



Wind of the Spirit Breathing Free News

Who we are: we are a resource center for immigrants and together we work to make our mission a reality in favor of our rights and responsibilities, and for a fair and humane immigration policy that allows us to live with dignity.

September / www.wotsnj.org / Box 345 Morristown, NJ / 973.538.2035 / Year 23



Our WotS team participated in legislative visits to speak to Rep. Mikie Sherill & Georgia Turvey.
Photo: WotS

Educating Our Legislatures UPDATES

At WotS we continue with our educational visits to Congress and the state Legislature even though they are still in recess. In recent weeks we visited the offices of representative Mikie Sherrill, Congresswoman from the 11th District seeking support for the registration law, and State Senator Richard Codey from the 27th District seeking support for Values Act, as well as continuing to “push” forward for the NJ Domestic Workers Bill of Rights.

WotS will continue legislative visits until the end of the year. In September we will visit Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman (12th District) and State Senator Scutari (22nd District), as well as visits to the State Assembly Members Brian Bergen of the 25th District and Aura K. Dunn of the 25th District.



Ban ICE

WotS members attended the court hearing and participated in several actions seeking to maintain the AB 5207 Law of 2021 in New Jersey, which prohibits ICE jails in the state.

In coalition with other organizations, we got Senator Cory Booker and Representative Mikie Sherill to endorse the letter signed by the majority of New Jersey's congressional representatives opposing President Joe Biden's support for keeping the last ICE jail in the state open, the Elizabeth Detention Center.



Housing is a Human Right and We have to Fight for it

Housing is a widespread problem in our communities, expensive rents are forcing us to live overcrowded, to be abused by landlords, to face the indifference of local governments regarding this issue and the added lack of civic participation for tenants' problems and the care of the spaces where they live aggravate the housing situation.

The Urban Development companies come to the towns and the local governments basically sell them our towns, giving them a series of concessions such as, tax exemptions, which deeply affect our communities.

In Dover, WotS has led a community and together we have managed to stop unscrupulous companies from entering the town with the excuse of development, when what they really want is their own profit; at the same time, we are fighting for rent control.

More than 40 families in Plainfield, mostly undocumented immigrants were forced to leave their homes with just 24 hours' notice after the city condemned their building for lack of maintenance. Now we are in the process of organizing them to awaken the spirit in the fight for Housing Rights.

HOUSING CONTINUED...

Wherever you live we are calling on you to organize. Creating housing committees is fundamental in the fight against abuses, by not only the owners and local authorities but also by ourselves, who often carelessly allow these problems to increase.

Housing is a Right and it is our duty to protect ourselves from abuse, and it is ours to be responsible with the spaces where we live.

For Agency Workers

Temporary Workers' Bill of Rights For New Jersey (A1474/S511)

WHEN WE FIGHT IN COMMUNITY WE CAN WIN!

Many people in our communities work in temporary employment agencies and it is very important that they learn about the Rights they have just earned so that they can validate them.

Protection Rights granted by this law:

- **Right to know:** The Agency must notify the worker with the formal document about the job, destination, transportation, how much they will be paid per hour of work and their workers' compensation company, among other things. As well as receiving basic information in English and in the worker's native language, such as the job location, duties, remuneration and sick leave.
- **Elimination of various commissions** that agencies deduct from workers' salaries.
- **Prohibit agencies** from attempting to prevent workers from being hired for permanent positions at the companies where they work.
- **Protection against retaliation:** new provisions that provide greater protection to workers who report mistreatment and wage violations.

Stay informed

We remain united in efforts with Alianza Américas (AA) to promote TPS. It is important to keep going forward due to the opposition that there is, as this benefit for Central Americans continues.

This September we are promoting the Registry campaign; the objective is to have at least 101 sponsors.

DED, it is fundamental that the Colombian community organizes itself to try to achieve this benefit.

We urgently need to continue promoting the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights as well as the National Bill of Rights.

To connect with our campaigns please reach out to our organizers in our different towns or write an email to adam@wotsnj.org.

Calendar

Dover:

Martes 5: Town meeting 7:00pm
Jueves 14: Colectivo Dover 7:00pm
Martes 19: Town meeting 7:00pm
Jueves 21: Domestic Workers Committee 7:00pm
Martes 26: Town meeting 7:00pm
Jueves 28: General Committee 7:00pm
Sabado 30: Informative Community Forum 6:30pm

Madison:

Thursday 7: Madison Committee 8:00pm
Monday 11: Madison town meeting 8:00pm
Thursday 14: Madison Committee 8:00pm
Monday 17: Colectivo: Madison & Morristown 4:00pm

Morristown:

Monday 25: Domestic Workers Committee 7:00pm

Plainfield:

Sunday 03: Colectivo 8:00AM
Thursday 07: Womens Committee
Monday 11: Plainfield Council 7:00pm
Thursday 14: Community promoters 7:00pm
Thursday 28: Community Forum 7:00pm
Saturday 30: Health Fair 11:00am

ESL CLASS:

⇒ **Dover at 2:00pm - 5:00pm:**
Level 2: Sunday / **Level 5:** Saturday
⇒ **Madison at 2:00pm - 5:00pm:**
Level 4: Saturday
⇒ **Morristown at 2:00 - 5:00pm**
Level 5: Saturday

⇒ Plainfield on Saturday:

Level 1: 9:00am a 12:00pm
Level 4: 1:00pm a 4:00pm




Sunday 24 : Hispanic Heritage / Union City High School with Senator Robert Menendez.

Affiliate or become a member of WotS and be part of this fight for dignity and immigrant rights.

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Organizing Hubs: Dover, Morristown, Plainfield

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"If you let the wind be still, what will you hear in prayer?"