



4CHANGE

Nurturing Movements for Social Justice in the San Diego-Tijuana Border region

May 2010

Foundation for Change 3758 30th Street, San Diego, CA 92104 www.foundation4change.org 619.692.0527 info@foundation4change.org

Census 2010 funding

Democracy for All: Training Leaders for Civic Engagement

Make Yourself Count/Hágase Contar is the name of the Foundation for Change's training and mobilization campaign to secure a "complete count" of San Diego County in the 2010 Census.

As part of the project the Foundation has awarded almost \$150,000 in grants to 17 community-based organizations in San Diego's immigrant, border and refugee communities.

Successful grant applicants demonstrated already established relationships of trust with these hard-to-reach populations and presented plans for incorporating census advocacy into their existing programs of outreach, education and organizing.

As part of the campaign, over 250 community leaders were trained as census advocates at an all-day Training and Mobilization program at Hoover High School on February 20.

Bi-lingual training, education and mobilization was provided by speakers from the California Immigrant Policy Center, the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network, the National Latino Research Center, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed

Officials (NALEO), as well as Partnership Specialists from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Keynote Speaker Cathi Tactaquin, Executive Director of the National Network for Immigrant & Refugee Rights, called it the "most diverse and representative census training" she had attended. Please visit the Foundation for Change website to watch a 4-minute video documenting this unique program of training and mobilization.



The Make Yourself Count/Hágase Contar campaign was made possible by the collaboration of many part-

ners, including The California Endowment, the Haas Jr. Fund, Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrant and Refugees, the Equality Alliance, the United Way of San Diego, Price-Galinson Charities, Union Bank, Alliance Healthcare Foundation, the San Diego Refugee Forum, the San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium and countless individuals.

For an example of the creative work being done by Foundation for Change grantees in the realm of census advocacy, see the article entitled "Undercounting Latinos, Again" on page 4 of this newsletter.

The Foundation for Change is a progressive community Foundation serving the San Diego/Tijuana region.
Learn more on-line at: www.foundation4change.org



Equality for All: A night at Diversionsary

By Darrell Netherton

On Thursday, February 25, the Foundation for Change partnered with San Diego's premier LGBT theater, the dynamic Diversionsary Theatre, for a production of the award winning "The Marriage Bed" by Nona Shephard. A large group of Foundation supporters enjoyed the presentation, which underscored the Foundation's commitment to marriage equality in California.

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Prior to the opening curtain, Executive Director John Fanestil spoke briefly, noting that "A commitment to the LGBT community is a cornerstone of our organization's proud history. And we remain committed to absolute equality for all persons, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity."

This collaboration is a first for the Foundation for Change and Diversionsary, which celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2010. "Theater is a persuasive instrument of change," said Nancy Rodriguez, who serves on the Board of Directors of both organizations. She added: "A romantic comedic play written about an activist and her own coming to terms with the idea of marriage was the perfect match for an audience filled with activists both gay and straight."

Bret Young, managing director of Diversionsary said "We were delighted to have the Foundation in the house, and look forward to a continued relationship creating change in San Diego."

WHO WE ARE

The Foundation for Change is a progressive community Foundation serving the San Diego/Tijuana region. We work with CHANGEMAKERS – individuals and institutions committed to "change, not charity." By organizing DONORS, awarding GRANTS and supporting LEADERS, we help build organizations and NETWORKS in historically under-resourced communities on both sides of the border.

The Foundation for Change nurtures movements for social justice in the San Diego-Tijuana border region.

Health for All: Spring Focus Funds

By Ruby Cougler

On a bright Saturday morning in March, over 40 people gathered at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Training Center in Kearny Mesa to participate in a grant proposal workshop hosted by the Foundation for Change. The three-hour session trained leaders from grassroots organizations in San Diego and Tijuana to apply for this year's "Focus Funds" for Health & Justice in Border and Immigrant Communities.

"I am pleased that we have 24 organizations represented at the workshop," said Foundation for Change Program Officer, Andrea Rocha, "and at least eight groups are from Baja California!"

As in the past, the workshop gave potential

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applicants an overview of the Foundation for Change, discussed the specific guidelines for this year's Focus Funds, and explained how the grant making process works.

A new component of the Foundation's work is to create grassroots networks among its grantees. Network gatherings will offer ongoing opportunities for dialogue, capacity building, technical assistance, and peer support for "Health for All" grantees.

A Note from John

These are exciting times at the Foundation for Change. We are awarding more dollars in grants than ever before — over \$225,000 in 2009. And by carefully growing a professional staff, we are offering more strategic support to our grantees.

These dramatic results are the first fruits of our sharpened strategic focus. By organizing our grants around "focus funds" of common concern, and by developing a genuine expertise our region's immigrant and border communities, we have attracted the attention of larger foundations who share our progressive values.

This year we are launching three initiatives at the Foundation for Change — our "Democracy for All" initiative will promote civic engagement and participation; under the banner of "Health for All" we will continue to promote organizing and advocacy at the intersection of health and social justice; and soon we intend to launch a new effort to promote "Equality for All," with special attention to LGBT communities of color. In each of these instances, the phrase "for all," reinforces our current strategy, as the greatest

injustice in each of these areas is concentrated in immigrant and border communities.

At the same time the phrase points to our long-term vision. We still aspire to become a "go-to" foundation for progressive San Diegans with interests and passions of every kind.

We live in a world in which powerful forces are dedicated to pitting people against each other — along lines of race or class or gender or nationality or sexual orientation.

That's why we believe San Diego needs a foundation that is dedicated to the cause of social justice for all.

At the Foundation for Change we believe that we are all in this together.

Looking forward,



Undercounting Latinos, Again

By Arcela Nuñez-Alvarez & Fabiola Gastelum

Latinos and immigrants in San Diego County have been greatly undercounted in previous decennials and it is happening again.

Hence, in an effort to improve access to 2010 census resources and information in Latino, immigrant and farmworker communities in North San Diego County, the National Latino Research Center (NLRC) at California State University San Marcos has partnered with The California Endowment, The Foundation for Change, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund, Frontera Asset Building Network, Vista Community Clinic, Community Housing Works, the Farmworker CARE Coalition and dozens of community leaders representing *Poder Popular para la Salud del Pueblo*, a grassroots community-building initiative working to improve conditions of farmworkers and their families.

Outreach Via Cultural Liaisons

Building on a sophisticated community infrastructure of grassroots leadership sustained through *Poder Popular para la Salud del Pueblo*, NLRC and partner organizations have trained over one hundred community leaders known as *Líderes Comunitarios*. *Líderes*, who represent their local neighborhoods serve as cultural and linguistic liaisons transmitting news and information to families who live in remote regions of the county, bridging the information divide existing in the most disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. *Líderes* conduct informational presentations urging families to complete and return census questionnaires and assist families to complete census questionnaires whenever families solicit their support.

Persistent Challenges

Despite efforts to promote a complete and accurate 2010 census count, several challenges persist. NLRC has

documented the following:

1) Pervasive anti-immigrant environment and climate throughout San Diego County perpetuates a culture of fear and intimidation. In some communities, such fear has paralyzed social activity and community interactions.

2) Methodology employed to count farmworkers and migrants in encampments is flawed and culturally and linguistically inappropriate. Information regarding location of where encampments are located is considered extremely sensitive information for many community-based organizations due to historical assaults against these individuals. Conflicting information has been provided regarding enumeration in these locations.

3) Methodology employed to count Latinos and farmworkers living on reservations is flawed and culturally inappropriate. Complex historical relations between Latinos and Native Americans/American Indians in the region limit information on Latinos living on reservations.

4) Methodology to count Latinos in rural communities is flawed. Specifically, Latinos who live on farms and groves are reporting not having received questionnaires from their employers nor are they being counted by their employers. Since they do not have individual home addresses it will be difficult to verify their residence even if they mail-in questionnaires. Hence, an undercount of farmworkers living on farms is very likely.



5) Information regarding Questionnaire Assistance Centers has not been readily available for organizations and community leaders to disseminate during outreach presentations. Líderes encounter language problems and cultural insensitivity from staff at QACs.

6) Census questions asking about race and ethnicity are very confusing, especially for immigrants who are not as familiar with the history of race and ethnic relations in the United States. Census needs to more clearly and scientifically define terminology to make it more understandable and provide a guide describing the meaning of each category.

A Visit to Tecate

The Harvest Begins in Baja California

By Andrea Rocha

On February 6, 2010 friends of the Foundation for Change traveled to the *Jardin Cerveza* in Tecate to learn from and honor the work of six Baja California grantees. Hosted in partnership with the Tecate-based *Fundacion la Puerta*, the event drew 50 people representing over 12 organizations from both sides of the border.

The main focus of the event was the “Final Report” presentations of these 2009 grantees:

- **Comité De Mujeres Lluvia Del Sur, TECATE:** “A Capacity Building Initiative with Marginalized Women of the ‘Luis Donaldo Colossio’ Colonia in Tecate.”
- **Barrios Con Arte y Cultura (BACU), TIJUANA:** “Voices from the ‘Hood: Marginalized Youth Organize to Collect Oral Histories on Video.”
- **Centro de Información para Trabajadores y Trabajadoras (CITTAC), TIJUANA:** “Human Rights Training Sessions: Labor & Gender Rights for Workers in Tijuana’s Maquiladoras.”
- **Colectiva Feminista Binacional, TIJUANA:** “Women Across Borders: Organizing Women for Change.”
- **Fundacion Esperanza, TIJUANA:** “El Placer de Ser Padres” – Parenting Workshops and Community Development in Tijuana’s Urban Margins.
- **Colectivo Kumiai Spapoman, TIJUANA:** “Conservation and Protection of Kumiai and Cucapa Indigenous ssets: Territory, Culture, and Natural Resources.”

All groups presented with PowerPoint and one, BACU, shared a video produced with their grant.

“The presentations brilliantly and humbly articulated the struggles of the borderlands,” said Jesse Mills, Chair of the Foundation for Change Grant Making Committee.

Also present at the event were representatives from U.S.-based fiscal sponsor organizations: Oscar Romo (Southwest Wetland Interpretative Association); Amelia Simpson (Environmental Health Coalition); Peter Brown and Susan Beattie (Grassroots Events/Schools for Chiapas). Fiscal sponsors based in the United States make it possible for Mexican groups to receive grants from the Foundation for Change, and bi-national allies like these serve as inspirational role models while providing collaborative support to foundation grantees.

Social justice is a universal language

The day’s presentations were followed by a Mexican style “comida” and the entertainment of *Ensamble Casiopea*, a musical duo from Tecate. A local youth group, *Grupo Frontera*, offered logistical support.

Last but not least, the interpretation skills of Carlos Diaz de Leon and Daniel Durazo made it seem as though we were all speaking one language. On second thought, we were... social justice is a universal language.

CHANGEMAKERS

Eric Isaacson, Leiana Naholowaa and **Nicole Trombley** will soon be finishing their terms on the Foundation for Change (FFC) Board of Directors. Eric, Leiana and Nicole have been mainstays on the Board through a time of dramatic change in the organization. The Board will present them with tokens of appreciation at their final meeting in June, 2010.

New to the Board of Directors is **Irma Gigli** of La Jolla. Dr. Gigli is the Walter & Mary Mischer Distinguished Professor of Molecular Medicine and Deputy Director of The Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. She serves on the board of the Pew Charitable Trust and has served on a number of national and international committees dealing with education and health in the United States and third world countries.

The **Foundation for Change** has been selected for a Design Grant by the celebrated civic branding and design specialist **Bennett Peji** (see: <http://bennettpeji.com/>). Keep your eye out for a new look to our website, print materials and electronic communications.

Program Officer **Andrea Rocha** joined John Fanestil in presenting at a March 16 workshop for San Diego Grantmakers on the topic of "Building the Capacity of Grassroots Nonprofits." Andrea also organized a group of FFC grantees to present on a panel at The California Wellness Foundation's Conference on Work and Health in April.

The **Foundation for Change** was recognized with the Chair's Award at the March, 2010 Roosevelt Dinner of the **SD County Democratic Party**. In his generous remarks, **Jess Durfee**, Chair of the SD County Democratic Party recalled an early grant from the FFC to promote voter registration in San Diego's LGBT community.

The **Foundation for Change** has been awarded a grant from the **San Diego HIV Funding Collaborative** to serve as the fiscal sponsor for **Strength for the Journey**, a 5-day summer retreat providing a safe, caring and healing community for people living with HIV/AIDS. For a fourth year John Fanestil will serve as the Dean of the Strength for the Journey camp, which is also affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Michelle Lenoue, Arturo Vasquez and **Marquise Anderson** are new to the FFC Grant Making Committee. The committee says "farewell" and "thank you" to **Connie Garcia** of Tijuana, and to **Connery Cepeda**, who will soon relocate to begin his pursuit of a Masters degree in City Planning at the University of California Berkeley.

In May the **Foundation for Change** served as a local co-host to a community-based training event organized by the **California Pan-Ethnic Health Network**, "Ensuring Equity: Achieving Our Vision for Health Care Reform Legislation."

Executive Director **John Fanestil** spoke in March on the topic of immigration reform at the **Del Mar Rotary Club** and the **North County World Affairs Council**. In January his op-ed, "We owe it to ourselves to count all," appeared in the **San Diego Union Tribune**. In February he led over 50 participants from the **Council on Family Foundations** in a tour of the U.S.-Mexico border wall. In April he participated in the University of San Diego's Spring Institute for Lived Theology, organized by FFC Board member **Sarah Azaransky**. In March Fanestil spoke on the topic of fundraising to the fellows of the **San Diego New Leaders Council**. He has also made recent appearances as guest-preacher at **United Methodist Churches** in Pacific Beach and San Luis Obispo.

The **Friends of Friendship Park** coalition was honored by the **Save Our Heritage Organisation** in December, 2009 at its 27th Annual People in Preservation Awards, the citation reading: "For sheer determination and multifaceted preservation strategies, we commend the Friends of Friendship Park with the People in the Trenches Award." Friends of Friendship Park is now engaged in intensive negotiations with San Diego Border Patrol about restoring access to the historic meeting place on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Thanks to the generosity of loyal donors, the Foundation for Change has co-sponsored or hosted tables at the following events in 2010: the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Breakfast**, the 47th Annual Dinner of **Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties**, the Equality Awards celebration of **Equality California**, the Labor-Human Rights Celebration of the **ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties** and the **Employee Rights Center**, and the 2010 Kickoff for **Empower San Diego**. If you would like to underwrite or organize the Foundation for Change's sponsorship of an event supporting an allied organization, please contact Executive Director John Fanestil at john@foundation4change.org.

Save the Date!

Changemaker Festival September 26th, Balboa Park

This year's outdoor festival in Balboa Park will be FREE and open to the public. Meet other people and organizations committed to social justice. Join the Foundation for Change in honoring our 2009 and 2010 grantees.

For sponsorship opportunities contact John Fanestil,
john@foundation4change.org

To volunteer contact Ruby Cougler,
ruby@foundation4change.org.



Social Justice for All

Foundation for Change

Justicia y Dignidad para Tod@s

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 21st: The San Diego LGBT Community Center invites you to the Second Annual **Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast**. If you would like to join the Foundation for Change table, please contact John Fanestil, john@foundation4change.org.

June 19th: Foundation for Change 2009 grantees will present their work in two panels: "*Achievements & Challenges of Reproductive Justice in our Region*" & "*Achievements and Challenges of Immigrant Worker Health Organizing.*" The event is at the Joe & Vi Jacobs Community Center from 10am to 3pm. For more information contact Andrea Rocha, andrea@foundation4change.org

July 17th: Annual **PRIDE** parade. To join our contingent and march with Super Sonic Samba School and Fern Circus, contact Michele Silverthorn, michele@foundation4change.org.

August 14th: Foundation for Change grantees will meet for an evaluation of their work advocating for participation in the 2010 Census. To learn more contact John Fanestil, john@foundation4change.org.

August 16th –20th: Strength for the Journey, a retreat for people living with HIV/AIDS. For more information contact John Fanestil, john@foundation4change.org.

Sept. 26th: Changemaker Festival, a FREE farmers market style event in Balboa Park.

More events at: www.procambio.ning.com/events
or become a fan and follow us on Facebook.

I am a Monthly Donor — Are You?

Just recently I decided to become a monthly donor. I'm asking if you will do the same.

The reason I'm asking is simple: the **Foundation for Change** – our region's only unapologetically progressive community foundation – is making enormous contributions to the cause of social justice in San Diego and Tijuana.

Last year the Foundation put nearly **one-quarter million dollars** to work in our region through grants to some amazing groups working in historically under-resourced communities on both sides of the border. Through its strategically growing staff, the Foundation is also providing more support than ever to leaders and organizations working for the social justice causes I believe in – causes like Equality for All, Health for All, and Democracy for All.

Monthly donations create a dependable stream of steady income on which the Foundation for Change can depend. Some monthly donors give \$10 each month, and others give \$100 or more. The amount you contribute is less important than your monthly vote for the crucial mission of the Foundation for Change.

We currently have 25 monthly donors, **I'm asking you to contribute at whatever level you feel appropriate and help us double that number.** You can sign up as a monthly donor at: www.foundation4change.org/monthlydonors.php or you can send in the envelope enclosed in this newsletter.

Thank you for considering this easy way to put your progressive values into action in our region.

Yours for social justice,



Anthony White, Volunteer Board Member



Social Justice for All

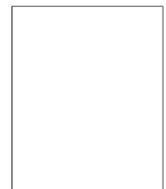
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