit more as time goes on.

And unfortunately, we were planning to have Lianna Shannon join us, but she's no longer available. But I would like to take a second still to introduce who she is, and although many of you know her as well, Lianna Shannon is our in-house Wagner-Peyser regulations expert. She primarily focuses on developing and providing technical assistance to the Monitor Advocate System.

So Agricultural Connection is ETA's online technical assistance website created for workforce professionals and other partners, and we're happy to say that today this community of practice has 1,833 members.

Our most recent improvement focused on making our site more user friendly, and we accomplished this by curating resources, success stories, and webinars that share information on how to ensure migrant seasonal farmworkers have equitable access to career services and skill development opportunities.

So today on this webinar we're going to focus on discussing the benefits of registering for WorkforceGPS and why you want to become an Ag Connect member, if you aren't already, show you how to navigate the new site, and, lastly, demonstrate the resources available on the Agricultural Connection Community of Practice.

So if you're not already a member, we hope that you will join our community soon. And as we're speaking, feel free to type any questions or comments that you have and we will do our best to answer your questions at the end of today's presentation. Thank you.

So at this time I'd like to hand it over to Jen Pirtle.

JEN PIRTLE: Great. Thanks, Laura. So I'm just going to tell you briefly about WorkforceGPS, which I think most of you already know about because you are registered on there to join this webinar today.

But just for those of you who are new, WorkforceGPS is your online technical assistance website created to help build the capacity of America's public workforce investment system. The site is sponsored by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

WorkforceGPS was developed specifically for workforce professionals, educators, and business leaders. And here you will find curated communities of interest, useful webinars, and other training resources, promising workforce development practices, and relevant evidence-based research, giving you the tools you need to help create innovative approaches to improve the employment prospects of jobseekers.

We definitely invite you to come and engage with your peers by joining WorkforceGPS today.

Before I dive a little bit deeper, I want to do a poll, and this is polling question number one. How -- and Grace is going to bring forward a thing -- there you go -- so you can put in your poll. But how confident are you in navigating the WorkforceGPS site? So not confident at all. Great.

Well, we have kind of everybody around in different areas. So what I'm going to do now is kind of talk through a little bit about how to navigate the site, and then we'll dive into the Agricultural Connection Community of Practice.

So let's see. WorkforceGPS, you'll notice a number of things about it, and these are what I'm going to talk about, the featured content box, how MyWorkforceGPS works, how you can connect to different communities of practice, the events tab, and the member directory and then the about page.

Let's first take a look at the featured content. On the homepage you'll notice a box that says featured content. This is content that the WorkforceGPS team and the Technical Assistance Unit at the Employment and Training Administration feel is important and relevant for the majority of the WorkforceGPS users. It can be new information that should be highlighted.

So this information comes from all the different communities of practice, and it's just kind of information that we think is important. So right now, we have -- or when I took this picture, I guess, there's a ticket to work information, resources to support work-based learning, entrepreneurship, services to veterans, which was posted during -- on Veteran's Day, and then career pathways planning.

So this is information that will change. Every time you come to the site there may be new information up, but it may be relevant to a wide audience. So you should take a look at it.

Also connected on the homepage, there's a tab at the top that talks about MyWorkforceGPS. Now, you have to be a member of the site and logged in to see this information, but it is really kind of great. You can have information about your profile. Your profile just goes into the membership directly -- membership directory, which I think before the webinar started, there was kind of a silent video that was playing that talked a little bit about the member directory.

So you can have information such as your name, your contact information, and the company you work for so that people can find you if they are looking for you in the member directory. The page also has my memberships. That will show you the memberships of the different communities of practice that you are a member of.

My content, any content that you have liked will show up here. So when you click on my content, it will show up to the resources that you have clicked like and you would like to see again. My events shows you the events that you have attended in the past. So, for example, you've registered for the event today. When you go back in and click my events, this recording will show up so that you can see it.

You can also start a chat conversation with anyone in the member directory and make yourself available so that you can have those connections. You can also submit resources and send feedback to us so we can -- if you have a resource that you'd like to be posted on the community of practice or you have a promising practice or success story that you'd like posted, you can submit it to us. And you can also send us feedback about the site or anything that you -- anything related to WorkforceGPS or the community.

At the top there's also a button that says communities where you can connect to a number of different communities of practice. Today, we're going to talk specifically about the Agricultural Connection site, but you can see there are many others that may be beneficial to you as you are serving your grantees.

So one that I think a lot of people might like to see is the ION, the Innovation and Opportunity Network. Most of the resources related to WIOA are included in this ION site. So any of the state planning guidance and some other things may be there for you to see. So you might want to be a member of other communities.

Events and announcements. This is a section that falls underneath the featured content on the homepage, and this is really upcoming events that you might want to have a conversation about or you might want to join different webinars. So you can see there -- there's information about upcoming events and past events. When you click all events, you can see all of the public webinars that were available on certain days. So you can -- if you had to miss one, you can go back and see it. Those are available.

We also have an announcements section which announces things that the TAU unit thinks are very important. So, for example, last week there was National Apprenticeship Week, Military Family Month, maybe some Entrepreneurship Month materials that are available. So those get updated all the time. So check back often to see what public events are happening.

There's also resources, trending resources, new resources, and then a little bit of online training and then staff picks. These are all resources that are on different communities of practice throughout the WorkforceGPS site as a whole. The trending resources are things that have gotten a lot of views lately.

So you can see right now that the RESEA program is getting a lot of hits. There's a lot of guidance and webinars and content coming out about RESEA. So that has been a really hot page that people have been looking at. Same thing with the WIOA youth program fact sheet, information and resources to support work-based learning and services to veterans. These will be updated as the pages and the resources become more popular.

The new resources is -- these are the resources that were updated most recently on the website. So any time a new resource goes up, it could be featured on this homepage just depending on the time and how many other resources are getting posted.

Online training. There are a number of webcasts and webinars that have happened in the past. So you can search for and you can find the online training modules there. And those, you can have access to any of them.

Staff picks. These are resources that DOL thinks are very useful and can benefit a large group of grantees and participants. So this gets curated, and it gets updated frequently. You should take a look at that.

I already mentioned the member directory, but you can narrow the search by whoever is a member of your community. So if you click the Agricultural Connection Community, narrow the search, it will give you the names of all of the people that are registered there. You can have their e-mail information.

If they are online now, you can chat with them, but this gives you a good idea. If you're trying to find a contact and you're searching and you can't remember it, this is a good place to look because if they are your peer and it may be another grantee, you can get their information here. And we encourage everyone to join the member directory.

The about page. This generally just says what's GPS about, but it does have a great video that kind of talks about how you can utilize the site as well as how it is mobile friendly. So you can see it on your tablets and your phones.

So now, I'm going to turn it over to Juan Regalado to talk about -- specifically about the Agricultural Connection Community of Practice. Juan?

JUAN REGALADO: Thank you, Jen. Hello, everyone. Great to see such great representation from all over the country from our farmworker community. And thank you, Laura, for a great presentation. And yes, we are missing Lianna today, but just for today. So great to be here.

I'm very excited to be with you all today to show you our new Agricultural Connection Community of Practice. Throughout this presentation, you'll notice that we often refer to the Agricultural Connection as the Ag Connection or the Ag Connect webpage or website, and we refer to the community of practice as the CoPs. So we've reorganized the homepage so that it is organized by the program or audience that you are looking for.

But before we get started, I'd like to do a second polling question and ask you, how often do you access the Agricultural Connection Community? We'll just take a minute to answer that question. How often do you access the Agricultural Connection Community?

All right. Good. Good. Good. Good. We'll see -- hopefully, by the time we finish this webinar, you'll feel more confident and then you can probably access it more frequently, especially with the new features that we're going to be going over. So I think that's a good representation of how all of you access the -- how often and frequently you access the community of practice. So great. Thank you very much for that -- for your answers.

So we start with the -- Jen talked about the WorkforceGPS in general and mentioned so many of the communities of practice that are available through GPS. We're going -- today we're going to be concentrating of course on the Agricultural Connection home -- Community of Practice, and we start here at the homepage.

And this is basically a snapshot of the Agricultural Connection Community of Practice homepage. There's a navigation bar at the top that shows -- like most questions that -- as most website, mentions the homepage of course, the about, the announcements, the events page, and community resources.

The about page will tell you some information about the community of practice and our grant programs. The announcements page will be where announcements will be posted perhaps about new resources or grantee information. The events page will show you any webinars or webcasts that were held specific to this community. It should also post upcoming webinars in the coming soon box when there are upcoming events.

And lastly, the community resources page is where you can search by different topics to find resources related to migrant seasonal farmworkers and our grant programs. And there's also a search box at the top of the homepage for a keyword search. We'll probably be referring to that keyword search quite a bit. You'll find that keyword search box throughout any of the sections that we'll be covering today.

You can see that the page is organized very familiar to the homepage of the WorkforceGPS, as Jen described to you, with a welcome note at the top and then a box for featured content.

You will see -- as you scroll down still in the homepage, you'll come up to the next section which we call the featured content. This web section has four main content areas, and we're going to be referring to this featured content section throughout today's presentation. Alex and I will be referring to this quite a bit.

And this has the -- the featured content has the four major main content areas that we feature here in the Ag Connect. That is the National Farmworker Jobs Program of course, NJFP, the Monitor Advocate System, MAS, and the migrant seasonal farmworker success stories and promising practices, and special topics. We will be going -- Alex and I will be diving into each of these content areas as we go through the -- for today's presentation.

As you continue scrolling down the homepage, you come up to the section on events. The events section shows webinars and webcasts specifically focused on your grantee and participant populations. You can also click on the events tab above or on the -- on the see all events button below to see all the events related to this CoP.

As you, again, continue scrolling down the homepage, we come up to the new and top resources. And just like the main WorkforceGPS site, we have new resources and top resources that are specific, again, to the Agricultural Connection CoP. So the new resources are the latest resources that have been posted or updated to the site, and the top resources are the resources on the community with the most views.

And lastly, we have the community resources. Again, this is still in the homepage, and the community resources page shows all of the resources on the site organized by different categories, including, as you can see across, we have the -- right after community resources we have the activities, program or major funding streams, target populations, geographic locations, industry sectors, and content types. As I mentioned earlier, there's also a search bar to the top if you would like to do a search by keywords.

Our new featured content has information organized in four main contents, as I also mentioned earlier. And next, I will be turning it over to Alex to talk to you about the NFJP resources. So welcome, Alex.

ALEX NALLIN: Thanks, Juan. So yeah, looking at the featured content page, on the left-hand side you see that link that says National Farmworker Jobs Program. And if you click that, that's going to take you to the NFJP landing page.

So now that we're on the landing page, we see that the big focus is that there is four content areas. Now, over here in related content, you see those exact same content areas. There is no difference between the two. Also, on this page you see this pop-up box. That's not going to be on the actual website. That's just a magnification for us so that we can better see what these links actually say.

So as we can see, there's four links on the page. We have NFJP overview and fact sheet, NFJP grant administration and operations, NFJP grant reporting, and NFJP service delivery. So we're just going to go through and look at each one of these content areas really quickly so that we can understand what each one entails.

So if we click on that first link, NFJP overview and fact sheet. Now, again, this looks like it's a pop-up box. In actuality, it's going to take you to a new landing page. We're just giving this box here so that we can keep it all in context with the rest of the site.

So we click on that first link, overview and fast sheet, and this leads us to this next landing page. So we have NFJP videos. That's just going to be a five-minute introductory video to somebody who's new to the NFJP program just to give them a 10,000-foot view of what the whole program is about.

Next, we have the DOLETA NFJP webpage. That's Department of Labor, ETA webpage, and that's going to have grant information, policies, reporting summaries, et cetera, just a myriad of resources. And that's going to be found over on that website.

And then there's going to be the NFJP Program Guide, and that's going to be a downloadable PDF for grantees and staff. And that can be used as a desk reference or a quick consulting resource. And then finally, the NFJP fact sheet.

OK. So moving on, we see that second link, NFJP grant administration and operations. OK. So this -- again, this is going to be a very large myriad of resources. This is going to pertain to guidance, webinars, and information related to operating an NFJP grant.

Now, we're not going to go through every single part here, but we're at least going to go through these subtitles just to give everybody an idea of what this entails. So first, we have the Funding Opportunity Announcement in case anybody needs any kind of a refresher on that. Next, we have the laws and regulations, and that's going to include links to the WIOA Final Rule and the uniform administrative requirements.

Next, we're going to have guidance, and that's going to be guidance issued by DOL and, most importantly, that's going to contain the relevant TEGLs. Next, we have reporting, and that's going to be resources related to narrative, performance, and fiscal reporting requirements for the grantees.

Next, we have ETA grant administration resources, and that's going to be the ETA Grantee Handbook and the Core Monitoring Guide section related to grant operations. Next, we have NFJP specific grant administration resources. So that's going to be the NFJP Program Guide and a resource page for other grant management resources.

We have grant financial management resources, so as the title suggests, the Core Monitoring Guide section related to financial management and technical assistance guide.

And then finally, the online training modules. And this is going to be especially notable because this is going to include online trainings on the Uniform Guidance administrative requirements, financial management, indirect costs, cost allocation, audit, closeout. All of those categories are going to be covered in these online training modules. And that's all going to be found under that second hyperlink, grant administration and operations.

OK. Moving on to the third content area, and this one is going to be NFJP reporting. So this is going to include quarterly narratives, performance, and financial reporting. So looking at each subtitle again, we have guidance, and that's going to be the ETA guidance related to reporting, including the relevant TEGLs.

We're going to have the quarterly financial reporting or the 9130s. So that's going to be a link to the DOL financial reporting page, the 9130 FAQs, financial reporting resources, and the NFJP 9130 report.

Quarterly performance reporting, and that's going to include resources related to performance reporting, including the narrative and performance report and has links to the DOL performance reporting page and the Performance Reporting Community of Practice.

And then finally, once again at the bottom, we have training modules. So these are going to be online training modules specifically pertaining to reporting, as well as the overview training of the financial report. That's all under that third content area of grant reporting.

And then finally, we'll have the last one, and this is going to be NFJP service delivery. This is going to pertain to program eligibility, enrollment, partnerships, and outreach. So the first point is going to be eligibility and enrollment. So that's going to pertain to guidance and technical assistance resources like flow charts, FAQs, and webinars to assist grantees with eligibility and enrollment of participants.

Next, we're going to see partnerships, and that's going to be resources related to partnerships in the NFJP grantees. That's going to include information like business engagement, collaboration, and MOUs.

And then finally, we're going to have outreach, and that's going to be resources related to outreach in terms of participants. And there is information for outreach strategies for certain populations, and those include farmworkers, businesses, and other stakeholders and youth.

OK. So that is, again, the 10,000-foot view of the NFJP portal in Ag Connect. So at this point I'm going to turn it back over to Juan, and he's going to discuss the Monitor Advocate System portal.

MR. REGALADO: Thank you, Alex. Great presentation there.

So again, when you go from one content area to the other, the best way to do it is going back to -- and thank you for the reminder on the -- on our green arrow, Alex. It's always great to go back to the -- to the homepage so you can begin at the featured content area.

So now, we're going to click on the MAS, the Monitor Advocate System -- sorry about that -- the MAS system right here where you will be taken to the webpage that is the content area primarily and more relevant to the Monitor Advocate System.

The -- within the -- this page is divided into three content areas. As you can see here, we have the MAS overview and fact sheets, the MAS training modules. You've heard about training modules in NFJP and WorkforceGPS. Of course we also have the Monitor Advocate System training modules, and we'll go into each one of these sections in a bit. And then of course the MAS regulations and guidance.

You will notice that when you can click on the links in the middle of the page [inaudible]. As far as Alex mentioned already, you can also see the content area in this section here. So let's look at each of these categories separately.

When you click on the -- again, the pop-up window will show you the MAS overview, the monitor advocate meetings, the State Monitor Advocate System, fact sheets, the complaint system, and we don't see it here but the other monitor advocate meeting information. We have the MAS complaint system, the acronym glossary, and outreach program fact sheet.

Additionally, we have the state monitor -- within the training modules, these are the training modules related to the Monitor Advocate System, and they include the state monitor advocate roles and the state monitor advocate, you've probably heard many times mention these training modules. We have training modules – (inaudible) – state monitor advocate roles, the agricultural outreach training, and the complaint system.

Lastly, the content are that relates to Monitor Advocate System is regulations and guidance. These resources include the following, historical information regarding the Judge Richey Court Order and the formation of why we exist; right? The regulations regarding -- and this has links to the Code of Federal Regulations regarding the Monitor Advocate System and then the Training and Employment Guidance Letters and Training and Employment Notices.

We have the various advisories that are I guess, again, pertinent to the Monitor Advocate System and some other regulations such as the preamble to the WIOA Act and other regulations that, again, are permanent -- pertinent to the Monitor Advocate System.

We'll turn it over to -- back to Alex to talk about the success stories and promising practices, and again, back to the featured content page.

MR. NALLIN: Yeah. So on the featured content page, all we're going to do is look at this upper right hyperlink, MSFW success stories and promising practices. And that's going to take us to our next landing page.

So MSFW success stories and promising practices is made for both NFJP and monitor advocate audiences, and there's four main content areas that are displayed on this page. And again, we're just going to go through each of them briefly just so that we're all aware of what they entail.

So the first one is going to be perform better on-the-job series. And this is going to be resources that will help to make you as a provider more efficient in that specific area. So again, the big focus there is you as the provider.

The second one is service delivery. OK. These are going to be practices and success stories that focus on interactions delivering to the customers. Now, again, we see that there's a pretty lengthy list of resources, but some examples there, we see customer flow scenarios in One-Stop centers. We see business engagement in action. We see on-the-job training models for farmworkers, and we see reentry and employment toolkit. So myriad of resources there to better equip services that we deliver to the client.

Now, the other two content areas, unfortunately, are not shown in this screenshot, but the third one is interviews and first-person accounts. So that's going to include our Voices from the Field video series, as well as podcasts from participants in the program.

And then finally, the fourth content area is going to be report. And that includes resources related to MSFWs. Big example there is going to be the immigration report and impacts on farmworkers and agricultural communities.

Now, the great thing about this page is that we are going to consistently update it with new success stories and promising practices as they come in. So that will be very exciting to see the information that you give us to be turned around, displayed here, and then used as a resource to help the entire rest of the community.

So that is the 10,000-foot view of the success stories and promising practices, and at this point I'll go ahead and turn it back to Juan for the next section.

MR. REGALADO: Thank you, Alex. And again, back to the featured content. As we've mentioned before, this is the best way to have you go back from content to content. And we're going to be talking about the special topic resource page. And just like the success stories and promising practices, this is also primarily for the benefit of both the NFJP grantees and the Monitor Advocate System audiences.

The content includes all these webpages, they have so much information, but hopefully, during the live demonstration I can show you a couple of tricks to navigate and be more confident using the -- the Ag Connect.

So we have the data analysis, the disaster preparedness, specifically webinars related to disaster preparedness and responses for the benefit of assisting migrant seasonal farmworkers, human trafficking, training and resources related to human trafficking, the safety and health, training and resources related to safety and health of migrant seasonal farmworkers.

We don't see it in this page. We also have contacts and directories. These are contacts for other services that may be beneficial to staff working with migrant seasonal farmworkers and miscellaneous resources. This includes training modules and other resources available for -- also for your benefit.

And as Alex mentioned, we're excited that you all are getting this overview of the Ag Connect, and please share your stories. Share your success stories, any special topics that you would like us to include. As Alex mentioned, we'll update it as information is coming in because it's basically for your benefit.

At the beginning of this Ag Connect, before we came into GPS, this was actually only for NFJP grantees, and then monitor advocates, just a little bit of history. But now, it's open of course to the whole wide world. So we want to make sure that it's beneficial to grantees, to monitor advocates across the nation and our outreach workers and case managers as we have present here during today's webinar.

And at this point -- and again, if you have any questions, please put them in the main chat room, and we'll answer them here in a few minutes. But at this point what I'd like to do is take us to a live demo. And I'm always weary and I'm always a little bit nervous once we start doing the live demo. You never know what's going to happen. So -- but let's keep our fingers crossed that it works as we planned it.

So at this point what I want to do is to kind of do a live demo so I can show you just what the actual web -- Ag Connection looks like and maybe do a couple of keyword searches. And we're just waiting for the Ag Connect webpage to come up. There it is.

So this would be the Ag Connection website, and as you can see, it will have the welcome section, the featured content as you scroll down the homepage, the -- and the rest of the content areas that I -- that I went over and that Alex of course presented on.

And what we would like to do is do a keyword search, if I -- I'm not sure if I have access to it, but if not, Jen, if you could do a keyword search for -- for human trafficking, for instance. And you can, again, do the keyword searches from the homepage, or you can do keyword searches from within each of the content areas.

And so let's see what we can do here with the live search. OK. (Inaudible) – again because we're doing live, it might be a little bit slower in the process of accessing the -- our website that we would like to show you. But if -- Jen, if you could do a keyword search for -- there we go. Yeah. It's coming through.

So once you do a keyword search, what the system will do is, because we're still within the Ac Connection, it will give you a list. As you can see here, it will give you a list of all the places that have the human trafficking keyword in them. And this one, for instance, if you go down to -- to the -- if you can click on the -- Jen, if you can click on the text says Workforce Commission's efforts against human trafficking.

Any of the ones that you click on, it will take you to another page -- another landing page where it will tell you a little bit more. It will give you more information about what the space is about. However, it's -- and then the relevant content will be on -- we mentioned earlier, will be on the left-hand side. And I believe the Texas should be coming up, the Texas Workforce Commission. And these are just sites.

Some of them might be links to other sites. Some of them -- as you can see right here, some of them will be links. Some of them will -- under related content there will be links. There will be PDF files, like in this case. There will be documents. And then once you click on the link, you can actually download the document, and you can save it to your -- to your files.

So, Jen, if we could go back to the homepage once again. So basically, this is the live demo of your Ag Connection, and I'll open it up for now. Let me -- and there's the PDF file from the Texas Workforce Commission on human trafficking. By the way, this is -- anybody looking into what -- to expand on your human trafficking activities and what you can be involved in, this is a great report here from Texas and the great things that are -- they're doing in Texas on human trafficking.

So again, resources like that that are beneficial to both NFJP and Monitor Advocate System and outreach workers and case managers. This is for your use. So thank you, Jen.

MS. PIRTLE: OK.

MR. REGALADO: Just one more, if we -- I think we have time to do one more keyword search because this is something that talk about how frequent you access it. I think Lianna, Alex, and I are always in our Ag Connection, and we were there this morning doing a keyword search for wage an hour. So if you could do a keyword -- one final keyword search for wage an hour, Jen, I would really appreciate it.

MS. PIRTLE: Yeah. Juan, I think you're on a delay because we can actually see.

MR. REGALADO: OK.

MS. PIRTLE: Yeah. It's already come up for everyone watching.

MR. REGALADO: So I'm the one on the -- all right. Good. Thanks. Thanks for the heads up there. Yeah. So great. Thank you.

So the best way to me is keyword searches, but you can actually go in and do a -- by featured content and access the information that you're looking for that way.

So the -- and for instance, here, again, it gives you the list of the places, and what's interesting in looking at the agriculture employment and under wage an hour, it's right in the middle there, Jen. So -- because I want to show everybody and mostly for the Monitor Advocate System, but I think it's also relevant to the National Farmworker Jobs Program grantees because it's the wage an hour agriculture employment website has a lot.

Again, just like our -- they're not a CoP per se, but it's a webpage where you can access a lot of information regarding that LSA, the MSFPA, the Migrant Seasonal Farmworker Protection Act, the information related to assisting your agriculture employers as well. So again, it's just a way of accessing it.

And again, when you click on it, it's going to take you still within the -- our website initially, but once you click on the -- the link on the relevant content, it will actually take you to the website. For instance, in this case, U.S. DOL's agriculture -- I mean, Wage and Hour Division's website. So thank you. Thank you, Jen.

So that's basically the live -- the live demo of the Ag Connect, and if we could get back to the presentation, I would appreciate it, Jen. Thank you.

And then just the resources. Finally, the resources. We've talked about the WorkforceGPS and the Agricultural Connection Community of Practice. So I'll take it from here. Thank you. So these are our resources.

The next is a recap and -- the recap of what we've talked about today. And again, any questions that you might have, please share them with us, and we'll try and answer them at the beginning -- at the end of the presentation there.

During this webinar we shared information with you about WorkforceGPS and how to navigate the site as well as how you -- show you the benefits of MyWorkforceGPS.

MR. NALLIN: We viewed the new Agricultural Connection Community of Practice.

MR. REGALADO: And we shared some of the resources that we have highlighted in our featured resource section. So thank you very much. I hope it's been informative, and I hope you can continue navigating, using, and give us feedback on how we can improve it.

And before I go into the questions, I'll ask one final polling question. How confident do you feel now about navigating and using the Agricultural Connection? Aw. Great. Thank you.

Hopefully -- and again, we're here to assist you, your federal project officers, your regional monitor advocates, your -- here in the national office, any questions you might have and of course through the GPS. And use the Ag Connection and use the -- thank you very much for the polling question.

And I'll turn it over to -- if we have any questions, I'll turn it over to Laura for any final comments.

MS. IBANEZ: Thank you, Juan and Alex and Jen. That was a great presentation. We're hoping that today we gave you a better sense of how to navigate the new site. It's always something when you go to a site and you know what you're looking for and you can't find it. And you're like, where did it go? So hopefully, by today you do have a sense of maybe where some of your favorite resources are now located.

And again, it's also great way to keep -- stay informed about what the department's doing not only on Agricultural Connection but also on the other communities of practice. And so I'd strongly encourage you, if you're not already a member, please join us. It's a great way to find out about future events such as webinars.

And just a tip that I would advise you on is that for a while I was like, I'm never getting these e-mails. And I found them all in my clutter inbox. So I would just strongly encourage you, if you sign up and you're not getting the e-mails, go and then you can somehow adjust it so that you are getting the e-mails from WorkforceGPS and they're not being sent to your clutter box automatically.

Those are just the final comments that I have, and again, we think we're moving towards the right direction. If you have any feedback for us on how we can continue to make improvements, please let us know.

I know that I put out a question out there about what your favorite resource is, and I know that Jen also put out a question in the main chat. So we still have an opportunity to take any questions or comments. We have about ten minutes left.

MS. PIRTLE: So this is Jen. We did have one question come in earlier about what state Juan was focusing on when talking about the promising practices and success stories. And there were some specific examples from states that we had in there, but the information is to be general and to be used by everyone. So most of this is national information and general in nature, but some of the success stories and promising practices are focused on one grantee or one individual. So that may -- to give you examples.

And then, Laura and Juan and Alex, we had another question about when will the department hold a national conference for outreach workers.

MS. IBANEZ: Of course this is a great time to ask that question. I know that the Monitor Advocate System team is really working hard on its conference approval package. And so we are looking for sometime next year in the spring. Juan, would you like to add anything about that?

MR. REGALADO: Well, thank you, Laura. Yes.

We are working on our conference approval package for the national training for the state monitor advocates. This year -- or next year -- next year's training will only be for the state monitor advocates for now.

The question, when will the Department of Labor hold a national conference for outreach workers? It's been my dream ever since I started as a national monitor advocate. It is -- logistically and financially, it makes it a little bit more difficult to bring all the outreach workers. But definitely, you better bring -- send us ideas of what you would like to see for the outreach workers.

I mentioned in my invite to make sure that we included and invited the outreach webinars to this webinar, but in lieu of -- in the absence of a national conference that might not come in soon for outreach workers, we definitely could do a webinar. And I know it's not the same, but send us ideas of how we can disseminate or how we can provide training to the outreach workers and send us ideas through your state monitor advocates, your regional monitor advocates. And then we can take a look and see what we can do.

Again, in the absence of a national conference in person, national conference, we could definitely conduct and provide technical assistance and training to the state -- to the outreach workers across the nation through this platform, through a webinar. Thank you.

MS. PIRTLE: Yeah. And we did have one other mention was that this event was not listed on the Ag Connection page. And that was an error. We should have had it posted there. It was sent out by the program office to a special e-mail list. So it wasn't actually made publicly available for anyone, and so that's probably why it wasn't listed there. But we'll take that note and see if we can do that again in the future for future events.

MR. REGALADO: Right. Right. And I'm looking at some of the -- what used to be a big concern is the outdated information, and I want to thank of course Maher and Maher, Jen, our folks at GPS, Laura. We've really dedicated a lot of time to really having pertinent information and information that you can use that is not outdated.

You might still see some that happened here with the Ag Connection for the webinar today. You might still see some dead links within because we have so much information out there that we continually look at making sure that it is relevant information, it's current information, and it's information that you can use. So you might find some dead links. If you find them, send them our way, and we'll make sure that we update them or we delete them from the Ag Connection. So thank you.

Any other questions?

MS. IBANEZ: Thank you, Juan. This is Laura. I just -- again, thank you for all the feedback that you're giving us in the main chat. We really appreciate it. We do hope to continue the conversation, and we look forward to hearing from all of you.

MR. REGALADO: I was actually -- when we were preparing for the webinar, I was actually going to give you all some homework. I was going to ask you, once you register for GPS, which is now we know you are all registered because you are here at this webinar, update your profile.

Put a picture up there. Put your background. This is your place. This is where we can highlight – (inaudible) – folks and remind folks that we need to keep telling our stories. And this is the place where we can tell our stories through the promising practices, through success stories, and so on.

But take a look at your profile. Update it, and then go out and look at the directory. Who's in our directory? And pick somebody. I often get questions of how -- where is a state monitor advocate or – (inaudible) – that I can reach out to to help me in these areas? This is another way of reaching out and contacting your peers. So update your profile, and take a look at the directory and update it. No prizes today, Jen.

MS. PIRTLE: Laura, I'm seeing someone say something about prizes.

MR. REGALADO: I was --

MS. PIRTLE: We don't have any prizes that I know of for today, but thinking about prizes, I think it's a great way to motivate your staff by maybe offering a little prize or innovation to create your profile.

I know that Juan definitely wins here on our team who has a picture of himself and a great description of what he does here at Department of Labor.

MR. REGALADO: Thank you.

MS. PIRTLE: I see that there's no more comments from -- yeah.

MR. REGALADO: (Inaudible).

MS. PIRTLE: Yeah. That is such a great suggestion for a future webinar topic because we are starting to learn a little bit more about who is actually established, an MOU between monitor advocate state -- or monitor state advocates and a -- goodness. I'm sorry -- state monitor advocates and NFJP grantees. So, Juan, that's definitely something that we should look into.

MR. REGALADO: Yes. Definitely. And we do have in our regulations and the state monitoring site, on the Wagner-Peyser site, the fact that there should be an MOU. But I've -- as I've always mentioned and as I train throughout all these years, even before the updated regulations, when you develop an MOU, memorandum of understanding, with your partner, I see it more of a reflect- -- it should be more of a reflection of your relationship than it is in complying with the regulations.

It's all about relationships. And yes. Definitely we can take a look at this, and we can put something together to assist those places where these relationships do not exist. And we need to enhance them. We need to improve them. So yes. We can definitely take a look at that and maybe make it part of the -- of our next webinar. So thank you. Yes.

MS. PIRTLE: OK. I think we can turn it over to Grace because I think our time's about up.

MR. REGALADO: Could we just answer that last question, Jen, if possible?

MS. PIRTLE: Sure.

MR. REGALADO: It says that you're not logged in. Will you receive an e-mail notification regarding a message in Ag Connection?

MS. PIRTLE: So if you're -- I'm not exactly sure what the question is, but if you are talking about a message from the membership -- the membership list, then that will go directly to your e-mail. It will be just an e-mail message to you from the individual.

But if you're talking about new resources, those get posted in a weekly digest of e-mails. And if you are -- digest in a newsletter type thing. And if you are on the mailing list, so there's an option for you to check that, and then you'll get an e-mail notification. But you -- if you're not logged in -- unless you're logged in, that's the only for a chat feature. I hope that answers your question.

MR. REGALADO: Great. Thanks. Thanks, Jen.

MS. PIRTLE: OK.

(END)