



Monthly Newsletter

YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY INFORMATION

If you want a printed copy in English, please call us at 5 505-246-1627

Two years of tirelessly fighting: Healthy Workforce ABQ to Continue Fight for Workers' Right to Earn Paid Sick Leave

On election day, we saw what happens when corporate interests get involved in ABQ politics. With their scare tactics, and their outright lies—they were able to defeat the Healthy Workforce ABQ initiative to bring earned sick time to all workers. However, we are not giving up, we vow to continue fighting to ensure that all workers have access to paid sick leave, after unofficial election returns showed a narrow margin of 718 votes against the ordinance. Our members support the 107,000 workers in ABQ who aren't able to earn paid sick time. And our members and allies are not giving up! Together, we will continue work alongside our families to ensure we all have what we need to thrive. Our work will continue in ABQ and across the state.

Through this campaign, our members talked to more than 90,000 people in neighborhoods across the city. Together with our coalition partners, we talked to more than 36,000 people by phone. We found leaders in our community, from small business owners and teachers to healthcare professionals, who shared their support in the media and on the airwaves.

When our coalition of organizations that work with low-wage workers, the Healthy Workforce Coalition ABQ, launched our Healthy Workforce ABQ campaign for earned paid sick days in the summer of 2015, our members worked diligently, with the technical assistance of the Center on Law and Poverty on crafting legislation that would protect the health and safety of all Albuquerque families. We launched the campaign on Mother's Day in 2016 and it was our community members who announced the initiative, and now, it is the voters of our city who can make earned paid sick days a reality for all workers in Albuquerque. Together, we collected over 24,000

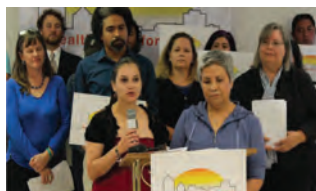
signatures to place the Healthy Workforce Act on this year's ballot. In days leading up to elections, our members were day and night advocating in favor of the Earned Paid Sick Ordinance. Our members distributed information to educate voters in several ABQ mayoral forums and multiple interviews with English and Spanish speaking media and participating in multiple press conferences on how access to Earned Paid Sick Leave would make our communities safer and healthier.

"I have never had earned paid sick days. I have a child with autism, and many times I have had to choose between taking him to his medical appointments or not receiving a day's worth of pay," said Edgar Salinas, a low-wage immigrant worker and an active member of El CENTRO. "It is regrettable that well-funded groups, driven by greed, instead of sound policy, choose to undermine working families' ability to care for one another rather than strengthen and support the workers who are a cornerstone of the economy. We, ABQ's working families, will continue to fight for our rights to support our families and strengthen ABQ. La lucha sigue!"

Other election results as known by the time of printing are:

For Mayor: Tim Keller received the majority of votes. The runoff election will be between Tim Keller and Dan Lewis on Nov 14th.

For City Councilors: Klarissa Peña (D), Ken Sanchez (D), Cynthia Borrego (D), Diane Gibson (D), and Don Harris (GOP), Don Aragon (GOP)



DACA-Community Meeting. Our Fight Continues

On September 5th, in the wake of the Trump administration's announcement to rescind DACA, El CENTRO, allies, and elected officials denounced Trump's decision as heartless, cruel, and counter to the cultural, moral, social, and economic interests of the nation. El CENTRO and the immigrants' rights movement is now pushing for a "clean" DREAM Act that would provide protections for DREAMers that are not linked to increased funding for border militarization, the targeting of and criminalization of immigrant workers, and the expansion of federal detention and deportation programs. That same day, El CENTRO joined students from the South Valley Academy for a walkout and rally organized by the New

Dream Team. Together, we marched to Civic Plaza for a rally to denounce the Trump administration's decision to terminate DACA. Norma Dorado, a member, worker, and a mother of a DACA beneficiary, represented El CENTRO's membership at the rally with her speech on the impact of DACA's termination on NM working families. On Friday that week, El CENTRO organized a community meeting to offer a space for our members to process the decision and the implications that it will have for our families, to learn about our labor and civil rights, and to receive legal consults. We are proud to have partnered with the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center. (NMILC). In addition, El CENTRO partnered with NMILC to offer free DACA

Lifting Up Immigrant Voices': Education Session for ABQ Mayoral candidates

On September 13th immigrants' rights organizations—including El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos, NM Dream Team (NMDT), the NM Asian Family Center (NMAFC) and Listo Nuevo México— hosted the 'Lifting Up Immigrant Voices' - Education Session for ABQ Mayoral candidates. A space designed to lift up the voices of the ABQ immigrant community to educate mayoral candidates on the issues that impact our immigrant and working families. This was the first session for mayoral candidates organized by and for immigrant communities. This educational session was particularly essential for this upcoming elections because our members had the opportunity to tell their own stories and to influence the candidates' positions.

The active collaboration of elected officials with immigrant communities has become crucial for the protection and well-being of our immigrant and working families. For this reason, having a well-informed electorate voting in the municipal elections is essential to ensure that future policies are enacted to build communities equipped to fight for local victories that oppose the Trump administration at every turn.

Thank you very much to all our allies and members who participated in this event. It would not have been successful without your participation!!!!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: ELECTION RESULTS

WHEN: Thursday 5th, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm
 WHERE: 714 4th St SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: Membership meetings are always held in Spanish. At this meeting, we will discuss ABO's elections results and our next strategies to keep fighting for our communities.

WORKERS' RIGHTS ORIENTATIONS

WHEN: Oct 16, & 30, & Nov 13 & 27 from 5:30 to 7 pm
 WHERE: 714 4th St SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: Attend these free workshops if you think you've been a victim of wage theft and/or discrimination, and want to learn about your rights and options. Call in advance to reserve your spot, 505-247-1023

CIVIL RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

WHEN: Contact us to schedule and sign up for workshops
 DESCRIPTION: Learn about your civil rights with ICE/police, and how to join the movement to fight back! Contact us at 505-246-1627 or sign up on line at www.elcentronm.org

LEGAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE NM IMMIGRANT LAW CENTER

WHEN: Every Wednesday, 1 to 5 pm
 WHERE: 714 4th St. SW 87102
 DESCRIPTION: Do you need help applying for DACA, citizenship or obtaining a background check? Come on on Wednesdays to sign up for a free consultation with an immigration attorney.

NM IMMIGRANT LAW CENTER PHONE CONSULTATIONS

WHEN: Every Friday, 11 am to 1 pm
 DESCRIPTION: Free legal consults! Call 505-247-1023

For more information about events and to check out our complete Know Your Rights with ICE and Law Enforcement Toolkit at our Website!

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

REMAIN SILENT
 If you are being interrogated by a police officer, jail personnel/corrections officer, or ICE agent you have the right to remain silent—even if you are arrested. You do not have to give information about your country of origin, immigration status, or social security number. Everything you say or do can be used against you. You can give the officer your know-your-rights card.

IN YOUR HOME
 You have the right to not open your door to law enforcement, including ICE. ALL law enforcement needs a warrant signed by a judge to enter your home (an arrest warrant or deportation order is not sufficient).

IN YOUR CAR
 Ask the officer why he stopped you. Show your driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance if requested. Without probable cause, a search warrant, or your permission, an officer does not have the right to inspect your vehicle.

**NEVER SHOW FALSE DOCUMENTS
 DON'T SIGN AWAY YOUR RIGHTS!**
 Do not give false information, including about being a citizen. Do not show any foreign document, such as a passport, consular identification or expired visa that can be used to identify your country of origin/citizenship. Do not sign any documents that you do not understand or without talking to a lawyer.

REMAIN CALM!
 If you run, you may be giving the officer a reason to arrest you. Calmly ask the officer, "Why was I stopped?" Ask "Am I being detained?". If he/she responds, "NO," ask "Can I leave?". If he/she says "YES," assert your right to remain silent and give them your know-your-rights card. If you are arrested, don't resist, remain silent, and contact your attorney.

IF YOU ARE DETAINED!
 • Ask if you are under arrest. If so, you have the right to know the reason. Do not resist an arrest.
 • You have the right to remain silent; not to reveal your country of origin, or how or when you came to this country, or your legal status (including if you are in jail and receive a call from an ICE official or you are interrogated in person or by video).
 • Do not lie or present false papers.
 • Do not sign anything if you do not understand it or without talking to a lawyer about your rights.

USE "MOBILE JUSTICE-NEW MEXICO!"
 Download the mobile application of the ACLU NM to be able to record and keep track of any incident with law enforcement or federal agents.
 Updated March 2017

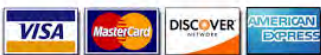
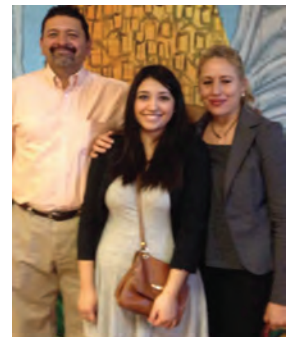
FOR MORE INFORMATION: elcentronm.org (505) 246-1627 

and know-your-rights workshops every Wednesday and Friday during September. Now more than ever it is crucial to connect to the struggle for our families, making sure they know their rights. Our communities are ready to fight and continue to protect each other. We at El CENTRO, along with other immigrant-led organizations around the country, urge Congress to take action to ensure that the approximately 800,000 thousand DREAMers don't lose their work authorization and protection from deportation. We, at El CENTRO, commit to continue fighting and ensuring that our community has all the tools and knowledge available to protect each other. The deadline to submit paperwork to renew DACA is October 5th. Please, go to Listo Nuevo Mexico's website for resources on DACA www.listonm.org.



Luchadora del Mes: Norma Dorado, a mother, low-wage worker, teacher, and a dedicated hard working member

Every month we highlight the work and the story of one without being able to have him in my arms to protect our t active members. This month we highlight Norma and comfort him." After her son was deported, Norma Dorado. Norma is the proud, hardworking mother of two and her family lead statewide campaigns to bring her adult children and the owner of her own business son, and many other victims of deportations, back to the through which she teaches parenting classes. She country they call home. became involved with El CENTRO back in 2002 because Norma's daughter is a DACA beneficiary. Norma she was interested in fighting for better local policies describes "thanks to DACA; other parents have not had that protect immigrant families. to deal with the nightmare that I faced. DACA was made In 2010, Norma's oldest son, Ramon Dorado, was deport- possible through the tireless efforts of our communi- ed back in 2010. The aviation police stopped him. The ties-- mano a mano with youth-- in the struggle for the officer asked him about his status and immediately rights of our families." Norma makes a call of hope to our contacted ICE. Ramon was deported the next day, immigrant communities to continue fighting "in desper Norma explains this traumatizing experience, "As a ate moments like these, we tap into the same resistance mother; it 's hard to explain how traumatic it was to that we had when we were fighting against Mayor experience a deportation within my own family. It is Berry's deportation programs here at home." something that I would never want another person. My Norma is an extraordinary example of a dedicated son was expelled from the country he has called his mother who has tirelessly fought on the front lines to home, and they destroyed our dreams as a family. It was protect New Mexican families. Dedicated members like tough for me to be robbed of my son, we spent four years Norma motivate us at El CENTRO to continue the work without seeing him, without being able to hug him, we do. We at El CENTRO will use everything at our disposal to fight for our families.





JUNTA DE MEMBRESÍA

Jueves 5 de octubre, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos

714 4th St. SW

Discutiremos sobre:

- Los resultados de las elecciones locales sobre días pagados por enfermedad**
 - Resultados en votaciones de alcalde y nuestras próximas estrategias**
 - Cómo continuar en la lucha para defender a nuestras familias.**
- ¡No te lo pierdas!**

Habrà cuidado de niños y una cena ligera.

Para más información, llama a El CENTRO al (505) 246-1627 o danos "LIKE" en nuestra página de Facebook y busca el evento.

Our membership meetings are held in Spanish