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TU FUENTE DE INFORMACIÓN COMUNITARIA

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Albuquerque; A Home for All



A new initiative hopes to help integrate immigrant families in our community and in our country. The initiative was presented on December 17 by EI CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos in conjunction with the city of Albuquerque and other local nonprofit organizations who help refugees and immigrants in our community.

The goal of the program called "Albuquerque is Home" is to continue making Albuquerque a city where anyone is welcomed. The program also will focus on helping people obtain their legal documentation to help them obtain their citizenship. That way they can become citizens that can participate in local and national elections. That way they can use their voices to help pass laws that protect our immigrant families from a possible separation and bills that are pro-immigrant.

"The program "Albuquerque is Home" will lead a comprehensive and innovative channel," said Tim Keller mayor of the city of Albuquerque. "This will combine a training that will help develop leadership within the affected communities and help guide them to legal and financial services and for civic engagement."

It's important to take into account that the immigrant community helps develop our local economy which then benefits all of our residents. Immigrant run businesses have a great impact in our community and their culture helps enrich our community.

"We are proud to live in a city where our elected leaders and the administration have shown their support and have committed to make Albuquerque a city where all of our residents can prosper."

said Fabiola Bowden, a community organizer with EI CENTRO who is also in the process of obtaining her citizenship in the coming year.

If you have any questions or if you are a permanent resident and need more information about the program "Albuquerque is Home" you can call EI CENTRO at (505)246-1627.

Are you the Victim of Wage Theft? Defend Yourself!

A day's work for many New Mexicans means early mornings and late nights at work. Many make this sacrifice to help offer a more prosperous future to their family while also helping our local economy.

Due to a lack of information about their rights, fear or the consequences or fear of losing their job many don't seek the justice they deserve. Reason why it's important to raise your voice if you are one of these victims and organize. Starting with going to EI CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos so they can help inform you of your resources.

What is wage theft?

- Not paying an employee his wages earned
- Not paying the employee the total hours they worked
- Not paying employee tips earned
- Not paying overtime hours
- Not paying employee their last hours worked before changing jobs
- Not paying employee for their job

EI CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos has developed a program called "Hand-in-Hand to stop Wage Theft". This program holds biweekly orientation to help explain the different types of wage theft and the steps they must take if they have been a victim. Also, attorneys and community allies from UNM Law Clinic and the Center for New Mexico Immigrant Law Center will be providing free services to those who seek legal advice and help them take legal action against the dishonest employer.

Workers have the right to fair and complete pay for the work they did. EI CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos will keep fighting to protect workers rights. If you are interested in participating in one of the orientations that help workers know their rights and to know how to form a workers committee to improve the env-