MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We launched Siembra NC!
Siembra (“the planting/growing”) is a grassroots group of undocumented Latinx residents in the NC Triad who stand up for their communities and struggle to live lives with dignity and self determination in the face of ICE, police, and abusive employers. Our organizers go door to door with Know Your Rights information, teach people how to identify ICE, and identify new community leaders.

We defeated 287(g) in Alamance County!
With partners, Siembra members in Alamance County spoke out against the abusive and racially profiling 287(g) deportation program, forcing the sheriff to disavow the program. The fight isn’t over, but this was a big victory! Sofia* was one of the powerful women leaders of this struggle. In a high profile comical action, she delivered “No-287g-tacos” right to the sheriff!

We trained a team of new immigrant leaders!
Thanks to skills trainings, political education, and mentoring, undocumented leaders are stepping up like never before in the NC Triad, becoming spokespersons, leading actions, and speaking at public meetings like the county commission. Ana* has become an amazing leader, speaking before the media, organizing business supporters, and inspiring others to speak out as well.

We inspired congregations in NC to support more Sanctuary cases than any other state!
In 2018, seven NC congregations offered Sanctuary, more than anywhere else in the nation. AFSC intensively supported three cases and also co-founded the NC Sanctuary Coalition. Rosa and Juana, both in Sanctuary, make and sell food and crafts to better tolerate this heart-wrenching situation, and they regularly speak out.

We mobilized support for many families impacted by deportation & detention!
Partnering with the Interactive Resource Center, we created an emergency fund for immigrant families impacted by deportation & detention. We also initiated a court accompaniment program and supported families with detained loved ones. After Jorge* was unjustly detained, we arranged court accompaniment and financial support for him. Jorge and his family have gotten very involved with Siembra and now help to organize new campaigns!

We protested wage theft – and won!
Responding to requests from workers in the community, we helped multiple workers try to recover unpaid wages. Elias* bravely spoke out after being cheated by his boss out of thousands of dollars. After a large group protest, we reached an agreement with the boss to return all Elias’ earnings!

BY THE NUMBERS
This year, we:
- Won $14,000 in back wages from wage theft protests
- Knocked on 1200 doors
- Provided 800 people with Know Your Rights information
- Held more than 25 events where 150 undocumented Latinx folks played significant roles and 550 supporters attended
- Trained 100+ allies as Verifiers in four cities to respond to reports of ICE presence
- Developed 60 undocumented Latinx residents as leaders
- Supported 17 families directly through court accompaniment, funds, or campaign support
- Partnered with 15 Guilford County schools to talk to Latinx parents about their rights
- Formed 10 neighborhood text-groups so residents can alert each other of ICE presence

*not their real names

Communities Against Islamophobia (CAI)
Our office also partners on AFSC’s national CAI project. With local interns, we have trained over 50 people with our CAI curriculum, published an Op-Ed, co-sponsored an event about the Muslim Ban, and have started a new group for young activist Muslims!