The situation for tobacco farmworkers in North Carolina is dire.

A report from Oxfam America and the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) released last year showed that many tobacco farmworkers often live in labor camps with inadequate or non-functioning toilets and showers and other substandard conditions, suffer from illnesses resulting from nicotine poisoning and exposure to dangerous pesticides and work long hours for below poverty wages.

Large tobacco companies make billions from the labor of tobacco farmworkers.
Did you know...

>Thousands of NC tobacco farmworkers continue to live in poverty.
>Half of those are not able to feed their families.
>Thousands of tobacco farmworkers live in housing unfit for human habitation.
>Many are at risk of heat stroke in the fields because they do not have access to clean drinking water.

Reynolds American is the largest tobacco company in North Carolina, one of the largest tobacco companies in the US and a leader in the tobacco industry. In 2011, Reynolds made nearly 1.4 billion dollars in profits; Reynolds CEO Daniel Delen was paid 8.5 million dollars.

Since 2007, farmworkers have been organizing with FLOC, which represents thousands of agricultural workers, to get tobacco giant Reynolds American to help improve living and working conditions in the fields of the tobacco growers they contract with. Finally, in June 2012, FLOC and Reynolds American met directly for the first time, after years of advocacy by labor and civil rights groups, religious and student communities, and concerned consumers.

Reynolds American claims that the company has taken steps to ensure that exploitative conditions do not exist on their contract farms, but there are important steps that still need to be taken to guarantee that tobacco farmworkers have a safe and healthy work place and receive fair compensation. Reynolds should work with FLOC to develop a written agreement that guarantees freedom of association and collective bargaining to tobacco farmworkers.

We demand

A fair day’s pay for a fair day’s work. A safe workplace. Decent housing. A written agreement guaranteeing farmworkers’ right to freedom of association and collective bargaining.

Join us.

www.floc.com

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