On May 14th Bernalillo county commissioner, Maggie Hart-Stebbins, introduced an ordinance that will allow ALL workers in the county to obtain ‘Paid Sick Days’. The ordinance, that is being supported by El Centro and more than 11 other local organizations, is a great step to provide a support system for working families in the county.

Currently, almost half of the county’s workers do not have paid days due to illness. This prevents them from being able to miss work to take care of their health, assist in the care of their loved ones, or be sure that they do not lose their daily salary or even their work if they seek stability after living through domestic or sexual abuse.

During the introduction of this ordinance there was a lot of support, which could be visible when more than a dozen people got up to tell their stories of how sick days could improve the lives of thousands of workers in the county. Including El CENTRO members that told their stories of how a lack of paid sick days affected them negatively.
If you wish to support this ordinance the Bernalillo County commissioners will vote on this ordinance on June 25. We hope to see you there at 5:00 p.m. at the board of commissioners meeting at the Vincent E. Griego Chambers building on June 25th!

"Some people like me choose to work sick in places like restaurants, retail stores, construction sites," said Hilda Gómez, a member of CENTRO. "Which is not only bad for them, but it’s also bad for everyone who is around these people."

Starting July 1, 2020: Employees can accrue and use up to 24 hours in a year.

Starting July 1, 2021: Employees can accrue and use up to 40 hours in a year.

Starting July 1, 2022: Employees can accrue and use up to 56 hours in a year.

* New Amendment Introduced to this Ordinance for a Change these Tiers.

This past July 2 the U.S. government decided to eliminate the citizenship question from the 2020 Census and to start efforts to print these forms. Which is a great victory for our immigrant community that fought hard against this tactic by the Trump administration to silence and erase our communities of color and our immigrant communities.

"After a long battle, our communities are empowered knowing that together, we fought together against the addition of the citizenship question to the 2020 Census," said Rosalinda Dorado, a community organizer with El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos. "The Trump administration attempted to erase our families and failed."

This is a victory for our democracy, since we are stronger when everyone is counted. Now we are one step closer to a fair and precise census. The issue of the citizenship question was an unconstitutional attempt of instilling fear in our working communities.

El CENTRO will keep working to ensure a Census where ALL of our new Mexican families are counted. It is up to us to make sure our family, neighbors and friends know the facts about the Census.
In recent weeks our families and communities, as well as communities across the country are feeling the real impact of Trump’s racist, white supremacist and anti-immigrant agenda.

The tragedy of the mass shooting in El Paso and the mass raids in Mississippi have caused fear among our communities. The alleged murderer published a racist manifesto before the El Paso shooting, white supremacist and racist ideas, which coincide with the language that President Donald Trump has used in the past.

And in the case of the raids in Mississippi, according to our national partners, local police helped ICE attack and arrest immigrant workers in Mississippi. This reinforces the importance of the local policies that the CENTRO headed and won in BernCo and Albuquerque to ensure that our local government is complicit in helping to enforce federal immigration laws. It also highlights the need for strong state-level legislation that ensures that local and state resources are not used to power Trump’s deportation machine and that state agencies protect the information that can be used to attack our families.

Governor Lujan Grisham and the New Mexico Legislature had the opportunity to support such legislation during the last session, and we must send the loud and clear message that our state government must do everything in its power to protect our families. We are proud of how Burqueñ@s, we support our families and neighbors. The CENTER, with the help of our community, will continue to fight so that the rhetoric and policies of the Trump administration do not divide us and destroy what we have fought so hard to build.

¡Seguimos en la lucha!

This summer The CENTRO held its “Leadership Institute 2019” where several CENTRO committees met to learn more about how to continue fighting for the rights of low-income workers salaries and immigrant families of our city and county.

“I decided to come because I think it is important to inform me about my rights so I can also share this information with my family and friends,” said Lucy Hernandez, a member of the CENTRO.

During the Leadership Institute community organizers of the El CENTRO were able to inform attendees on the theory of political change. After this institute, members who attended these workshops were able to obtain a certificate of compliance at their graduation from El CENTRO.

We recognize your involvement and dedication in the fight to defend and advance the rights of our families, our immigrant communities, and the workers of New Mexico. Together we fight for our communities and know our power!

We are all Burqueños!
On July 15 Pro-immigrant organizations and elected officials denounced threats from the Trump administration of possible raids around the country with a press conference at El CENTRO.

El CENTRO, allies and the City of Albuquerque and Representative Deb Haaland supported naturalization on July 20 with a Citizenship Fair!

El CENTRO’s 2019 Leadership Institute Student Graduation!

#BurqueñoFamiliesBelongTogether

Know Your Rights With ICE Agents

Stay Silent

If you are being questioned by a police officer, a prison officer, corrections officer or an ICE agent, you have the right to remain silent, including NOT giving information about your country of origin or immigration status. Everything you say or do can be used against you.

At Work

You have the right not to answer their questions, keep working, avoid or tell them you can not talk to them. You do not have to disclose your country of origin or immigration status, nor show any identification. ICE can not enter the private areas of your workplace without a search warrant or permission from the employer or business manager.

If Under Arrest

You can exercise your right to remain silent. Do not sign a document if you do not understand it or if you have not talked to a lawyer about your legal options. You have the right to request an interpreter during court proceedings.

For More Information Call: El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos:
(505)246-1627
714 4th St SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
@ElCentroDeIgualdadYDerechos

Dont Open The Door

In your home you have the right to NOT open the door (even if ICE says you have an arrest or deportation order). To enter without your permission, they need a search warrant.

Public Places

Including:
- In a6 rood of court
- In a parking lot
- In a store public space
- A park
- Etc.

You have the right to remain silent. You do not have to disclose your name, immigration status, country of origin, or show them identification. If you decide to run, and they manage to capture you, they can arrest you.

Organize:

Join the movement As a community, we have to inform ourselves, protect ourselves, and keep organizing.