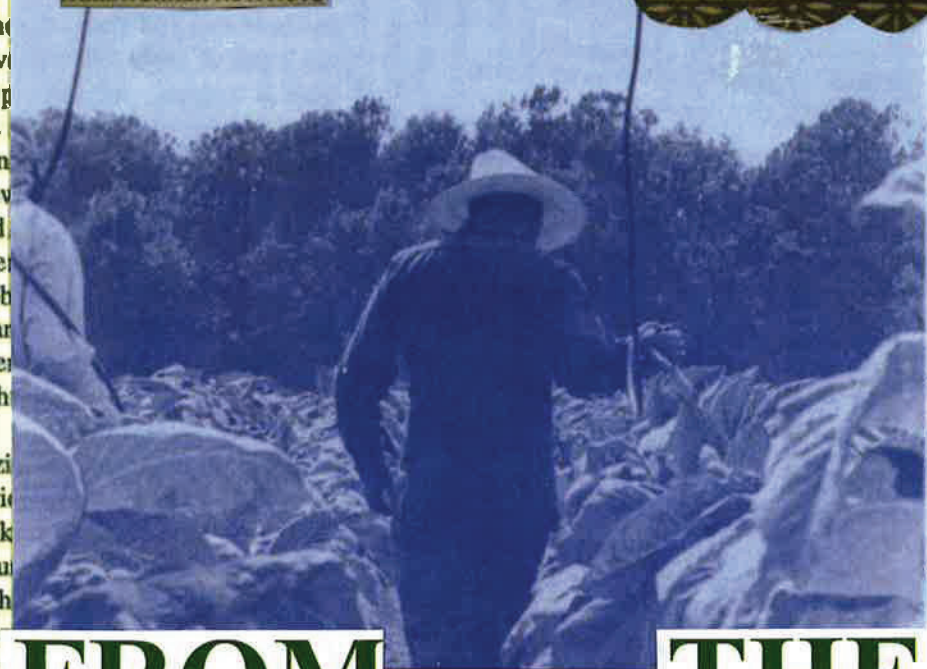


ACTION NEEDED TO PROTECT FARMWORKERS'

25 YEARS OF GROWING
FARMWORKER ACTIVISTS



FROM

THE

IF Farmworkers FEED The WORLD!!!



GROUND

UP



VOL. 25 NO.1 WINTER 2017

Annual Report

September 2016- August 2017

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SAF

Student Action with Farmworkers

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www.saf-unite.org



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Joanna Welborn, Editor
joanna.welborn@duke.edu

SAF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to bring students and farmworkers together to learn about each other's lives, share resources and skills, improve conditions for farmworkers, and build diverse coalitions working for social change.



25 Years of Growing Farmworker Activists Looks Like This:

- **Over 100,000 farmworkers and their family** members have gained access to health, legal, and education resources provided by SAF interns and fellows in the Carolinas.
- **Nearly 1000 college students** from universities across the country and youth in NC have learned about farmworker rights and advocated for farmworker justice as a result of SAF leadership programs.
- **More than 150 community organizations** and university groups have partnered with SAF on critical issues such as migrant housing reform and access to higher education for immigrant students.
- **Thousands of individuals** are more aware of farmworker issues and more empowered to take action because of SAF's community engagement work, including National Farmworker Awareness Week.
- **Farmworkers live and work** under more dignified conditions because of SAF's successful advocacy in support of migrant housing and pesticide reform and solidarity with farm labor organizing groups that have won contracts yielding higher wages, grievance procedures, and human rights on the job.



Take a look back with us at our history of working with young activists to improve farmworkers' lives:



SAF 25-Year timeline



Más de una historia documentary retrospective



25-Year Readers' Theater



2016–2017 Program Participants

Levante Leadership Institute Members

Alejandra Araiza Mendoza
Alicia Enriquez
Andrés Vazquez
Blanca Trejo Muñoz
Eden Cabrera
Jackeline Leyva
Jesús Cabrera
Juan Araiza Mendoza
Juan Ibarra
Karina Ibarra
Luis Ibarra
Nestor Tellez
Stephanie Enriquez

Solidaridad Interns

Bianca Olivares
NC State University
Daisy Almonte
Duke University
Obinna Ejimofo
UNC-Chapel Hill
Paige Caroline Hines
UNC-Chapel Hill
Veronica Aguilar
UNC-Chapel Hill
Yasmin Aguilar-Diaz
UNC-Chapel Hill

Into the Fields Interns & Fellows

STUDENT/ SCHOOL

Yessica Chavez Grimaldo, Univ of South FL
Atziri Barboza, CSU-Fresno
*Jessica Rodriguez, East Carolina Univ
Lina Palancares, Duke University
*Heide Hernandez, Univ of Connecticut
*Mary Kelsey Trumps, Univ of Vermont
Jessica Betancourt Medina, Univ of Idaho
Maria Gonzalez, Wake Tech Comm College
Marivel Nevarez, Central Washington Univ
Myrka Moreno, St. Edwards University
Maria Gonzalez-Perez, Lees McRae College
José Silva, Appalachian State Univ
**Dan Derman, Appalachian State Univ
Carolina Hernandez, St. Edwards Univ
Mayra Robles, UNC-Wilmington
Beatrice Santiago-Martinez, Univ of Idaho
Gabriela Cruz, CSU-Fresno
José Ibarra, UNC-Chapel Hill
*Nicholas Marino, William & Mary
Paola Hazel, College of Charleston
Katelyn Scheetz, College of Charleston
Yeimi Tomas, UNC-Chapel Hill
Stephanie Gonzalez, CSU-Sacramento
Tina Gladney, NC Central University

* Fellow

** Program Assistant

HOST ORGANIZATION/ STATE

Blue Ridge Community Health, NC
Blue Ridge Community Health, NC
Vecinos Inc Farmworker Health, NC
Western NC Workers' Center, NC
Good Samaritan Clinic, NC
Wake Forest School of Medicine, NC
Legal Aid of NC-Farmworker Unit
New Frame LLC, NC
NC Justice Center
Toxic Free NC
Piedmont Health Services, NC
Piedmont Health Services, NC
Student Action with Farmworkers, NC
Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, NC
Lenoir County Migrant Education, NC
Lenoir County Migrant Education, NC
Kinston Community Health Center, NC
NC Farmworkers' Project
NC Farmworkers' Project
SC Legal Services
SC Legal Services
SC Migrant Education Program
SC Migrant Education Program
SC Migrant Education Program

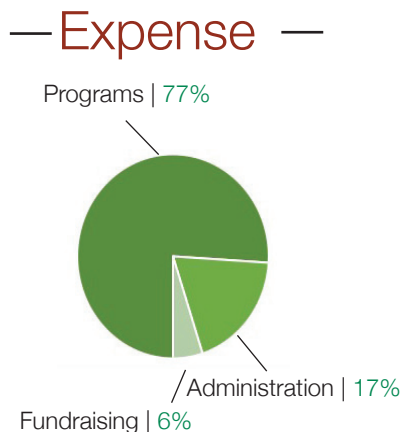
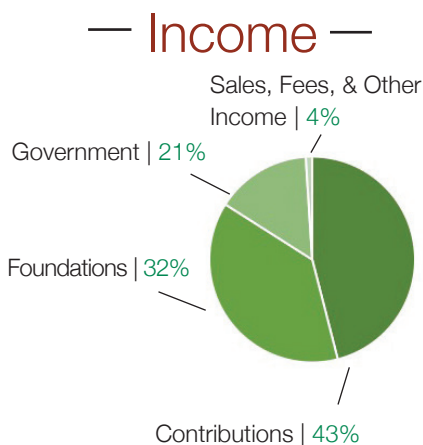
Program Participants' Impact 2016-2017:

- 95% of participants know more about the needs of farmworkers
- 92% know more about farmworker rights & will advocate for farmworker justice
- 89% know more about equity, as well as the life and work experiences of farmworkers
- 88% better understand their role in the farmworker movement
- 87% developed outreach skills
- 84% are more confident about speaking out when they witness injustice
- 82% will volunteer or work with farmworkers



Finance Report 2016-2017

From September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017, SAF received \$655,537 in support and revenue: 43% from contributions, 32% from foundation grants, 21% from government grants, and 4% from sales, fees, & other income. Total expenses for 2016–2017 were \$694,214. Program costs accounted for 77% of SAF's expenses, while 17% went to administrative costs, and 6% to fundraising costs.



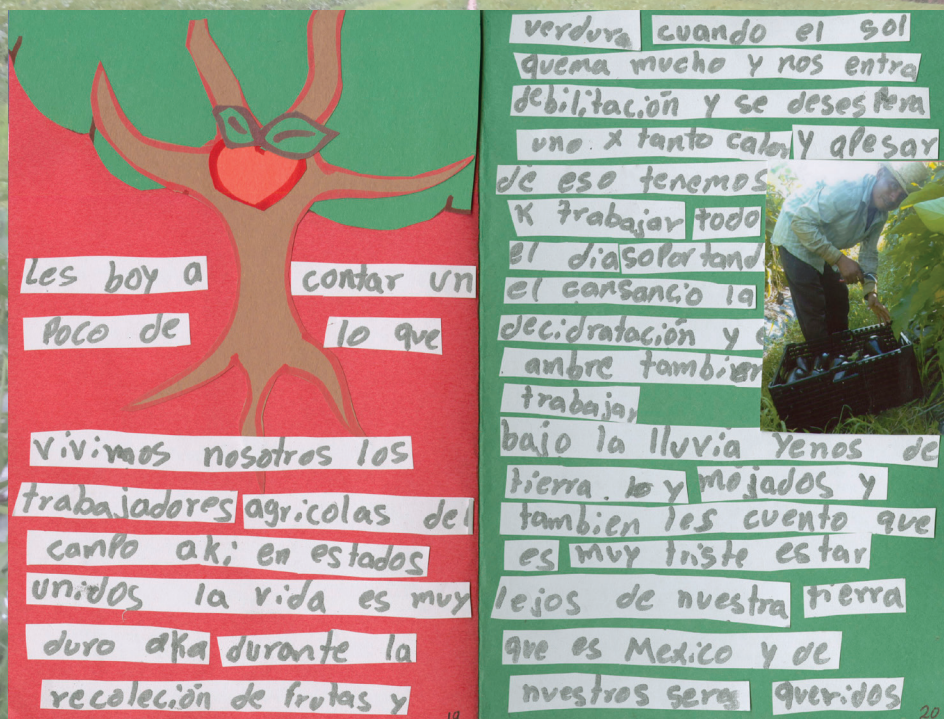
Letter from a Worker

I'll tell you a little bit about what we farmworkers experience here in the United States. Life here is very hard when we harvest fruits and vegetables... and the sun burns so much... and we get weak, and you get irritated from so much heat. And despite that we have to work all day putting up with the fatigue, dehydration, and hunger. We also have to work when it's raining and we get full of dirt. And wet...

I'll also tell you that it's very sad to be far from our land which is Mexico... and our loved ones like my parents, my wife, and my son. But we're here working hard so that we can support our family... and well, it's very hard to be a farmworker, and sad because you work from sun up to sundown in the fields. I hope you liked my story of my life here in the United States. Thank you for reading my story.

Sincerely, Angelito, 7/25/17

From the SAF Into the Fields summer documentary project



Letter from a Student

My family has a strong history of farm work. Hands blistered from tools used to harvest, skin leathered and worked from the sun, and hearts full of love with which they keep doing what they do. I'm proud of this. One of our first activities during our Into the Fields orientation was to write a poem about where we're from:

I am from my grandmother's kitchen table, from rice and beans.

I am from a farm with its rough dirt roads and large trees swaying in the wind.

I am from constant mosquito bites, and the feeling of always having a pet rubbing against your leg.

I am from playing baraja every weekend at my aunt's kitchen table and always having a party to go to, from Maria's and Gonzalez's and Dimas'.

I am from the over-workers and those full of pride.

From “mandame mensaje cuando llegues” and “mandame mensaje cuando vengas de regreso” and “mandame mensaje cualquier cosa que pase”.

I am from Catholics with posadas, bendiciones, and a family that believes in personal faith rather than one taught through a church.

I'm from El Distrito Federal, Mexico, tacos y tamales always.

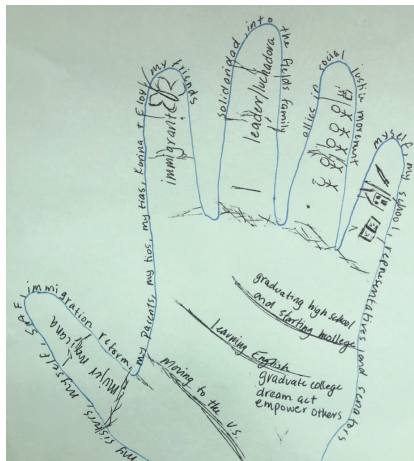
From the family that made seven-year-old me believe being a nun was the only career option available, the constant pranks, and laughing until I pee.

I am from my home in the arms of my family.

My role in this program is intern with New Frame LLC. I want to come back from this with a better understanding of the way policies get introduced and moved throughout the floor at the legislature. I want to go back home and take new knowledge and educate others.

– Maria Lopez Gonzalez, 2017 SAF intern

From the SAF Into the Fields blog



"We Mexicans work very hard in the United States, although it's so very hot, even so we work 13 hours each day without resting a single day,

planting and picking fruits and vegetables so that people here can eat. Well, the truth is that we suffer a lot-by being here starting with our family,

Thank you for reading these few words."

- A.R.C., SC farmworker

"My goal: Make my family be accomplished:

spiritually,
materially
and professionally."

- Maria, Western NC farmworker

STUDENTS AND FARMWORKERS

I know how to work
in the fields.

I know construction work.

I know how to
care for animals.



"What I desire the most is to live in peace with my family

and all of humanity."

- Andres, Western NC farmworker

During two participatory workshops, 17 SAF interns convened two visits to farmworker camps with 5-20 workers each, leading workers in exercises in drawing hand maps, writing,

"Here at SAF,

I've worked closely with documentary projects – writing, photographs, podcasts, video interviews, etc.

I have come to realize – through a series of reflections and reading – that activism can take many forms,

and thus, my work with these documentary projects is in itself one of those forms."

- Daisy Almonte, 2016 Solidaridad Intern

"But without an ongoing process of consciousness building/cultivation

and the preferencing of non-white spaces and voices,

we will not be able to deconstruct the large systems and institutions

that are maintaining social injustices, like what farmworkers are experiencing."

- Alli Clayton, 2016 SAF Fellow

STORIES

AND

QUOTES

By SAF Solidaridad Intern

Aarón Sánchez Guerra

"We are where we are today socially because past generations of a united group of people realized that things weren't right,

things weren't equal, there needed to be righteous change. It is my job and my peers' job to be the generation that future generations will look to for inspiration."

- Jose Ibarra, 2017 SAF Intern

"More and more, people are concerned with where their food comes from – whether it's organic,

locally sourced, or killed humanely. Yet, the same concern doesn't seem to extend

to the people who pick and process our food.

Levante Leadership Institute

The Issue:

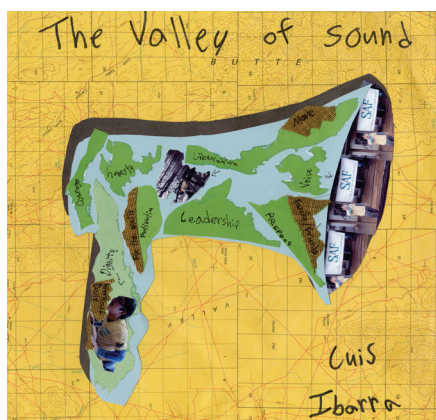
Farmworker youth need paid opportunities to develop their leadership, learn about college opportunities, and be a voice for just conditions for farmworkers.

SAF's Response:

The Levante Leadership Institute uses cultural arts and popular education to provide farmworker youth in rural North Carolina with opportunities to build self-esteem, develop leadership skills, and prepare for higher education.

Program Activities:

- Participated in workshops on racial justice, equity, popular education, the history of occupational health, mental health, and financial literacy
- Created a documentary exhibit using the *Literacy Through Photography* model to explore concepts of identity and being human to reflect on personal accomplishments & goals
- Participated in a learning encuentro with the Youth Arts Group of the Rural & Migrant Ministry where youth created political art, toured Hudson Valley Orchards & shared ideas about youth ownership of programming, technology, and racial dynamics among participants
- Visited UNC-Wilmington for a college tour, attended the *Soy un Lider* conference at Guilford College, and participated in the HKonJ march
- Served as the youth advisory council to the Wake Forest School of Medicine Child Labor Study



"SAF impacted me to become aware of injustices that occur around me and to become a strong, young Latina girl that can do great things in life."

– Jackeline Leyva, SAF Levante Leadership Institute member

"This program helped me realize that farmworkers have a huge impact in our everyday lives and they deserve more rights and pay. Without farmworkers we would have a shortage of food almost everyday."

– Jesús Cabrera, SAF Levante Leadership Institute member

Solidaridad Internship

The Issue:

Young activists need mentorship and leadership development opportunities to become more aware of farmworker issues and empowered to take action. Farmworkers need public support of improved conditions in the agricultural system.

SAF's Response:

The Solidaridad internship gives local college students the opportunity to work side by side with SAF staff, learn about the farmworker justice movement, gain nonprofit leadership skills, and receive training and scholarships.



Program Activities:

- Planned, tabled, and spoke at community events, including the NC Farmworker Festival, Día de los Muertos, and the NC Farmworker Institute
- Participated with Levante students in a chicken coop build for a farmworker family in Eastern NC
- Created flyers, memes, factsheets, infographics and reports to use in our education and advocacy work
- Supported the Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Fair Food Campaign
- Presented to Duke, NC State & UNC classes about farmworker issues and how to take action
- Worked with Code the Dream to create *Conéctate Carolina*, a searchable bilingual site of health, legal, education, organizing and immigration resources for farmworkers in NC
- Supported SAF's internal work by thanking donors, reaching out to alumni & assisting with our audit

"Working [with SAF] to raise awareness for farmworkers' rights reinvigorated my passion for education and community engagement. Learning to teach workshops, fundraise, and even build a chicken coop provided me with insight into the resources and tools I could utilize to make a difference for the people around me. And understanding the stories and obstacles faced by the Latinx community proved that seemingly insignificant interactions can add up to long-lasting relationships."

– Obi Ejimofor, SAF Solidaridad intern

Into the Fields

The Issue:

Students, especially farmworker students, need paid leadership development opportunities to learn about farmworker rights and pursue an educational path and career in social justice. Farmworkers need increased health, legal, education, and organizing support, as well as information about their rights.

SAF's Response:

SAF Into the Fields interns & fellows worked with 16 partner organizations in NC and SC to provide much-needed skills, energy, and time to impact the lives of over 5000 farmworkers and received a life-changing, educational experience in return.

Program Activities:

- Provided training on mental health, heat stress, injuries, and pesticides and supported a health & safety training led by women poultry worker leaders
- Led theater performances and workshops about H2A workers' rights under their labor contract
- Taught math, reading & ESL lessons to farmworker children and gave books and school supplies to farmworker families
- Provided legal information for farmworkers in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole
- Assisted workers to receive backpay that they were owed by their employer
- Enrolled participants in a child labor study and a study to measure farmworkers' exposure to pesticides
- Conducted focus groups with 39 farmworkers to learn about their experiences with oral health care



"My placement made me realize that social justice – something that is often associated with large demonstrations, lobbying and boycotts – comes in small acts too. It's in listening to workers' immediate concerns: needing clothes, being short on food, transportation to cash checks or rides to the airport. Social justice is connecting workers to ESL classes, giving them the power of language. It is providing an outlet to de-stress and a safe space to express themselves without fear of repercussion."

– Carolina Hernandez, 2017 ITF intern

From the Ground Up

The Issue:

Farmworkers lack basic protections under the law, such as minimum wage, overtime, collective bargaining, and need dignified living and working conditions. Students, SAF alumni, and their communities need to be aware of farmworker issues and empowered to take action for the long-term.

SAF's Response:

Through direct actions, public presentations, and documentary exhibits and publications, SAF informs and mobilizes students, alumni, and their communities to advocate for farmworker justice and other social justice issues.

Program Activities:



- Celebrated our 25th anniversary with documentary exhibits, events, & programming; Curated *Más de una historia*, an exhibit and publication of photos & stories we've heard from farmworkers over the past 25 years
- Coordinated the 18th annual National Farmworker Awareness Week to raise awareness about farmworker conditions and to honor their important contributions
- Engaged alumni in SAF's work through national alumni calls to discuss current issues, such as immigration
- Co-coordinated an Undocugraduation event at the NC General Assembly with the Adelante Education Coalition
- Worked with the Farmworker Advocacy Network to coordinate de-escalation trainings for outreach workers statewide
- Supported alumni to stay in the movement through a peer support group for alumni working with farmworkers in Eastern NC

"SAF gave me my voice today to advocate for my community. SAF truly shaped me as a leader and helped me find a voice to stand for my beliefs. There's no other organization that has shaped me as much as SAF."

– Christina Vazquez, SAF alum 2012/2014

Thank you to all those who make our work possible!

In our continuing efforts to go green and to use this publication to communicate the impact we've made this year, our full list of donors can be found on our website instead of in the annual report: saf-unite.org/content/our-donors. Each year we will highlight one special group of donors who has made an important contribution to our work that year.

This year we acknowledge those that gave \$250+ for our 25th anniversary!

Thank you to our 25th anniversary compañeros:

Alexa Dilworth	Howard Matchinger	Lynn McKnight
Alexander Poeter	Hummel Family Fund	Marie & David Sappenfield
Alice Tejada	Jack Preiss	Meg Coward & Sarah
Anonymous Donors	Jane & Wes Hare	Schwartz Sax
Cecile Noel	Jeanette Stokes	Meredith Emmett & Galia
Charlie Thompson & Hope	Jena Matzen & Greg	Goodman
Shand	Trahey	Michael Durbin
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Chris & Michelle Heavener	Joe & Carlisle Harvard	Omar Lainez
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McCallie	Leigh & Clay Bordley	Wesley Hogan
Gita & Edd Gulati-Partee	Liz Lindsey	

Thank you to our funders from Sept 2016 - Aug 2017:

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs	Open Society Foundations
BlueCross BlueShield of	Sisters of Charity Foundation of SC
North Carolina Foundation	Southern Partners Fund
Duke Endowment	Triangle Community Foundation's
Environmental Protection Agency	Anonymous Fund
Foundation for Health, Leadership & Innovation	Capacity Building Partnerships Program
Fund for Democratic Communities	Charlie Buckett Fund
Funders' Collaborative on Youth Organizing	Giving Together Fund
Hispanics in Philanthropy	Paul Green Foundation Endowment Fund
Hummel Family Fund, Inc	United Way of the Greater Triangle
Left Tilt Fund	Wake Forest University Health Services
Lytic Foundation	Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
NC Conference of the United Methodist Church	<i>Special thanks to our Documentary Advisory</i>
NC Farmworker Health Program	<i>Group & the Center for Documentary Studies</i>
Oak Foundation	<i>at Duke University for their ongoing support.</i>

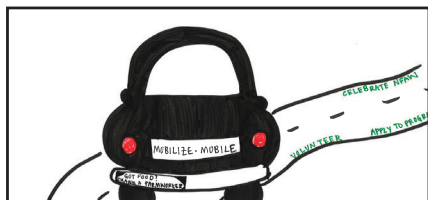
We want to recognize all our compañeros and funders; please contact us if you were inadvertently omitted or if your name should appear in a different way.

Thank you to the following faith groups, businesses & partner organizations:

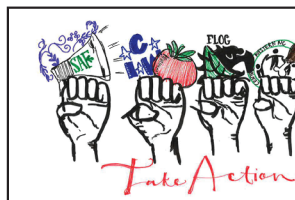
Adobe	First Presbyterian Church, Durham	SC Department of Migrant Education
ALA-Guil Council of Church Women United	Food FWD	SC Legal Services
AM Fiestas	Foundation Source	Scholars Latino Initiative
AmazonSmile Foundation	Full Steam Brewery	Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry
Blue Ridge Community Health Services	Good Samaritan Clinic	Spring Forth Farm
Bon Appétit at Duke Fuqua School of Business	La Bonita	St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Bull City Burger & Brewery	Lenoir County Public Schools MEP	Tienda y Carnicería la Superior
CATA (Comite de Apoya a Trabajadores Agrícolas)	Locopops	Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights
Cengage Learning	Luna Rotisserie & Empanadas	Toast Paninoteca
Center for Documentary Studies	Kinston Community Health Center	Toxic Free NC
Church of Reconciliation	Moreno Educational Company	United Church Of Chapel Hill Vecinos Inc.
Durham Co-op Market	National HEP/Camp Association	Vimala's Curryblossom Café
Episcopal Farmworker Ministry	NC Farmworkers' Project	Wake Forest School of Medicine
Farmworker Association of Florida	New Frame LLC	Western NC Workers' Center
Farmworker Justice	NC Justice Center	Whole Foods Market
Farmworker Unit - Legal Aid of NC	Perrywinkle Farm	Wood Pro Installers
	Piedmont Health Services, Inc.	
	Piedmont Wholesale Flowers	
	Pilgrim United Church of Christ	
	Pompieri Pizza	

Join SAF in 2017-2018:

By Bianca Olivares, SAF Grassroots Organizer



- + Celebrate National Farmworker Awareness Week, March 24-31, 2018
farmworkerawareness.org
- + Apply & Recruit for our programs:
saf-unite.org
- + Help us find housing for our interns and fellows in NC & SC. **Contact:**
Nadeen Bir, nadeen.bir@duke.edu



- + Coalition of Immokalee Workers: ciw-online.org
- + Farm Labor Organizing Committee: floc.com
- + Western NC Workers' Center:
wnccworkerscenter.org



- + Visit saf-unite.org to join our email list or update your contact info to make sure you stay connected!
- + Friend us on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter!



- + Make a contribution by sending a check in the enclosed envelope or through our secure website: saf-unite.org

Farmworker Rights

(continued from page 1)

state farmworkers are exempt

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Durham, NC 27701

"Maintaining farmworkers' right to sue employers for breaking laws is the only way to put an end to the hundreds of avoidable accidents each year."

of avoidable accidents
to farmworker deaths
every year.

In February
several Florida farm
seriously injured
permanently disabled
overloaded van the
skidded off the road
into a ditch. Charles
was one of the 19 fa
crowded in the van
transport 12 passengers
the minimum safety st

***"Matina
breaking
hundreds***

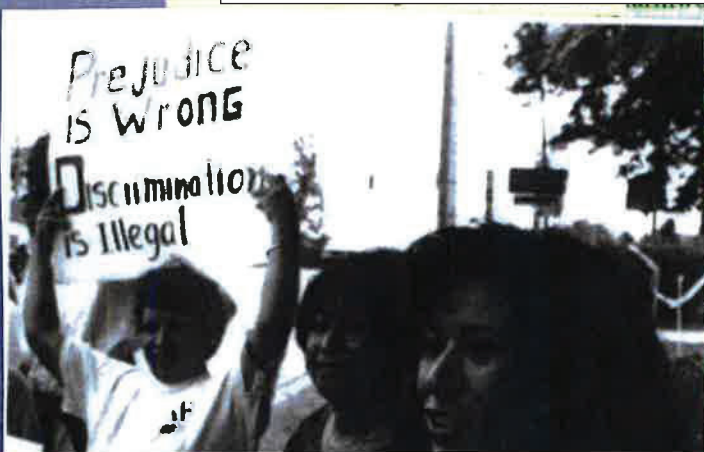
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SAF

STUDENT ACTION WITH FARMWORKERS
1317 W. PETTIGREW ST.
DURHAM, NC 27705



SAF interns, farmworkers and other supporters

protesting against discrimination in the DMV

in Raleigh, NC on July 12th, 1994.