

## **Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic Receives Generous, Life-Saving Gift** *AgroFresh provides three ultra-cold freezers for COVID-19 vaccine*

December 21, 2020 – YAKIMA, WA - Late Thursday afternoon, Senior Director of Quality Lori Kelley received a phone call from [AgroFresh Solutions, Inc.](#) They were loaning three of their ultra-cold freezers and wanted to know if our clinics had a need.

“This has been an incredibly hard week; I was so overwhelmed with gratitude that their call almost reduced me to tears,” Kelley said.

It is widely known that the Pfizer vaccine, the first to be available to the public, must be stored in special ultra-cold freezers, which has resulted in shortages of this specialized equipment.

“We thought it was going to be April before we were able to procure one,” Kelley said.

AgroFresh, a global leader in produce freshness solutions, has an R&D lab and regional service center in Yakima. Employees there realized they could be part of the COVID-19 response by making available three of their ultra-cold freezers.

Throughout the course of the pandemic, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic has been working with the agricultural community to perform mass testing. AgroFresh was one of many of the partners that who worked with Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic to ensure essential workers are protected, tested, and treated.

“We serve such a large number of people who otherwise wouldn’t have access to primary care,” Kelley said.

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic provides comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health, and social services for more than 181,000 people.

“We are the best place to ensure that the most vulnerable in our community have access to this life-saving vaccine,” Kelley added.

The majority of our valley is considered critical infrastructure and therefore unable to stay at home or work remotely. This is such a blessing for us. This will enable us to more quickly and efficiently serve our patients and our community.”

These three specialized freezers will alleviate some burden for Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic and nearby hospitals that have been supporting the state vaccine response. The freezers will be used in Yakima, Toppenish, and Grandview.

“We live and work across the Yakima Valley and consider ourselves part of the local community,” said Paul Nelson, Commercial Director North America for AgroFresh, who is based in Yakima. “We are incredibly pleased to be able to support local agricultural workers and their families and accelerate our area’s ability to reduce the impact of this global pandemic.”

As AgroFresh staff left to deliver the other freezers to Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic locations in Toppenish and Grandview, a member of the local AgroFresh team said, “You know, my parents go to this clinic. My grandparents went here and my family goes to this clinic. It means so much to us to be able to contribute back to an organization that has done so much for the community.”

\*\*\*\*\*

**About Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic:** *a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that provides comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health, and social services for more than 181,000 people. We employ 1,623 full-time staff and 775 part-time staff, medical residents, dental residents, administrative fellows, students, and volunteers. Facilities: 62 unique service locations in Washington (Benton, Franklin, Spokane, Whitman, and Yakima counties) and Oregon (Clatsop, Marion, Multnomah, Umatilla, and Yamhill counties) Our Mission: Together we are dedicated to lead, with the courage to care, the determination to promote personal growth, and the compassion to champion the cause of those who have no voice. Visit: [www.yvfwc.com](http://www.yvfwc.com)*

**About AgroFresh** *AgroFresh (Nasdaq: AGFS) is a leading AgTech innovator and provider of science-based solutions, data-driven technologies and experience-backed services to enhance the quality and extend the shelf life of fresh produce. For more than 20 years, AgroFresh has been revolutionizing the apple industry and has launched new innovative solutions in a variety of fresh produce categories from bananas to cherries and citrus to pears. AgroFresh supports growers, packers and retailers by providing near- and post-harvest solutions across the industry to enhance crop values while conserving our planet’s resources and reducing global food waste. AgroFresh operates a state-of-the-art research laboratory and regional service center in Yakima, WA. Visit [agrofresh.com](http://agrofresh.com) to learn more.*

## Blog

It is widely known that the Pfizer vaccine, the first to be available to the public, must be stored in special ultra-cold freezers, which has resulted in shortages of this specialized equipment. At Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, it was looking like we weren't going to be able to acquire one of these freezers until at least April of 2021. Then a miracle happened.

Senior Director of Quality Lori Kelley received a phone call from [AgroFresh Solutions, Inc.](#) They were loaning three of their ultra-cold freezers and wanted to know if our clinics had a need.

"I was so overwhelmed with gratitude that their call almost reduced me to tears," Kelley said.

AgroFresh, a global leader in produce freshness solutions, has a service center in Yakima, and employees there realized they could be part of the COVID-19 response by making available three of their ultra-cold freezers.

Throughout the course of the pandemic, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic has been working with the agricultural community to perform mass testing. AgroFresh was one of many of the partners that worked with our organization to ensure essential workers are protected, tested, and treated.

"The majority of our valley is considered critical infrastructure and is unable to stay at home or work remotely. This is such a blessing for us. This will enable us to more quickly and efficiently serve our patients and our community," Kelley said.

These three specialized freezers will alleviate some burden for Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic and nearby hospitals that have been supporting the state vaccine response. The freezers will be used in Yakima, Toppenish, and Grandview.

"We live and work across the Yakima Valley and consider ourselves part of the local community," said Paul Nelson, Commercial Director North America for AgroFresh. "We are incredibly pleased to be able to support local agricultural workers and their families and accelerate our area's ability to reduce the impact of this global pandemic."

As AgroFresh staff left to deliver the other freezers to Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic locations in Toppenish and Grandview, a member of the local AgroFresh team said, "You know, my parents go to this clinic. My grandparents went here and my family goes to this clinic. It means so much to us to be able to contribute back to an organization that has done so much for the community."