



**UFW
FOUNDATION**

THIRD Annual



2024-2025

Impact Report

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Leadership

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Guadalupe Martinez, Secretary

Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment (Retired)

Andrea LaRue, Treasurer

Nueva Vista Group NVG, LLC

Teresa Romero

United Farm Workers

Ramon Ramirez

Northwest Treeplanters and Farm Workers United

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noreste (Retired)

Erica Lomeli Corcoran

Chief Executive Officer, UFW Foundation

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Erica Lomeli Corcoran

Chief Executive Officer

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Maria Osorio

Chief of Staff

Fatima Hernandez

Chief Programs Officer

Rachel Vizcarra

Chief Operating Officer

Leydy Rangel

Senior Communications & Marketing Director

A Message from Our CEO



Dear Friends,

In this time of sweeping, fundamental challenges to everyone's hard-won rights, of systemic assaults on democracy itself, and of brutal, targeted attacks on our community, 2024 and 2025 are nevertheless exposing the tremendous resilience of our farm worker and rural immigrant communities, the power of community across many sectors, and the collective strength of us coming together.

From July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, the UFW Foundation provided 185,267 services and advocated on behalf of countless rural immigrants in our home base of California, in Washington D.C., and in Michigan, Georgia, and Washington state. As we focus our hearts on the **mission of empowering communities to ensure human dignity**, we resolve to consistently:

- Supply essential legal services involving removal defense;
- Advocate for rural immigrants at the federal and state levels;
- Organize and educate through Know Your Rights trainings;
- Empower and mobilize voters;
- Respond to natural disasters with compassion and love;
- Develop farm workers' leadership skills; and
- Intentionally partner with other organizations to strengthen our movement.

Unbridled power in the hands of a few imperils the basic rights of us all. Yet we are convinced that by coming together we can also change it all. I am so proud of our Board, our staff and volunteers, our farm worker leaders, and our partners who are present every day clearly demonstrating positivity, resilience, and commitment to the UFW Foundation's values of **Innovation, Si Se Puede Attitude, Integrity, and Empowerment**.

We thank our partners, funders, individual donors, and supporters for aiding us in realizing this work. We ask you to do all you can during these perilous times, in whatever way you can, to keep helping.

With genuine gratitude,

Erica Lomeli Corcoran

Erica Lomeli Corcoran

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2024-2025

Highlights

“If we persist, if we resist and if we do not give up, we will win in the end.”

“ CESAR CHAVEZ

This past year has been difficult for immigrants, for those who support an inclusive democracy, and for everyone who believes in human rights and dignity.

The UFW Foundation has resiliently pushed forward with strength and determination in fighting for farm worker justice. We are driven by our values, and we will not halt nor falter. In this past year, our Legal Services, Organizing, Advocacy, and Communications teams have continued advancing our mission and creating impacts amidst adversity and antipathy.

! Rapid Response

Confronting surprise ICE and Border Patrol raids and attacks from masked and heavily armed men emerging from unmarked vehicles, the UFW Foundation is reaching thousands of farm workers and other rural immigrants with a coordinated campaign focusing on Know Your Rights (KYR) workshops, removal defense Legal Services, and key communications to notify people of impending raids and available resources.

⚖️ Immigration Legal Services

The largest department and the driver of our work, our Legal Services team launched urgent removal defense legal services for those in detention or deportation proceedings to ensure due process. We continue offering affirmative legal services such as family petitions, asylum, and U Visas. We help thousands of families develop Emergency Family Plans to ensure care of minors and management of practical daily concerns should parents be detained or deported. We provide legal assistance and technical support to families victimized by the Border Patrol’s “Operation Return to Sender” raids that targeted and detained people without reasonable cause or suspicion. We conduct intakes, consultations, and prescreens to monitor the number of people impacted and continue representing targeted individuals. We are leading a Rapid Response Legal Services Hub in the Central Valley to maximize our positive impacts in the region. We continue representing minors who are in this country alone without parents, even though the federal administration eliminated all funding for this program at one point.

Advocate & Take Action

Join our advocacy efforts and sign a petition.

Take Action

ufwfoundation.org/take-action

Democracy & Justice Policy Action

UFW Foundation's robust national policy efforts have rapidly accelerated, engaging farm workers in the activism of signing petitions, making calls, and creating meaningful change that is helping integrate immigrant farm workers into our democratic system and build effective and long-overdue power for these workers.

Our key policy priorities include:

- Bipartisan Path to Legal Citizenship (Farm Worker Modernization Act - FWMA)
- Fighting Wage Freezes for Farm Workers in Congress
- Advocating for a National Heat Standard
- Ensuring Safer Working Conditions for Farm Workers

Communications

We are distributing crucial breaking news stories, timely information, and essential resources regarding ICE and Border Patrol raids and attacks, all aimed at boosting awareness among rural immigrants, improving their safety, and keeping families together. Meanwhile, we are making strides in portraying farm workers and immigrants in a humane and realistic way to counter the many false and degrading narratives about them in the public domain.

Highlights focus on:

- [Know Your Rights](#)
- [Educating the public about KYR red cards](#)
- [Generating coverage of the farm worker movement's successful federal lawsuit against the Border Patrol](#)

We operate strong social media platforms, including Facebook (mostly in Spanish for sharing important news with farm workers), Instagram, Tik Tok, X, Threads, and LinkedIn.



Expanding Our Impact

Our core services are concentrated in California, but we are engaging farm workers in Georgia, Washington state, and Michigan too. We have created programming, including Know Your Rights and voter education, referrals for essential services, advocacy engagement, and disaster responses in these states. They have empowered farm workers and rural immigrants and nurtured connections and community amidst the isolation so often plaguing migrant farm workers and rural immigrants. We are celebrating our 5th anniversary in both Michigan and Georgia during 2025.



Beatriz: A Story of *Innovation, Integrity, Si Se Puede Attitude, and Empowerment*

Beatriz came to Los Angeles, CA in 1998 to work in a warehouse packing fruit. She worked there for two years and then moved on to a bakery, where she worked for six years. At that point, attaining legal resident status seemed unlikely, so she and her husband returned to Mexico for nearly 15 years. They returned to the U.S. three years ago, first to the Sacramento area and then to the Central Valley, with the hope of citizenship. She has been working in the fields, picking grapes, during these past few years and has been waiting for her citizenship application to move forward, which has not yet happened.

In the fields, Beatriz has experienced heat stroke repeatedly. Summer in the Central Valley is hot, with temperatures normally reaching the 90s and 100s. Her days begin early, before dawn, so she can be ready to work as the sun rises. The work has been hard, but she has appreciated having steady income to help support her family.

Things became much more difficult last fall when the home where she was living with her family had a pipe burst. The family was forced to vacate, and they had nowhere to go. They were homeless for three months. They had left most of their belongings in the home and their belongings were subsequently stolen, leaving the family with not much more than a few changes of clothes. To make things worse, their landlord refused to return their deposit and last month's rent, money which they desperately needed. Because she and her husband were waiting on citizenship, they were taken advantage of and treated poorly.

Unfortunately, not having legal status or not having social and economic power **leaves people extremely vulnerable** to abuse and a host of

violations. This has always been Beatriz's reality. **But she wants more for herself and for her family.**

In pursuit of a better life, Beatriz began a GED program and is close to completing the course. She has also taken computer literacy classes and is communicating by email and learning how to navigate the internet. She passed her certification test and is officially computer literate. She will soon enroll in the next level class, with a more extensive curriculum focused on software. Beatriz hopes that these skills will lead her to a safer and more satisfying job – a job where she will not face exploitation and intimidation and where she can work in safe conditions that are not harmful or life threatening.

Beatriz is also volunteering with the UFW Foundation, doing everything from office work to leading information sessions and workshops via Zoom for other farm workers. She even started a WhatsApp group to communicate important information with other farm workers. Prior to this year, Beatriz was volunteering in the fields to bring heat safety awareness and teaching farm workers about their legal rights to water and shade on extreme heat days and what they need to do to protect their health. She has drawn on her own experience of heat strokes to do this life-saving work and empower others.

Beatriz embodies all the core values the UFW Foundation strives for: innovation; integrity; Si Se Puede attitude, and empowerment. She goes above and beyond and continues resiliently, no matter the adversity she is facing. Her attitude is an inspiration to us all.

Impact By the Numbers

185,267

Total Services Provided

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

95,242

Subscribers to our Digital Program

Including texting farm workers directly, surveying them on their experiences and needs, providing digital literacy skills building, and engaging them in advocacy efforts.

9,400

Farm Workers Engaged in Grassroots Advocacy

Through testimonies, signatures, and comments.



A proud moment for this injured, homebound man, when UFW Foundation came to his home to help complete his U.S. Citizenship process.

13,397

Immigration Legal Services Provided

5,000	Emergency Family Preparedness Plans (EFPP) coordinated
424	Removal Defense Intakes
142	Participants in Removal Defense Eligibility Screenings and Workshops on Pro-Se Self Representation
139	Deferred Action for Labor Enforcement cases
4,560	Consultations
620	Naturalization Cases
587	DACA Renewals
100	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status cases
202	Family-based cases
1,623	Mixed cases

DISASTER & EMERGENCY RELIEF

3,000

Masks distributed to farm workers, including in Ventura County, during the January 2025 wildfires.

1,107

Food boxes provided to farm worker families out of work due to threat of ICE raids.





1,080

Georgia farm workers received food, clothing, hygiene products, blankets and toys after Hurricane Helene.

2,928

Emergency relief payments totaling \$1,789,000 provided to farm workers throughout the U.S. and its territories through the final period of our multi-year USDA grant.

SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT

5,617,427

Social Media Impressions

337,900

Engagements

847,315

Video Views

134,302

Audience

Across X, Facebook, Tik Tok, LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram and Threads.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

63,700

Individuals engaged in California, Michigan, Georgia and Washington with outreach focused on Know Your Rights, EFPPs, DACA Renewals, Naturalization, Heat Illness Prevention, Deferred Action for Labor Enforcement, and more.

13,224

Michigan farm workers received basic essentials, referrals, education, Know Your Rights, and Rapid Response services.

Join the Conversation

Follow us on social media.

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Our Work in Action

The Immigration Legal Services team provides free or low-cost immigration legal services to rural communities across California.

Our DOJ-accredited representatives are authorized by the U.S. Department of Justice to provide legal aid on immigration matters. The DOJ-accredited representatives, as well as the legal support team members work closely with our immigration attorneys to ensure that farm workers and immigrants receive reliable expertise in various languages with their individual cases.



HIGHLIGHT

Amando Vicente Carino Peña

For decades, Amando Vicente Carino Peña has worked and lived in the United States as a farm worker, dedicating his life toward contributing to our country and to ensuring the wellbeing of his family. Beginning in 1977, Amando would travel from Mexico to the United States every harvest season where he worked in pruning, picking grapes, blueberries, strawberries, and watermelon. It wasn't until 1990 that he decided to stay throughout the year in the United States with his family.

Amando, who has been married for 60 years and has 6 children, is currently retired from farm work and recently decided to **pursue his long-time dream** of becoming a U.S. Citizen.

"I was motivated because my daughter-in-law became a U.S. citizen. I also wanted to petition for my wife to help her and to be able to make a difference by voting and serving my community."

Amando's journey towards citizenship was challenging, having endured bad experiences with two individuals who claimed they would help him with his application, but then took his money and offered no help. After numerous unanswered and unreturned phone calls to push forward with his citizenship journey, **Amando began to be discouraged.** It wasn't until he was referred to the UFW Foundation that he began to have some faith in the legal process.

CONTINUED ↓

"I was very skeptical about the UFW Foundation at first because of past experiences I had. But then I saw that they submitted my application and advocated for me with the USCIS about doing the interview at my house because I had an injury that prevented me from leaving home. They even arranged for USCIS to do my oath ceremony at my home and I officially became a U.S. citizen. I will forever be grateful for all the help the UFW Foundation offered me and being a part of this huge accomplishment for me and my family."

Andrea was approved for employment authorization in 2025, a significant milestone.

Andrea's story is not unique. She arrived in the United States as a child and lived here without legal status or employment authorization for years, into early adulthood. Living in the United States is the only life she can remember.

When Andrea became an adult, she unexpectedly became a single mother due to domestic violence. She soon realized that finding a job without legal employment authorization was very difficult. **But she didn't give up**; she had a child to raise. Andrea began attending San Joaquin Delta Community College and heard about free immigration services **offered by the UFW Foundation** at the college. She soon reached out, scheduled a consultation, and met with Ricardo Nuñez, UFW Foundation's Senior Service Provider.

During the consultation, Ricardo ascertained Andrea would be eligible to apply for citizenship under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Amando has some practical advice for those who find themselves in similar circumstances.

"Que Si Se Puede! Find the right organization or help so they can help with this process. I found the right one for me in the UFW Foundation."

HIGHLIGHT
Andrea



and they began the application process. As a single mother who also attends college, Andrea had limited employment opportunities, and even fewer without employment authorization. Working with Ricardo through this process, **Andrea was approved** for employment authorization in 2025, a significant milestone, and one which has given her the opportunity to support her son and continue her education.

There are so many people like Andrea in this country who came here as young children and who are doing their best to survive and give back to this country, but without having the legal status and other protections they need. **The UFW Foundation provided** nearly 2,000 legal services to students, faculty and staff in our Community Colleges program at 21 campuses in the 2024-2025 year, providing them with essential legal services that allow them to work and study legally as they **pursue their dreams in the United States**.



Si Se Puede! in the Aftermath of Hurricane Helene

When Alma Salazar Young, UFW Foundation's Georgia State Director, woke up on September 27, 2024, she had no idea what the day was to bring.

She had heard news reports that Hurricane Helene had moved through Florida and was heading her way, but hurricanes aren't uncommon in South Georgia and she was not fearing the worst. However, it wasn't long before disaster struck. This Category 4 storm caused widespread destruction, record-breaking rainfall, and deadly flooding. After the hurricane swept through the area, **the region was devastated.** Knowing that farm workers often live without support from surrounding communities, Alma, who is a trained medic, knew what she needed to do. She set out in her car, loaded with whatever supplies she could gather, traveling miles through farmlands to check on farm workers. What she found was families living in their mobile homes where the roofs had been torn off, allowing rain and debris into the homes and offering no protection from the elements. Power and water were turned off, of course, so farm workers were bathing, washing dishes, and washing clothes in nearby streams. **Some had not eaten for days.** Nobody was going out to the farms to check on



the workers. Many of the local response efforts that sprang up were protected by police or other agencies, which made farm workers fear they would be harmed if they went near these places to ask for help. While others in the region were starting the recovery process, **farm workers were forgotten.**

Alma found churches, relief organizations and local communities who had water, food, sanitary supplies, clothing, and other essentials. **She gathered all she could,** making multiple trips to the farm worker communities, bringing them the basics. She found tarps to use as makeshift roofs.



As the days wore into weeks, she persevered, telling herself, “If not me, who?” and, “If not now, when?”

Fueled by love, compassion, and a “Si Se Puede attitude,” she and her then-colleague Anahi were able to sustain all of the UFW Foundation’s farm worker families in the area.

Today, the farm worker community in South Georgia is still recovering. Many landlords have neglected repairs yet have continued to charge rent. Alma continues to gather resources and support to help farm workers move forward with hope and determination. The resilience of the farm workers inspires her every day. Little by little, and by finding allies to help, farm workers in South Georgia are building resilience and overcoming this devastation.

We are inspired by Alma and the Georgia farm workers and look forward to witnessing their continued journey to full recovery.

Volunteer With Us

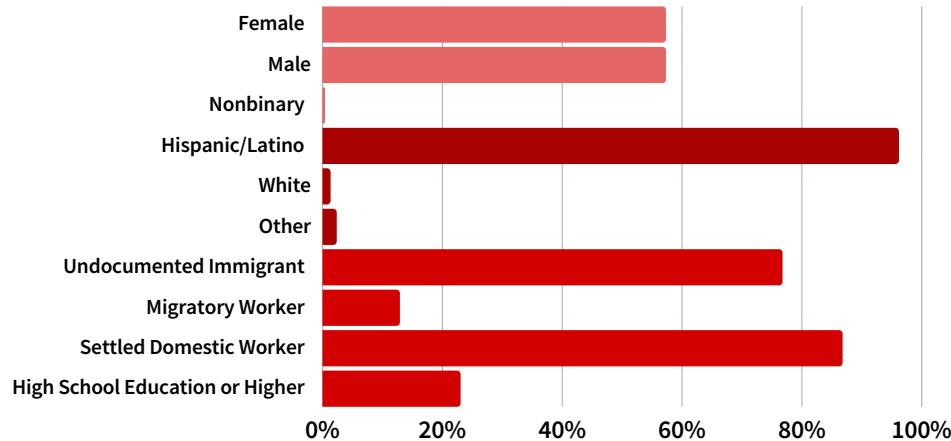
Get involved as a Volunteer, Intern, or Fellow.

[See Opportunities Here](#)

ufwfoundation.org/action/get-involved

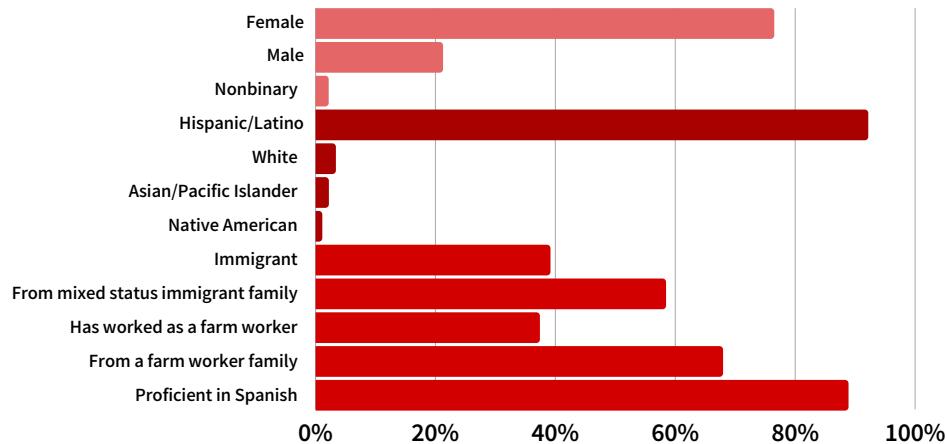


Our Clients, Our Staff



Client Demographics

UFW Foundation's farm worker clients in California are upwards of 97% are Latino, primarily Mexico-born or of Mexican descent.



Staff Demographics

UFW Foundation's staff largely reflects the clients we serve, which allows us to understand clients' needs and deliver services in ways that are culturally-relevant.



Embodying Integrity:

Meet Our Donor

Pam Koch

UFW Foundation's donors have stepped up this past year to provide the organization with resources, trainings, connections, and supportive partnership. Their commitment to turning their values and passion into impactful support is remarkable.

Pam Koch is one such donor. Pam's concern for farm workers was rooted in her childhood in Massachusetts. From an early age, Pam loved fruits and vegetables and was delighted to partake in the offerings of her grandparents' robust garden nearby. She developed an appreciation not only for the produce but for the experience of gardening – putting one's hands in soil, feeling the cool water, smelling the earth, feeling the sun beating down and watching the miracle of growth. When Pam became a teenager, her mother aligned with the grape boycott and refused to have them in the house. Pam missed having grapes, especially since it was hard to find fresh fruit in New England most of the year at that time. Nonetheless, she was taught a powerful lesson about integrity – making decisions that align with your values – modeled by her mother.

Pam's integrity has carried through her life and led her to create impact by giving of her time, raising awareness, and engaging in philanthropy. She has always had great respect for farm workers, admiration for how hard they work and how gracefully they navigate the difficult conditions of their lives. Pam lives in

Northern California, close to a farm working community, where she sees the working conditions for farm workers – the extreme heat in which they must work for hours, the use of herbicides and pesticides, the subpar housing conditions, etc. She finds it unacceptable and believes deeply that people should have compassion and gratitude for the work farm workers do. Pam is horrified by the brutality of what is happening now with the ICE raids, the ripping apart of families, and the harm that this trauma is causing for farm worker families. Pam is not for open borders but believes farm workers deserve dignity and respect and she is very much aligned with UFW Foundation's push for a legal path to citizenship for farm workers. Pam believes we are all immigrants in this country, save for Native Americans, that this country has always been a beacon of hope for those seeking to work hard for a better life, and that we should strive to give all people the opportunity of a path to citizenship and help them get established so they can flourish here and continue to contribute their many gifts to this country.

We are so grateful to our donors like Pam who care so much and who put action behind their caring. Pam's embodiment of integrity inspires us.



Thank you for fueling
our mission.

[Donate Online](#)

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