



The Rachel Carson Council is saddened to learn of the tragic bus accident resulting in the deaths of eight migrant farmworkers in Ocala, Florida, eighty miles north of Orlando. Six of the eight victims have been identified. We would like to extend our sincerest condolences to the families and friends of Alfredo Tovar Sánchez (20), Isaías Miranda Pascal (21), Cristian Salazar Villeda (24), José Heriberto Fraga Acosta (27), Evarado Ventura Hernández (30), and Manual Pérez Ríos (46). Their untimely deaths leave children, spouses, family, and friends mourning. In the face of such a high number of casualties, we are reminded of the unsafe, discriminatory conditions that many farmworkers brave each day to make a living. Farmworkers are key pillars of support in our food industry, and as we continue to fight for greener, more sustainable agricultural systems and practices in the United States, it is critical that we also include expanded rights for agricultural workers. The Rachel Carson Council will continue to advocate for the health, livelihood, and safety of agricultural workers whether it be through grassroots organizing, or advocating with Congressional offices to promote sensible policy solutions such as **The Agricultural Worker Justice Act**. The RCC is committed to creating a just, equitable future for all.

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