

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2025



Wind of the Spirit
Immigrant Resource Center, N.J.

25km Solidarity Walk for Human Rights
Wind of the Spirit's 25-year Anniversary

Madison, NJ — This October 6th Wind of the Spirit, a faith-based immigrant grassroots advocacy organization, will embark on a 25km walk for human rights, justice and dignity. We walk to recognize our 25 years' anniversary educating, organizing and mobilizing the immigrant community and its allies for a humane, just and dignified immigration policy within the framework of human rights. Together community members and civil society will help us promote solidarity and peace, as we symbolize the journey that many immigrants have undertaken —we walk forward to a fair society that all of us still need to complete.

Every day we continue to educate and advance immigrant communities' agenda through our programs and campaigns, as well as promote the decriminalization of migration and the elimination of the word “illegal”. We provide immigrant communities with education, tools and resources, as we contribute to a narrative that holds truth and value.

Throughout these 25 years of journey, calling for stronger protections, safety, and equity, we have contributed to the quality of life and equal opportunities for many families. We started back in early 2000 when we stopped harassment, possibly fines and incarceration of day laborers at the Morristown "clock" corner, came together to stop a 287(g) agreement in Morris County, whereby local law enforcement is deputized by ICE; this was successful and forged trust between our neighbors and public officials. Our most famous and long-lasting campaign took us 20 years, in which we achieved the passage of a state law expanding access to driver's licenses for all NJ residents, regardless of immigrant status.

Our team also successfully advocated against the inclusion of the citizenship question on the 2020 Census, as well as reached out in person during COVID, in order to interview and represent hard to reach community members. We passed access to college independently of immigration status with the Same Tuition for All Act. We also collaborated to achieve the \$15 minimum wage legislation, worked with the attorney general to implement the Immigrant Trust Directive in NJ and trained over 8,000 people through Know Your Rights at a time where these workshops were highly criticized. We actively participated in several civil rights marches: Freedom Rally, "March for Our Lives", Women March, Fair and Welcoming Communities, Charlottesville and Vigils. Our latest triumph was the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights signed by Governor Phil Murphy in 2024, which we achieved alongside our partners, allies and domestic workers collective.

Currently, the organization continues advancing in favor of state and federal campaigns that seek the protection of the rights we have as human beings, as we truly believe every person deserves a life full of peace, dignity, and humanity. If you feel touched by the work we do and want to engage and make a difference, together we can achieve legislative changes that benefit all. Join us in the recognition of our humanity in celebration that we are all interconnecting and supporting each other.

We thank members of our communities who join **Wind of the Spirit** on **October 6th** in solidarity for human rights, immigrant rights, justice and peace. We invite all to share a prayer with us at our Vigil for Human Rights, which will culminate **WotS Solidarity Walk** at 970 Broad St. in front on the Immigration Building in Newark, NJ (3:30PM). There we will call for the NJ Immigrant Trust Act (A4987/S3672) to be passed, as one crucial protection against the types of abuses threatening our communities from the ICE office inside.

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2 Green Village Rd. Madison, NJ 07940 T: 973-538-2035 / email:communications@wotsnj.org

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