



COALITION FOR HUMANE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS OF LOS ANGELES

History and Mission: The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) was founded in 1986. CHIRLA is a regional immigrant rights organization with a mission to advance the human and civil rights of immigrants and refugees, promote harmonious multi-ethnic and multi-racial human relations, and empower immigrants and their allies to build a more just and humane society. CHIRLA was formed in response to the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986 which made hiring undocumented workers illegal, thus creating a situation ripe for worker exploitation and abuse which have increased since that time.

Programs: For over 20 years, CHIRLA's innovative programming in community organizing, civic engagement, and community education has served the immigrant communities of the Los Angeles region, reaching almost 25,000 people in 2007. Our principle of direct leadership and participation from immigrant communities has resulted in meaningful advocacy for economic justice, policy victories for immigrant worker rights, and a mobilized constituency prepared to advocate on its own behalf. CHIRLA is a registered 501 (c) 3 non profit (Tax ID 95-4421521) and member dues and donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Notable accomplishments over the past year include:

- Sent a delegation of 28 representatives to the Inauguration of President Barack Obama to see democracy in action and to participate in the New Day for Immigration rally on January 22.
- For the 2008 Presidential Election, CHIRLA's nonpartisan GOTV program contacted 8,611 new and infrequent voters through phone banking, house visits, and an educational Voter's Forum.
- As LA County's only nonprofit partner for the registration of new citizens, CHIRLA helped register 34,545 new voters at naturalization ceremonies in Los Angeles this year.
- Named the ACLU of Southern California's *Activist of the Year*, 2008.
- Launched an LA-wide city bus ad campaign reaching out to household workers, September 2008.
- Featured in a 9-city speaking tour of Germany addressing household workers there entitled, "Migrant Struggles - Labor Struggles: Global Social Rights in the USA," September 2008.
- Won an historic Home Depot ordinance that committed big box stores to commit to providing support for day laborers in and around their businesses.
- Conducted 300 trainings and presentations on worker rights, and immigrant access to services.
- Household Worker committee lobbied frequently in Sacramento and formed the statewide Household Worker Coalition to connect workers from across the state.
- Produced *Know Your Rights*, a DVD for immigrant communities responding to ICE raids. *Know Your Rights* has aired on Univision and Telemundo, been distributed to over 2,500 people and organizations nationwide, and viewed over 28,500 times online.
- Stopped the deportation of 138 MicroSolutions workers and successfully advocated for the removal of ankle bracelets and improved house arrest conditions for these workers. 50-80 workers from the MicroSolutions raid participated in weekly membership meetings, and 11 workers from the MicroSolutions raid are participating in CHIRLA's Leadership School.
- CHIRLA's website offers free immigrant rights information and issue education. It is visited over 1.8 million times a year.

Goals and Objectives:

In the coming year, CHIRLA will focus on the following primary objectives: organizational power, civic engagement, the political development of leadership and base, outreach to non-immigrants on immigrant issues, and increasing organizational capacity.