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A Message From Our Team

Last Monday was Labor Day, a day that the U.S. Department of Labor defines as a “tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.” We believe that celebrations are nice, but what working people really need are policies and practices that meaningfully contribute to their ability to share in the strength, prosperity and well-being of this nation that is created by their labor.

We can achieve greater prosperity for working people by increasing the share of income that goes to them. We can ensure worker wellbeing by passing and enforcing workplace safety standards. And we can respect worker strength by making it easier for people to join labor organizations and engage in collective bargaining.

The goal of our work at CPI is to ensure that when we have a strong, prosperous, and healthy economy, it is felt in the households of regular working people. Coming out of Labor Day, we won some significant policies that help bring us closer to this.

We have an important election coming up and we hope you’ll join us in honoring working people every day by passing policies that advance living wages, affordable housing, healthcare, community-directed education, and workplace health and safety. Catch up on our
latest news and stay tuned for more. If you are able, please consider making a donation to support our work.

In solidarity,

The CPI Team

POLICY ADVOCACY

VICTORY!

The City of San Diego passed the Emergency Recall & Retention Ordinance.

THIS IS A HUGE WIN FOR WORKERS.

In a 7-2 vote on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, the San Diego City Council passed an emergency recall and retention ordinance for hospitality and commercial maintenance workers in the city.

In collaboration with our Raise Up San Diego coalition partners (UNITE HERE Local 30, SEIU-USWW, and the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council), we passed an emergency ordinance that ensures laid-off workers who have given the most years of service return to their jobs once businesses begin to rehire. This is a victory for some of the hardest hit workers in San Diego.

READ MORE

Fair Scheduling Web Report
Even before COVID-19, workers in San Diego County were facing enormous challenges due to employer scheduling practices, which interfere with employees’ health, family life, financial stability and academic pursuits.

Scheduling practices such as short advance notice, same day changes, and on-call shifts may be convenient for employers, but come at a tremendous cost to workers. Workers find themselves at the beck and call of their employer, unable to plan family activities, social engagements, medical appointments, shifts at second jobs, class attendance, and other important life obligations. Moreover, workers are generally not paid for on-call time they leave open for their employer. Employers are effectively stealing workers’ time and we need to pass Fair Workweek policies.
Join us for our Mayoral Candidate Forum to hear where the candidates stand on our vision for the future of San Diego. As communities are facing unprecedented hardships due to the COVID-19 crisis, we need to ensure that candidates for Mayor of San Diego are held accountable and ensure their issues center our communities’ values and priorities.

Interpretation will be provided in Spanish. Interpretation in ASL, Vietnamese, Somali, Arabic, Swahili, Kizigua, and Burmese are also available by request with at least 48 hours’ notice.

RSVP

COALITION UPDATES

Invest in San Diego Families (ISDF) Coalition
After months of public pressure from the Invest in San Diego Families (ISDF) coalition, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors made changes to the County Budget that will address some vital community needs. The budget adopted at August 25th’s hearing contains nearly $32 million in community investments that center social equity, a change from the County’s historical spending practices.

Follow ISDF on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to stay in the loop about our advocacy at the County. Sign up for ISDF news updates or support our work with a one-time or monthly donation.

VOTE

This year, 3 of the 5 San Diego County Board of Supervisor seats are up for election, 2 due to term limits. This change will be groundbreaking for the San Diego region, as demographics have changed, and progressive groups are being more organized and influential. In addition, residents in the City of San Diego will also elect five new City Council members and a new mayor. The results of the 2020 elections could determine how the region operates for decades.

This election season, we are encouraging everyone to vote EARLY. The earlier you submit your ballot, the more certain you can be that your vote will be counted.
Our Executive Director, Dr. Kyra R. Greene, was invited by Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins to write about why it’s so important for everyone to respond to the 2020 Census. Read her message here and please complete the census today online, by phone, or by mail if you received a paper form.

“We participate in the Census is one of the easiest and most inclusive forms of civic engagement available to us. It sends that message that, ‘This is who I am; I am here and I matter.’”

Dr. Kyra R. Greene
Executive Director

We are currently hiring for the following positions. Click to learn more:

- Communications Specialist
- Coalition Organizer
- Researcher & Policy Advocate
San Diego Passes Ordinance Requiring Hotels To Consider Most Experienced When Rehiring (September 2020, NBC 7)
San Diego OKs Seniority Rule for Staff Callbacks in Hotel, Other Industries (September 2020, Times of San Diego)
San Diego City Council passes recall and retention ordinance for hotel workers (September 2020, ABC 10 News)
Rent subsidies, social equity among issues raised in county budget hearing (August 2020, San Diego Union Tribune)
Coronavirus Hit Latinos Harder Thanks to a Perfect Storm of Disparities (August 2020, Voice of San Diego)
Black people still few and far between in San Diego’s biotech industry (July 2020, Los Angeles Times)
San Diego Police Routinely Blow Past Overtime Budgets (July 2020, KPBS)
San Diego Groups Calls For End To ‘Pretext Stops’ By Police (July 2020, KPBS)

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, CPI relies on the generous support of our community to operate. If you have not been severely impacted by COVID-19 and would like to support our fight for economic and social justice, please consider becoming a monthly donor or making a one-time donation. Thank you so much!