



Courtesy (clockwise from left): **Adelante Alabama Worker Center, Fostering Progressive Advocacy Foundation, 350 Seattle, North Carolina Congress of Latino Organizations**

## NEVER AGAIN

**“We can no longer rely on our government and its bureaucrats to do the right things to help us,” states FPA. “Our government is broken in nearly every aspect and instead of helping us, it is hurting all of us.”**

**W**HEN NEWS OF DONALD TRUMP’S election broke, PDF grantees like the **Adelante Alabama Worker Center** stood firm. “We are ready for this,” said Community Organizer Yazmin Contreras. “We were able to push back against H.B.56, and our community ultimately emerged stronger than ever.”

Immigrant-led community organizations have united around a rallying cry, “Never again.” Rather than move into the shadows, they are stepping forward to address the effects of Trump’s executive orders and an administration that targets their communities. The President issued an executive order within his first 100 days that allowed law enforcement tremendous leeway with arrests and detention. Any undocumented immigrant may be targeted, regardless of a criminal record or reasonable cause.

Contreras says, “I believe that a Trump presidency will have the same effect on not just Alabama, but our entire nation.” Adelante aims to make Birmingham a sanctuary city within the increasingly resource-poor and politically hostile environment of Alabama. Citizens speak of the impending “Alabamafication” of the nation under President Trump.

Alabama is a Right to Work state with no minimum wage and immigrant workers are frequent victims of wage theft. The state enacted some of the strongest anti-immigrant laws in the country in the form of H.B.56 in 2011. This gave police the power to demand proof of legal status from anyone at traffic stops, and encouraged racial profiling, discrimination and harassment of all

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### PEACE EVENTS

Join us for fall events at the PDF Center for Peace and Justice, as well as in your local area!

**Thursday, October 26, 6:30 p.m. EST**  
**“Flip the Switch” Party**

Join us in celebration as we take the necessary steps to become more environmentally friendly with our new solar panels! A social hour with wine and cheese will follow.

PDF Center for Peace and Justice  
 44 North Prospect Street  
 Amherst, MA, 01002

**October, TBA**  
**“Art on the Menu”**

PDF is partnering with 2017 grantee Pioneer Valley Workers Center on an event that shares stories of labor workers through various art forms.

Amherst, MA

**Thursday, November 9, 6-9 p.m. PST**  
**Bay Area Reception**

Meet PDF staff and grantees for a night of community building with activists.

Berkeley, CA

**For more info or to RSVP**  
**email us at [peacedevfund@gmail.com](mailto:peacedevfund@gmail.com)**  
**or call 413-256-8306.**



RECENT GRANTS

A ★ denotes a new grantee

This year's community organizing grant cycle provided more than \$155,000 in grants to organizations working nationwide for peace and social justice. For 35 years our community organizing grant cycle has proudly been PDF's signature grantmaking program, and this year's pool of applicants addressed the transitions and movements happening across America in response to the new administration. We are honored to be partnering and supporting our 2017–2018 grantees and their important work.

★ **350 Seattle**, Seattle, WA  
[www.350seattle.org](http://www.350seattle.org)

★ **Adelante Alabama Worker Center**, Birmingham, AL  
[www.adelantealabama.org](http://www.adelantealabama.org)

**The Alliance for Appalachia**, Knoxville, TN  
[www.theallianceforappalachia.org](http://www.theallianceforappalachia.org)

★ **Border Workers United**, El Paso, TX  
[www.laborjusticecommittee.org](http://www.laborjusticecommittee.org)

**Californians United for a Responsible Budget**, Oakland, CA  
[www.curbprisonspending.org](http://www.curbprisonspending.org)

★ **Crow Language Consortium**, Hardin, MT  
[www.crowlanguage.org](http://www.crowlanguage.org)

★ **Familias Unidas del Chamizal**, El Paso, TX  
[www.mujerobrera.org/familias-unidas](http://www.mujerobrera.org/familias-unidas)

★ **FPA-Foundation-Fostering Progressive Advocacy Foundation, Inc.**, New York, NY  
[www.fpafoundation.org](http://www.fpafoundation.org)

★ **Hempstead Project HEART**, Green Bay, WI  
[www.hempsteadprojectheart.org](http://www.hempsteadprojectheart.org)

★ **The Montana Racial Equity Project**, Bozeman, MT  
[www.themtrep.org](http://www.themtrep.org)

★ **Native American Educational Technologies**, Hayward, WI  
[www.indiancountrytv.com](http://www.indiancountrytv.com)

★ **North Carolina Congress of Latino Organizations**, Durham, NC  
[www.nclatincongress.org](http://www.nclatincongress.org)

**Out Now**, Springfield, MA  
[www.outnowyouth.org](http://www.outnowyouth.org)

★ **Philly Thrive**, Philadelphia, PA  
[www.phillythrive.org](http://www.phillythrive.org)

**Pioneer Valley Workers Center**, Northampton, MA  
[www.pvworkerscenter.org](http://www.pvworkerscenter.org)

★ **SEPA Mujer, Inc.**, Islandia, NY  
[www.sepamujer.org](http://www.sepamujer.org)

**Springfield No One Leaves**, Springfield, MA  
[www.springfieldnooneleaves.org](http://www.springfieldnooneleaves.org)

**Tennessee Alliance for Progress**, Nashville, TN  
[www.taptn.org](http://www.taptn.org)

**Tree of Life Educational Fund, Inc.**, Old Lyme, CT  
[www.tolef.org](http://www.tolef.org)

★ **Virginia Student Environmental Coalition**, Mechanicsville, VA  
[www.vsecoalition.org](http://www.vsecoalition.org)

**The Welcome Project**, Somerville, MA  
[www.thewelcomeproject.org](http://www.thewelcomeproject.org)



Courtesy of The Welcome Project



Courtesy of The Montana Racial Equity Project



Courtesy of Philly Thrive



Courtesy of Pioneer Valley Workers Center



Courtesy of North Carolina Congress of Latino Organizations

# Protecting the Vulnerable

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S proposed budget contains a \$6.2 billion cut in funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). According to the CNN article, "How Trump's Budget Cuts Could Hurt Low-Income Americans" by Jeanne Sahadi, this will result in more people living in substandard housing, more low-income workers struggling to pay rent and more families left homeless. 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which have proven to positively impact children's well-being in high-need communities, will be completely stripped of funding under the new federal budget.

Organizations like the **Fostering Progressive Advocacy (FPA) Foundation**, a 2017 PDF grantee based in New York, are working with grassroots organizations and low-income communities to stop the human rights violations that decreased funding for HUD represents, and its direct negative effect on foster care and adoption systems. Laws that increased federal funding to states when children are put up for adoption—rather than put in foster care—have become harsher to the point of unconstitutionality, and created a cash stream that is loosely regulated and could be easily siphoned into the state's general budget. FPA knows that the only way to change this is by mobilizing affected people in the community. FPA is enhancing leadership capacity and creating institutional change from the bottom up.

FPA focuses on how the effects of poverty and low-income status lead children into the foster care system, and how this system remains plagued with discrimination and bias. African American parents have the highest child removal rate in New York City.

It promotes an elaborate cycle of abuse.

There is bias from caseworkers who experience little supervision. There is the threat of retaliation for reporting incidents of discrimination. There is the very real possibility that parents will not get their child back from foster care.

"We can no longer rely on our government and its bureaucrats to do the right things to help us," states FPA. "Our government is broken in nearly every aspect and instead of helping us, it is hurting all of us."

Low-income and immigrant women are likely victims, and new PDF grantee, **SEPA Mujer Inc.**, is trying to change that. As the only Latina immigrant rights organization in Long Island, NY, SEPA Mujer empowers women to be independent and confident, especially

facing issues of harassment, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Between the increased threat of deportation and a 90 percent white population, Latinas on Long Island struggle to feel like they belong. A lack of information makes Latinas regular subjects of sexual and domestic abuse, harsh working conditions, wage theft and exploitation. SEPA Mujer gives these women a sense of community and a support network.

SEPA Mujer will use PDF's grant to continue to inform Latinas of immigration policies and their rights, provide support and translation services for affected women, enhance workers rights and conditions, and introduce a crucial bilingual approach to domestic violence cases.

Executive Director Martha Maffei explains, "We are working on raising awareness and language access, as many organizations working in our area do not have bilingual capabilities for their workshops or meetings, even though 90 percent of our constituency have limited English proficiency."

SEPA Mujer has recently partnered with Restaurant Opportunity Centers United to push for the national One Fair Wage campaign. This movement fights not only against two-tier wages in which one group of workers receives lower wages and/or employee benefits than another (typically the front and kitchen of the restaurant), but also for suitable working conditions free from harassment and abuse.

Both FPA and SEPA Mujer urge their members to become knowledgeable about and exercise their rights in order to improve their quality of life and oppose discrimination, whether in the foster care system or the workplace. "We realize the importance of engaging all of our members," says Maffei. "We believe their testimonials will be the narrative we need to respond to the rhetoric of the new administration." ■

Courtesy of Fostering Progressive Advocacy (FPA) Foundation



## You can help us plan for the future!

Let us know if you have put PDF in your will and join our campaign to change the world! You may leave your gift to general support, endowment support, or a specific purpose that fits within PDF's mission, vision, and goals—to provide grants, training, and other resources in partnership with communities, organizations, trainers, and donors with whom we share a common vision for peace and social change.

For more information about leaving a bequest to PDF, call 413-256-8306 or email [kathys@peacefund.org](mailto:kathys@peacefund.org). Please be assured that the information you supply will be treated in the strictest confidence.





Courtesy of **Adelante Alabama Worker Center**



Courtesy of **North Carolina Congress of Latino Organizations**

# NEVER AGAIN

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Latinos in Alabama. Though the law has since been rolled back, it is not completely repealed. The state legislature continues to block efforts to help immigrant communities, including a bill intended to raise the minimum wage to \$10.10. Indeed, immigration enforcement has become much more aggressive as Trump's policies went into effect.

The Adelante Alabama Worker Center, begun in the wake of HB56, has strengthened and united its Latino, Muslim and Black communities. Fighting together toward preserving the dignity and promoting the rights of all people and workers in the state, their efforts helped strike down key provisions of the bill in 2013.

Even in the face of Trump's immigration plan to "Put American Workers First" and reduce the admission and employability of immigrant workers, they continue to make lasting change for low-wage workers.

In North Carolina, Latinos especially worry for the looming implications of Trump's policy changes. Whether documented or undocumented, those who are brave enough to speak out on behalf of their community fear the social and legal consequences that may follow political action. This fear of retaliation makes it difficult for their voices to be heard by the government. The **North Carolina Congress of Latino Organizations (NCCLO)**, another PDF grantee, is taking action on the silencing of immigrants.

Founded in 2002, NCCLO currently organizes more than 60 grassroots Latino organizations across the state to build collective power and address the root causes of immigration and healthcare problems. NCCLO has ambitious goals, including a plan to increase the number of Latinos registered to vote in each election cycle, and influence the state as well as the nation on immigration policies and worker rights.

In the coming year, the network plans on working with the attorney general, senators and the governor to make politicians "take the Latino community seriously." NCCLO also wants to bring together all police chiefs in North Carolina and mend the Latino community's relationship with the police force "before the impact of Donald Trump gets to them," says NCCLO's Executive Director.

"Fear paralyzes people, and organizing is about putting people into motion. People want to change things but the fear is hard to overcome." Yet, within groups like NCCLO and Adelante, fear has not yet succeeded to quell their efforts going boldly forward despite the Trump administration.

As they say, "We will use all the tools at our disposal to fight back." ■

Courtesy of **Adelante Alabama Worker Center**



## Cultivating Young Leaders

PDF's internship program has proved to be a training ground to educate young activists on the social movements that are developing nationwide. "It is an investment in engaging the next generation so that when it is time for us to pass on the baton, they have a deeper understanding of the history of these issues and are able to address systemic injustice at its root cause," explains PDF Board President Teresa Juarez.



An intern for more than two years, Hampshire student **Karolina Ware** shares that she feels especially lucky to be an intern at PDF because of the people. She says, "My supervisors are incredibly sharp and strong women, and they offer unique strengths and perspectives that have helped me grow both personally and professionally." Ware adds, "PDF grantees have also inspired me with their work and that they have introduced me to new possibilities for the work I could do in the future."



Summer intern **Emily Girouard** is entering her senior year at the University of Connecticut studying Anthropology, Physiology and Neurobiology. Prior to working at PDF, she spent six months studying in Utrecht, The Netherlands. There, she worked with an organization focusing on gender equality and human rights. After that experience, she wanted to pursue a career that allows her to help others and create lasting change within disadvantaged communities. Girouard says, "The knowledge and experience I gained through working with PDF will help me become a more capable worker and leader, and how best to utilize my skills in my career."



Another summer intern **Allyson Huntoon** is a junior at Mount Holyoke College studying politics and journalism. "PDF offered unique opportunities both to learn and make a positive impact as an intern," she explains. "I wanted to gain leadership and communication skills while learning about places of need in the U.S., especially in light of the current political climate." After witnessing the grantmaking process and writing for the PDF blog and newsletter this summer, she says she is now more equipped to achieve her humanitarian career goals.

Learning about the work of PDF's grantees offers interns a wide range of experiences, from reading grant applications and reports to writing for PDF publications. Their work helps our interns shape their understanding of the world as well as their hopes for the future. Like our grantees, PDF believes in the importance of educating and training future leaders, and we are committed to making sure interns develop and practice those skills. ■

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Courtesy, clockwise from left: **Out Now**, **Springfield No One Leaves** and **Californians United for a Responsible Budget**

# DIGGING IN

**PDF** TYPICALLY FUNDS emerging organizations and then for only three consecutive years. But under the multiple threats posed by the Trump administration, PDF reached out to current grantees to help them deepen their work. Three recent grantees have been working to make fundamental change—and succeeding—year after year: **Out Now**, **Springfield No One Leaves** and **Californians United for a Responsible Budget**. From LGBTQ issues, to housing and homelessness, to criminal justice, their communities are called to respond to the current political situation.

In Springfield, MA, the majority of the population are people of color, and the median household income is 20 percent lower than the national rate. In addition to widespread disadvantages that young people may experience while living in the city, systems of oppression tighten their grip on those who identify as queer.

Since 1995, Out Now has provided support, education and safe spaces for LGBTQ youth. Co-Director Holly Richardson says, “The environment inside many schools continues to be homophobic/genderphobic, and youth perceived to be queer are verbally harassed and sometimes physically assaulted. These factors will only worsen under a Trump administration.”

Not only does Out Now prioritize the safety of young people, it trains them in leadership development, community action and organizing against all forms of oppression and injustice. Richardson explains, “We have a rotating leadership process where every three to six months the leadership changes in order to give everyone a chance to develop their skills and to lead. This is vital to the success of the social justice movement, because in Springfield, many issues overlap.”

One of the overlapping issues is homelessness. Economic inequality threatens the ability of many low-income families to find and keep their housing. Member-led Springfield No One Leaves (SNOL) organizes to build collective power, defend against displacement and win long-term community control over housing.

Lead Organizer Rose Webster-Smith says, “As foreclosures have risen for the last 36 months and continue to rise in Springfield MA, and legal decisions stripping down our legal defenses are made, we are seeing new energy by banks and speculators to evict hundreds of families in our community.”

On the opposite coast, the fight for justice is equally challenging. In California, environmental, social, racial and economic issues threaten communities across the state. Incarceration rates continue to rise, albeit at a less rapid pace. But prison systems threaten expansion. While the state’s “realignment” policy has helped state prisons shed tens of thousands of inmates, it also fueled a seemingly contradictory effort to re-incarcerate many of them in county jails.

Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB) is a statewide coalition of over 70 grassroots organizations working to reduce incarceration, shrink the size of the prison and jail systems and shift state and local spending from imprisonment and policing to human services.

The work is urgent, says former Statewide Coordinator Diana Zuniga. “In 2017, CURB and its members face an even more precarious political climate with the election of Donald Trump. With threats to repeal federal reforms including Obamacare, experts believe that California will face dramatic cuts to the social safety net. CURB is looking to push the California legislature to look to the state’s rising prison budget as the first place to make cuts.”

The organization has been actively advocating against prison expansion since 2003 with several important victories. They stopped more than \$8.3 billion in prison and jail construction funding. They blocked \$1 billion to expand out-of-state prison capacity. CURB’s reliance on community organizing to force prison reform has proven again and again its effectiveness.

“We believe the people most directly impacted by the issues we are seeking to address must be the leaders of any movement to create lasting systemic change,” adds Webster-Smith of SNOL. “We prioritize leadership development and political education as an integral part of our work and as a way of affecting change in the economic, social and legal systems that oppress our communities.” ■

## IN THIS ISSUE

**“Never Again” grantees respond to Washington**



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## Peace through Justice

### MISSION STATEMENT

The PEACE DEVELOPMENT FUND works to build the capacity of community based organizations through grants, training, and other resources as partners in the human rights and social justice movements. As a public foundation, we nourish, foster and encourage the diverse, self-sustaining and economically viable communities that are essential to building a peaceful, just and equitable world.