

Background

- **Migrant farmworkers** in NC experience **higher rates of depression and anxiety** than other US states¹
- **Social isolation** is a known contributor to poor mental health of migrant workers²
- **Poor connectivity** and **cell service** on farms worsens social isolation
- Digital inclusion efforts show promise in **improving mental and physical health** of vulnerable populations like migrant farmworkers³
- Our team is conducting a **RAPID REVIEW**⁴ of digital inclusion interventions amongst vulnerable populations with the **goals** of:
 1. **Examine** the effectiveness and utility of digital inclusion interventions for vulnerable populations
 2. **Review** the outcomes of published strategies used to promote digital inclusion in vulnerable populations
 3. **Identify & Suggest** best practices for digital inclusion efforts based on data (qualitative or quantitative) of the included studies

Rapid Review Methodology



Potential Impact

The impact of this rapid review is **not directly handing technology** into the hands of a migrant farmworker, but rather **influencing the infrastructure** for change in the long run by:

- 1) Documenting and presenting research findings **to legislators or the private sector** that illustrate what the problem is as unbiased as possible
- 2) Producing materials for **farmworkers, farmers, community health workers, and public librarians** to inform them on **how to discuss digital inclusion efforts with broadband policymakers**

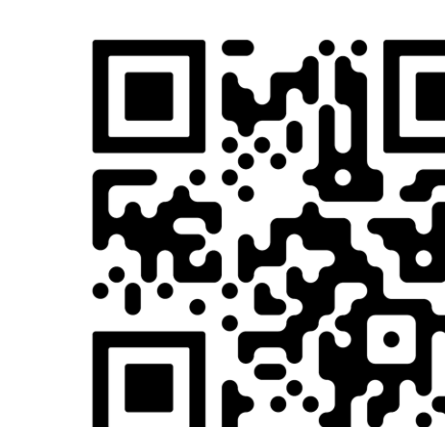
“We, at Laupus Library, believe that **internet access should be a human right**... this research will help us to find ways to close those gaps for the most vulnerable members of our society.”

- Jamie Bloss, health sciences research librarian and associate professor at ECU.

Acknowledgements

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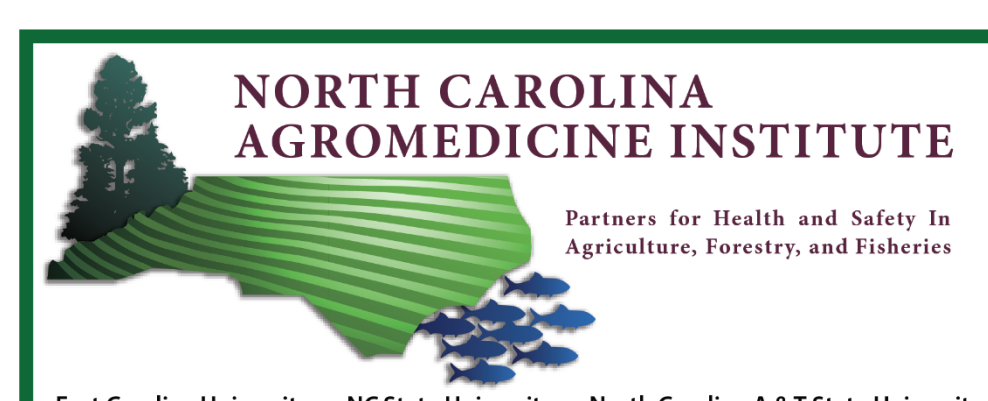
References



Community Partners

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

UNC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Family Medicine



Vulnerable Populations defined as:

- Racially-/Ethnically minoritized populations
- Indigenous populations
- Populations living in medically underserved areas including rural and urban or settlements
- LGBTQIA+ populations
- Unhoused people
- Disabled people
- Older adults
- H2A / H2B migrant workers
- Those with limited English language proficiency
- Low socioeconomic status populations
- Refugee, migrant, and immigrant populations
- Medically uninsured populations