Disciples Farm Worker Ministries

Join the team! Activate your faith!

Disciples Farm Worker Ministries are a part of
Refugee & Immigration Ministries/Disciples Home Missions

Become a part of our Disciples Farm Worker Ministry Team & find further resources and programs by contacting
Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley-Rea, RIM Director,
at: sstanley@dhm.disciples.org,
or at: 202-957-7826.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was a founding member of the National Farm Worker Ministry. Partners over decades for farm worker justice, RIM and our churches today work together for immigration reform, to educate people of faith about farm worker needs, and to participate in campaigns for systemic change.

On May 28th, Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins, CC(DOC) General Minister and President, added her name to the list of top national faith leaders who requested the CEO of Wendy’s company to participate in the Fair Food Program, developed by our farm worker and faith partners at the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and the Interfaith Action organization of Florida. The letter was presented to Wendy’s CEO during their annual shareholders’ meeting held in Ohio. The letter was combined with a call in campaign, which urges Wendy’s to demonstrate their commitment to ending farm worker abuse by paying a fair food premium which will then be distributed back to tomato workers. Already, the other top US fast food producers of McDonalds, Taco Bell, Burger King, and Subway have joined the Fair Food program.

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) is a farm worker union founded in the mid-1960s in Ohio by Baldemar Velasquez. It is vitally important to the farm worker movement for creating and popularizing the corporate campaign. Before FLOC, farm workers struggling for better working conditions targeted the growers directly above them. FLOC moved beyond this model, successfully mobilizing farm workers and the general public to put pressure on the powerful corporations that buy from the growers. Utilizing non-violent tactics like marches and public boycotts, FLOC was the first group to use a corporate campaign to win a seat for farm workers at the bargaining table along with growers and corporations.

Watch this video to learn of children in the Southern tobacco fields, and to see the report just published of child workers at risk, by Human Rights Watch:
http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/05/14/us-child-workers-danger-tobacco-farms

Check out the NFWM website at: nfwm.org, or the Coalition of Immokalee Workers’ site at: ciw-online.org

Also, visit our website to obtain constantly updated information regarding farm worker & immigration issues at:
www.discipleshomemissions.org. Like us on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/RefugeeAndImmigrationMinistriesChristianChurchDoc;
and follow us on Twitter: @StanleyRea

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