Dear Employer,

The MultiCultural Outreach Program is a not-for-profit organization that offers English classes, referral services, support and advocacy for Hispanic workers and their families who work on farms and small businesses in Lafayette, Grant, Iowa and Richland Counties.

We have long been aware that many of our Spanish speaking friends drive to work and most do not qualify for drivers’ licenses. Until the law changes in Wisconsin (as it already has in Illinois and a number of states), this problem continues.

In an effort to avoid our clients being taken to jail for minor traffic violations (taillight out, no license, etc.), we held a very productive meeting with the sheriffs and police chiefs in our 4-county service area this spring.

The law enforcement officials all agreed that it would be helpful to their officers if Hispanic drivers without a license had some other form of ID that would establish their ties to the local community.

Attached is a sample of the card that has been created for this purpose. Note that there is a place for the name of a community contact. We are hoping you will be willing to be that contact, since law enforcement leaders tell us that they are sympathetic to the need for our clients to get to their place of employment and the needs of area farmers and other employers.

Because the cards will contain the photo, name and address of those receiving the ID card and the name and address of the person’s employer or other contact, the police will know that he/she lives and works in the area.
These cards are not to be used in any other situation, and they are not official government documents. Every person will decide whether they wish to use the ID card or not.

It is also important for you to know that the MultiCultural Outreach Program (MCOP) will not retain any of the information once the card is issued.

If you are interested being part of this effort, we ask that you sign below, in order to help your employees and their family members. If you have any questions about these cards or your participation, please call me at 608-623-2109 or email at grassroots@merr.com

Shirley Barnes, Chair
MultiCultural Outreach Program
608-623-2109
FOR THE MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

I agree to have my name, phone number and the name of my business listed as a contact on MCOP ID forms for my employees and their family members.

__________________________________________________________
Signature                                    Phone

__________________________________________________________
Print Name                              Date

__________________________________________________________
Name and Address of Business

For more information contact: Luz Nereida Burkhart, 608-642-1753
"This card is intended to demonstrate the bearer's identity and local ties to the community, and is not a government ID."

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