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New Mexico United Against Trump: A Day of Cultural Resistance!

Este pasado 16 de septiembre El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos y varios otros aliados comunitarios se unieron en solidaridad en el parque Tiguex para mostrar la unidad de Nuevo México y la resistencia cultural contra el ataque y la persecución de Trump hacia nuestras comunidades. El evento fue una respuesta tras la visita del Presidente Donald Trump ese mismo día a la ciudad de Río Rancho.

‘Sabemos que Trump no representa los principios y valores de nuestras comunidades’, dijo Marian Mendez Cera del CENTRO.- “No estamos en apoyo de la agenda xenofobia anti-inmigrante de supremacía blanca de su administración por lo cual estamos llevando a cabo este evento de resistencia cultural”.

Durante el evento se escuchó música por “El Gozao, a la poeta Jessica Helen Lopez, a oradores y presentaciones culturales por el Grupo Desoluna y el Círculo Solar Ollin Xochipilli, y una vigilia para honrar a nuestras familias que sufren a manos de las políticas de Trump se llevaron a cabo. ¡Gracias a todos los que nos acompañaron! en nuestras manifestación!
BernCo County Commissioners Propose an Amendment to Paid Time-Off Ordinance

After the victory of the acceptance of the paid time off ordinance by the Bernalillo County commission on September 10 organizations who fight for workers’ rights and working families were disappointed when the Bernalillo County commissioners presented an amendment to this ordinance.

On August 20, the Bernalillo County Commission approved the historic paid time off ordinance with a 3-2 vote, the first of its kind in the state. However, the amendment presented aims to dilute this ordinance. According to the amendment, only those with 35 or more workers would have to offer 56 hours to each worker by 2022 and beyond. Under the proposed amendment, only those with 35 or more workers would have to offer 56 hours to each worker in 2022 and beyond. Currently, the paid time off ordinance would take effect on July 1, 2020 and would apply to employees working in the unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County. The amendment will create different standards based on the size of a company, specifically reducing the requirements for those with fewer employees.

“Our local government must serve working families by ensuring that ALL-workers receive this basic human right regardless of the size of the business in which they work!” Said Marian Mendez Cera of El CENTRO.

In recent weeks there has been an increase in arrests of community members in Albuquerque by agents of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Service. UU (ICE). After these arrests we have not seen any local raid or collateral deportations during these arrests. We are seeing that the most vulnerable people in these arrests are those who have had interaction with our criminal justice system or those who have already had a prior deportation order. But we know that in addition to this increase there is - a regular presence of ICE in our communities. Therefore, it is more important than ever to inform us about our rights and continue to organize and protect ourselves as a community. We must continue in the struggle so that locally as well as at the state level ICE is not entangled in our criminal justice system in order to keep our families together. El CENTRO has a “Know Your Rights with the Migra” fact sheet on our website ELCENTRONM.ORG.
National Voter Registration Day!

Have you already registered to vote?

On the “National Voter Registration Day” several members of El CENTRO as well as our community organizer, Fabiola Landeros, took advantage of this day to register for the first time to vote.

The next elections are approaching the beginning of the early voting of municipal elections beginning on November 19 and ending on November 2. Election day taking place on November 5. During the municipal elections, candidates will be voted for the public school district of ABQ and Rio Rancho, and members of the city council, among other careers.

During this time The CENTER will be knocking on doors to motivate our community to vote. The only thing that people need to register is to be a resident of NM, a U.S. citizen, and be 18 years old during the elections.

People can still register to vote.

If you wish to register to vote you can call El CENTRO at (505)246-1627 to make an appointment or you can register visiting this site: NMVote.org

New Changes in the Horizon for Legal Clinics Provided by NMILC & El CID

The city of Albuquerque, El CENTRO and the New Mexico Immigrant Legal Center (NMILC) celebrated Citizenship Day this past September 17 announcing new efforts to help increase naturalization rates.

Community centers of the city of Albuquerque will soon be the new home of free weekly legal clinics that have helped the immigrant community obtain essential services to help them navigate-through the naturalization process and guide them to local resources to be better informed about their rights and how to keep their families together.

In line with the “ABQ is Home” initiative, a four-year grant from the "America is Home" initiative that supports the integration of immigrants, these weekly NMILC clinics have been carried out at El CENTRO. However, over the years due to the success of these legal clinics, they
these legal clinics, they have reached their capacity at their current location. "As a new citizen, I encourage those who are eligible to naturalize to use their new status to protect our families from the devastating impact of deportation and exercise our labor rights," said Fabiola Landeros of El CENTRO. Free weekly legal and civic participation clinics will continue to take place at El CENTRO (714 4th SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102) every Wednesday from 1-5 p.m. until the new location, date / time is announced.

Platicas with Encuentro Students

This September our community organizers had “platicas” with students from Encuentro with the objective that our community be better informed about issues such as power, oppression and the struggle of our communities. And the results were a success!