

You can change lives.

Dear *Dominique*

I wish I could tell you that farm workers' lives are getting easier, but for many that is I not the case. Fear of ICE, the indifference of powerful corporations and the failure of government to protect workers' needs over profits all mean that farm workers and their supporters must keep up the fight.

Theresa* who is a mother, farm worker and the primary breadwinner in her family in North Carolina, tells us that **people in her community are fearful**. *"You have to go to work, you have to pay your bills, your rent. You have to work. But you're always going with fear that you'll run into a police officer and he'll ask you questions."*

“You have to work. But you're always going with fear...”

Rafael* worked at the same farm in Florida for 15 years. He was recently fired, along with a dozen of his co-workers, because their employer replaced them with people coming in on guest worker visas who are **less likely to complain** about working conditions.

Carmen* is a single mother supporting her family by doing farm work. One of her coworkers asked her out - she said no. The supervisor was angry and started making her sit next to the co-worker during the ride to the fields, even making her hold the man's hand. So Carmen saved up enough money to buy her own car. Two weeks later the supervisor fired Carmen. She went to the grower to tell her story and ask the grower for help. Instead, he said she was fired because **"she couldn't get along with the boys"** and wouldn't get her job back.

These are just 3 people we heard from this year. There are hundreds, thousands of similar stories.

This is what NFWM's work – and your support - is all about. To fight alongside Theresa, Rafael and Carmen until justice is won.



*names have been changed

National Farm Worker Ministry

P. O. Box 10645 ★ Raleigh, NC 27605 ★ 919.807.8707 ★ nfwm.org

Here are just a few examples of how...

- We are visiting elected officials, especially, with farm workers in Florida to support Dreamers, to push for the Agricultural Worker Act and to **fight bad guestworker legislation**.
- We are supporting tobacco farm workers by **boycotting Reynolds American's** e-cigarette VUSE and by organizing monthly pickets, mobilizing supporters to write to Reynolds and calling on faith partners to increase the pressure on Big Tobacco.
- We are picketing, fasting & advocating **alongside farm worker women** in their Harvest of Violence campaign demanding their right to work without fear of violence.

Farm Workers are imagining the world and work they want and **NFWM is responding to their requests to help them achieve it.**

NFWM and farm workers need your support!

Will you make a gift to NFWM today and help us continue this important work?

Time is of the essence. Things are changing fast for immigrants and farm workers and NFWM's ability to respond is critical. So, please use the enclosed envelope and make as generous a donation as possible today.

With appreciation,



Julie Taylor
NFWM Executive Director

P.S. The best way to support farm workers all year long is to become a monthly or quarterly sustaining donor. See the enclosed remittance envelope for details.

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