



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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YOUR SOURCE OF COMMUNITY NEWS

January 2020

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El CENTRO members and legislators participate in El CENTROS leadership summit.

OUR TEAM

-  EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Rachel LaZar
-  ADMINISTRATION
Dalia Hernandez
-  COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
Marian J. Méndez-Cera
-  COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
Fabiola Landeros
-  COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
Hilaria Martínez
-  COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
Rosalinda Dorado
-  COMMUNICATIONS ORGANIZER
Sarai Bejarano

El CENTRO Priority Platform for the 2020-2021 Legislative Session!

The 55th New Mexico legislative session is only days away. Every two years the legislative session is 30 days which will be held this year starting on January 21 where the focus will be on issues associated with the budget.

Due to this approach, many of the issues will be about the states budget, but there may be other bills that might be added to the governor's call that might become a priority for our community.

Therefore, El CENTRO its members and our community will be present in our home, the Roundhouse during this legislative session. During the month long session we will be present to ensure that our money is invested in our working and immigrant communities and to ensure that the budget reflects our values as new Mexicans. Starting with securing funds to better inform our -

community about the 2020 Census and the importance of participating in it. That way our state can ensure good representation in our government and secure funds for public services

El CENTRO will also be supporting bills that help advance the rights of our workers and that help keep our families together. Among them, proposals that safeguard our sensitive personal information such as our ITIN number, and social security number. Some agencies such as the Department of Corrections and Probation are regularly sharing information with ICE, we saw this just as recently as in September of last year.

On the other hand, privatized prisons continue to benefit from the imprisonment, persecution and deportation of our communities. CENTRO will -

Calendar of Events:

MONTHLY CLINIC: MANO-A-MANO

WHEN: Jan.30th and Feb.13th
 WHERE: EL CENTRO
 (714 4th ST SW 87102)
 TIME: 5:30-7PM

START OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS:

WHEN: January 21st
 WHERE: Roundhouse
 (490 Old Santa Fe Trail)

CIVIL RIGHTS WORKSHOPS:

CUANDO: Contact us to program workshop by visiting us at:
www.EICENTRONM.org

IMMIGRANTS DAY OF ACTION:

WHEN: January 27th
 WHERE Roundhouse
 (490 Old Santa Fe Trail)
 TIME: 7:45AM at El CENTRO to go to Santa Fe. Return time at 3PM.

DOMESTIC WORKERS MEETING:

WHEN: February 7th
 WHERE: El CENTRO
 TIME: 5:30-6:30PM

LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS:

WHEN: February 20th

VALENTINES DAY:

WHEN: February 14th

continue to support bills that stop the expansion and terminate these privatized prisons.

Another problem that continues to grow in our state and that further plunges our families into poverty is wage theft. The Department of Workforce Solutions (DWS) does not have the necessary resources to deal with this problem or to enforce new laws that we have recently passed, such as the increase in the minimum wage and laws that have ended with exclusions for domestic workers under the minimum wage. Therefore, El CENTRO will



El CENTRO staff/memebers at the Roundhouse.

be supporting an increase to the DWS budget. Finally, El CENTRO will also support the Tax Credit for Working Families if this proposal becomes part of the call of the governor. Currently, families that pay taxes with an ITIN number do not have access to the same benefits as other families in our state. This proposal would end this unfair exclusion.

For more information on how you can join us during this legislative session to ensure that our legislators pass proposals that reflect our values, call:

El CENTRO at 505-246-1627.

El CENTRO's 2020 Leadership Summit

On January 4th dozens community members attended our leadership summit, an annual event by El CENTRO where the community as well as state representatives learned from each other about the issues that are most affecting our community. And at the same time they learned how the legislature works and how to work together during this next legislative session to keep families together, advance workers' rights and ways to help advance bills that reflect



State legislators participate in El CENTRO's leadership summit on January 4th, 2020.

In attendance during this event were six state representatives which include Representative Georgene Louis, Senator Antoinette Sedillo López, Representative Daymon Ely from District 23, Representative Melanie Stansbury, Representative Christine Trujillo from District 25 and Representative Javier Martinez.

"My experience during this summit was very pleasant," said Lucy Hernandez, a member of El CENTRO. "It taught me a lot about the proposals we could see during this legislative session. I want to continue to be present this year in the session so that laws are passed that benefit our immigrant community."



"I was very pleased to see members of the community supporting each other and putting into practice the strategies we have been learning all these years," said Javier Martinez State Representative for D11. "We expect a fairly important legislative session with many more victories to come."

This year the legislative session will be 30 days with a focus on the state budget scheduled to start this January 21.

To learn how you can participate in this legislative session call El CENTRO at 505-246-1627.

Have you seen El CENTRO's new shirt?
 Get yours TODAY!
 By calling El CENTRO at:
505.246.1627

The Minimum Wage has Increased!

After years of continuous "lucha" by low-wage workers and their families, starting on January 1, 2020, low-wage workers will receive an increase in their minimum wage. If you work in Albuquerque your salary will increase to \$ 9.35. While in Bernalillo County at \$ 9.20. The state minimum wage will rise to \$ 9.00 per hour, which will not affect workers in ABQ or Bernalillo County since they already earn more.

Remember the minimum wage applies depending on where you work.

The Minimum Wage Has Increased!

If you work in #ABQ the minimum wage is now **\$9.35**. While in #BernCo to **\$9.20** and at the state level it is up to **\$9.00!**

El CENTRO
de Igualdad y Derechos

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.

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.

AT WORK



You have the right not to answer their questions, keep working, and/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't enter the private areas of your workplace without a search warrant or permission from the employer or business manager.

PUBLIC PLACES



Including:
- In front of a court
- In a parking lot
- A stores 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.

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.

ORGANIZE:



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

For More Information Call: **El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos:**

(505)246-1627

714 4th St SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

@ElCentroDelGualdad yDerechos

Immigrant's Day of Action



The Immigrant Day of Action has arrived! The event will be sponsored by our allies of Somos un Pueblo Unido. El CENTRO will be a co-sponsor of this event where the community will have the opportunity to participate in a training, a small march, and visit and talk to our legislators about issues that affect our working immigrant community.

Members of El CENTRO in Albuquerque may meet at El CENTRO (714 4th ST SW) to travel by bus at 8:00 AM and then return from the Roundhouse at 3PM.

Your \$ 10.00 donation will include breakfast, lunch, transportation and a El CENTRO t-shirt.

El CENTRO
de Igualdad y Derechos

DÍA DE ACCIÓN DEL INMIGRANTE

Patrocinado por Somos un Pueblo Unido

QUIEN:
Miembros de SOMOS un Pueblo Unido, El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos y la comunidad participaran en una reunión, entrenamiento, y hablarán con legisladores

QUE:
Día de acción del inmigrante y el Trabajador en Santa Fe

DONDE:
Capitolio, 490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87501

CUANDO:
27 de enero 8 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Miembros de El CENTRO en ABQ reunirse en El CENTRO (714 4th ST SW) para ir en autobús a las 7:45AM. Tiempo de regreso 3PM

TU DONACIÓN DE \$10.00 INCLUYE:
7:45-8:45AM REGISTRACION, DESAYUNO + CAMISETA
9-10AM TRANSPORTE Y ENTRENAMIENTO CAMINO A SANTA FE
*SIN CAMISETA, DONACION SUGERIDA DE \$5 DOLARES

505-246-1627 714 4th ST SW, Albuquerque 87102 ElCentroNM.org

Without a shirt, the suggested donation will be \$ 5 dollars. We hope to see you there!



#EndWageTheftNM

We Need to better fund
DWS to address
the wage claim
backlog

Wage Theft is a silent thief that plunges families further into poverty!

Celebrating International Migrants Day!

On December 18th El CENTRO celebrated International Migrants Day with a Christmas party. During the event the diversity of our community was celebrated as well as all the victories that our community had in 2019 thanks to the continuous "lucha" of our working/immigrant families. Victories such as the increase in



Santa giving the children gifts during the event.



Celebrating International Migrants Day by breaking a piñata at the event.

the minimum wage, paid time off for workers in Bernalillo County, and immigrant-friendly policies "in Bernalillo County, among other achievements.

With live music and entertainment by El Gozao, Desoluna Folk Group, El CENTRO and the community also celebrated 20 years of "lucha" by our executive director, Rachel LaZar at El CENTRO to defend, strengthen, and advance the rights of low-wage workers and immigrant families in New Mexico. The event ended by announcing the winners of our Christmas raffle where members won two bicycles, a turkey, a Taco Sánchez dinner and a television.

A huge thanks to all who accompanied us, donated their time to make the event possible or donated food or other materials.

Thank you!!!

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Taco Sanchez | Taqueria Mexico |
| Reyna Moreno Prado | Rosalio Hernandez |
| Súarez Autosales | Panaderia El Dorado |
| C&A Auto Collision | Ruben y Maria Dorado |
| Claudia Garcia e Iram | Monica Ramirez |
| DJ Tequila | El Gozao |
| Victor Alvarado | Ernesto Escobedo |
| Ramon Dorado | Susana |
| Dulceria Puebla | Lucy Hernandez |
| Miguel Luna | Grupo Folklorico Desoluna |
| Yerberia Juarez | Claudia Garcia |
| Fermina Lopez | Airam Cantero |
| Hilda Gomez | Jesus Rowendolas |
| Gladys Pineda | Edgar Salinas |

Thank you for Supporting our "Tamales por la Justicia!"

Thanks to all who helped make our "Tamales por la Justicia" possible. In less than 24 hours were purchased. Thanks to the volunteers who helped us prepare the tamales, those who donated ingredients, the space to make them and those who obtained our tamales. We hope you enjoyed and shared the tamales with your loved ones during this past holiday season. Every penny will be invested in the struggle to keep our families together and advance workers' rights.



One of our members helping prepare our "Tamales por la Justicia."

Your Participation in the 2020 Census is Essential to Ensuring that all our Families have the Resources to Thrive in our State!



This year we ALL must participate in the Census, regardless of your immigration status, age or origin! Every ten years the government counts all the people living in the country.

The count includes everyone including our children who are often left out. The count is used to determine political representation and financing for things such as education, health and housing. Therefore, ALL of us benefit when everyone participates.

El CENTRO will be carrying out a campaign to better inform our community about the facts of the 2020 Census and to ensure their participation, so that their voices are heard.

Obtaining a fair and accurate Census is important to ensure the financing of the programs that our families need to succeed, such as schools and hospitals. Also by participating we ensure that we have good representation in our government. By April 1, 2020 every home in the U.S. should already have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to be informed on the latest regarding the 2020 Census.



Follow us on Social Media:

- @ElCentroDelGualdadYDerechos
- @ElCentroNM
- @ElCentro_nm
- @ElCentroNM.org



Donate to El CENTRO by Visiting Pay Pal