

NDWA worker newsletter: Coronavirus, solidarity & community

1 message

# NATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS ALLIANCE

Dear Umme -

2020 has already been quite the year. Although we've done so much together, including holding our biggest Assembly yet!, just last week the COVID-19 coronavirus was called a national emergency, and all of us--our families, and the families and homes we care for--are impacted. We all have a lot of questions about the coronavirus, so we've put together some resources to help nannies, care workers and house cleaners. Check them out here in English and Spanish, and be sure to join our upcoming webinar if you want to learn more.

As we wrap up Black History Month, begin Women's History Month, and stand firm in a time of crisis, we're reminded of why we organize: to improve the lives and lift up the voices of our workforce of mostly Black, Latinx, AAPI, and Indigenous women. Our work continues, and our solidarity is stronger. Please continue to visit our Facebook pages and groups and keep an eye on your text and email to be in community, get the latest information on all we're doing, and find out how you can be involved.

Here's what's included in this newsletter:

- Upcoming online trainings: Coronavirus, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Know Your Rights, Domestic Workers and the 2020 Elections
- Our Dignity, Unity, Power Assembly our new Board of Directors and National Worker Councils
- · Meet Sucel: NDWA Worker Profile
- How to become a dues-paying member

# **Upcoming online trainings**

We have a bunch of online trainings scheduled, and they're all happening online so that no matter where you are, you can be part of our movement!

#### Coronavirus

Domestic workers keep homes clean and safe, care for children and provide support for elders and people with disabilities. Our work as nannies, home care workers and housecleaners is critically important--and it puts us on the frontlines of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. Join our upcoming video call to get the latest information on how to stay safe , to ask your questions, and to learn how you can take action for paid sick leave for all workers. The webinar will be on Friday, March 20th at 8 PM PT/5 PM ET.

#### **RSVP** here!

We will have regular, ongoing video calls about the Coronavirus. If you'd like to attend or get the recordings after, RSVP here.

#### Know Your Rights

Have you heard about We Dream in Black (WeDiB)? WeDiB is a project of NDWA that focuses on organizing Black domestic workers and centering them in our fight. Why? Because the history of domestic work is rooted in the legacy of slavery, and the wins we've had are rooted in the labor of Black women. If you identify as Black and want to learn more about our history and WeDiB, join an upcoming webinar! every month on the second Wednesday at 7 PM ET. The next one is April 8th.

#### 2020 Elections

A few months ago, we asked you who would you vote for for President. Since then, a lot has changed as some candidates have dropped out of the race and the primaries have unfolded What hasn't changed is that 2020 is an incredibly important year for our communities, federally and locally, and domestic worker voices can help shape what happens in the elections and beyond. Join our upcoming call on April 11 @ 3 PM ET/12 PM PT to hear from our National Political Director, Jess Morales Rocketto, about what's at stake and how you can get involved.

#### RSVP here!

#### Sexual Assault Awareness

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Join us on April 22nd at 5 PM PT/8 PM ET to learn about what rights you have at work when dealing with sexual assault, hear stories of how other domestic workers have responded to abuse and assault on the job and what policy changes domestic workers are pushing for to ensure rights for any nanny, care worker or house cleaner dealing with sexual harassment or assault.

#### **RSVP** here!

Interested in a webinar but can't join us live? Don't worry! Just RSVP above, and we'll get you the recordings after! All online trainings will be in English and Spanish.

# Our Dignity, Unity, Power Assembly — and our new Board

Nearly 2,000 domestic workers came together on February 15th and 16th, both in Las Vegas and online, to take part in our biggest NDWA National Assembly yet! Together, we built our skills, shared our stories, and made plans for how we'll win more rights, recognition and respect for domestic workers. And we were lucky to be joined by some of our allies and champions, including Representative Pramila Jayapal (who introduced the National Bill of Rights!) and Yalitza Aparicio, the star of *Roma*.

We also elected NDWA's new Board of Directors, which is made up primarily of domestic worker leaders from NDWA's affiliate organizations and chapters. The Board is responsible for setting the overall strategic direction of our alliance. Our election was exciting and competitive, as Board candidates made inspiring speeches about their commitment to lead. We're excited that our new democratically-elected Board members bring a wealth of experience as domestic workers and as movement visionaries. We know that our alliance is in good hands with their leadership!

At the Assembly, we also announced the 32 domestic worker leaders who were elected last fall to serve on our four National Worker Councils: the Nanny Council, Home Care Council, Housecleaners Council and Platform Workers Council, The Worker Councils are tasked with identifying and evaluating our strategies to make sure that all domestic work is good work.

Domestic workers are leading our movement, locally and nationally. Congratulations to all of our leaders who were just elected to these national leadership bodies, and to every domestic worker leading in your own communities!

And click here to watch a short video we made about the Assembly!



### **Meet Sucel: NDWA Worker Profile**

Every newsletter, we'll be highlighting a member of NDWA and their story. Are you interested in being profiled or sharing your story? Reply to this email and let us know!

I'm Sucel, a nanny outside of D.C. I care for three children: a six-year old boy, a four-year old girl and a one-year old boy. I've been with my current employer for a year and two months, and like other nannies, I love what I do. But it's so frustrating that even though we take care of people's most precious part of their lives -- their children -- we are excluded from many worker protections.

That's why I got involved in the fight for the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights in Washington D.C. The DC Domestic Worker Bill of Rights is similar to the National one but it would apply specifically to workers who work in Washington D.C. I'm fighting for the national bill because I want to win for domestic workers all across the country. And I'm fighting for the local bill because each time we win in a city or a state, we get closer to winning for everyone. I know that this bill will change my life, and the lives of other nannies, house cleaners, and home care givers in the area. Many of them have suffered abuses on the job, and I want to fight these injustices alongside them. As domestic workers, we know we deserve to work in safety and dignity. If you're a domestic worker in the D.C. area, sign up here to get involved. And if you want to support from afar, become a member of NDWA here -- we need to build a strong organization in order to win this bill and others!



## Become a dues-paying member

NDWA is a home for hundreds of thousands of nannies, care workers and housecleaners all over the United States — including you! Together, we've done so much — over the past 10 years, we've passed Domestic Worker Bills of Rights in 10 states and 2 cities! But to keep up

our fight, we need power and resources — which means we need **you** to help sustain this work.

Membership costs only \$5 per month, or \$60 per year. Your membership dues will help support our movement and give you benefits and resources to help you and your family. As a dues paying member, you will get trainings and information on your rights and workforce development and skills. You will also be invited to join special events to connect with other members, learn new professional skills, learn to protect your rights, and much more. Our benefits also include life insurance, discounts on vision and dental services, movie and entertainment deals — and more!

Together we are building a world where your work will be recognized and valued. Join us now!

14	<b>^1</b>	NI.			_
J	JI	N	н	ĸ	⊏!

\*\*\*

We hope you are finding ways to stay safe and healthy -- we'll be in touch with more coronavirus-related news soon.

With love & appreciation,

Maria, Barbara & the NDWA membership team

Join NDWA today!

Sent Via ActionNetwork.org. To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from National Domestic Workers Alliance - Contacts and Members, please <u>click here</u>.