

DOLORES HUERTA FOUNDATION

INSPIRING AND ORGANIZING COMMUNITIES TO BUILD VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS EMPOWERED TO PURSUE SOCIAL JUSTICE.

DHF Executive Director Camila Chávez receives a 2022 James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award

On behalf of the Dolores Huerta Foundation team, volunteers, and supporters, we are honored to announce that DHF's Co-Founder and Executive Director Camila Chávez is a recipient of a 2022 James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award. Each year, Irvine's Leadership Awards recognize innovative leaders whose breakthrough solutions to critical state challenges improve lives, create opportunity, and contribute to a better California. In addition to spotlighting exemplary leaders whose work benefits the people of California, The James Irvine Foundation provides each recipient's organization with a grant of \$250,000 to support their work.

Camila Chávez spent her childhood on picket lines advocating with her mother, iconic labor organizer Dolores Huerta. At a young age she saw how communities are strengthened when people use their voices to demand change. In 2003, Chávez founded the Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF) with her mother to engage and train groups of neighbors – primarily Latino, African American, and immigrant residents of Kern, Tulare, Fresno, and northern Los Angeles counties – to collectively advocate for policy changes that improve public infrastructure, schools, Strengthening underrepresented communities by training and inspiring the next generation of leaders

-Camila Chávez, Dolores Huerta Foundation



and social services. Using the methodical "house meeting model," DHF organizers meet with small groups of neighbors, co-workers, and friends to help them identify shared concerns and recognize that they are the leaders best equipped to make the change they seek. DHF and its members have a notable track record of achieving policy goals including altering school discipline practices, improving local infrastructure, expanding access to health care, and increasing opportunities for political engagement. As DHF's inaugural Executive Director, Chávez continues to honor her mother's legacy while growing the organization to a \$5 million annual budget with 44 full-time staff and more than 100 seasonal canvassers.



1 VRA

Donor Spolight

Merced

Raúl has been a donor and supporter of the Dolores Huerta Foundation for more than 10 years. His family came from Mexico to the state of Texas in 1921 where Raul was born and lived with his mother Jesusita Marrufo, his brother and two sisters. In 1963, at the age of 12, he and his family moved to California. Raúl shared with us that from a very young age he left school to work and help his family. In California he worked in the agricultural fields from the age of 13 to 32. Raul was part of the workers who were negotiating a contract with Cesar Chavez in the Reedley strike. It was there that he met Mrs. Dolores Huerta in 1970. At the age of 32, Raul got a steady job at a bread company and finally retired at the age of 65.



2 VRAs

The Fight for Fair Maps!

Over the past year, the Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF) has led a Central Valley wide effort for fair and equitable maps. This effort has meant months of education, training, research, data collection, gathering community input and public hearing presentations. Due to a substantial growth in the Latino and Asian population over the past ten years, the old district lines no longer represent the community need but rather the interest of those in power.The 2020 U.S. Census results confirmed what we already knew - our state is increasingly made up of communities of color and it's time that our elected officials reflect that rich diversity of our state.

Our goals were clear, we strived for a fair distribution of political power, districts that aligned with Census data and that met the Voting Rights Act (VRA). The Dolores Huerta Foundation, dozens of organizations and hundreds of residents comprising the Equitable Maps Coalition collected thousands of redistricting surveys, held multiple weekly education and map-drawing workshops, submitted maps to jurisdictions at all levels of government, and gave hundreds of public comments at hearings for well over a year now.

We are proud to share that among Kern, Tulare, Kings, Fresno, Madera and Merced there was a total of 135% increase in VRAs! Without the support of the community at each Public Hearing providing public comments and raising awareness at each march, press conference, and meeting it could not have been accomplished.

New Congressional Districts

- VRA
 - CD 21: Fresno, Dinuba, Ivanhoe, North Visalia
 - CD 22: Kern, Kings, Tulare
 - CD 13: Rural Fresno Co, Merced, Madera, CD 18: Salinas, Gilroy, San Jose

 - "Coalition" <u>CD</u>9: Stockton, Manteca, Tracy

Non-VRA

CD 5: North Fresno, "Gold Country" CD 20: West Bakersfield, Visalia-Tulare Urban Corridor, North Hanford, Lemoore, Clovis, China Lake Naval Weapons Station, Edwards AFB

Along with these Central Valley wins, there are statewide outcomes that have changed to align with the VRA obligations and which now reflect authentic community input. We welcome the new congressional districts that serve the following communities: CD 21 - Fresno, Dinuba, Ivanhoe, & North Visalia CD 22 -Kern, inds, & Tulare CD - 13 Rural Fresno Co, Merced, & Madera CD 18 - Salinas, Gilroy & San Jose.

20

From his time in the field, he says that he felt committed to justice and "I cannot abandon the cause." Realizing that Dolores had founded her own foundation, he began to support her work. The Dolores Huerta Foundation is grateful for his ongoing support. Since 2010, without fail, Raúl sends the foundation his monthly donation by money order. Raul's message to Dolores as she continues to work for justice is, "May God bless her and give her strength and may her fight continue." He asks the community to continue supporting the cause. Thank you Raul, you are an example that our solidarity is our strength!



We are looking for an Education Organizer in Kern, Tulare, Fresno, and Los Angeles Counties. The position will support DHF's program to educate, train, organize, and engage community members to participate in school district advocacy and practice community wellness.

> <u>To Apply Visit:</u> doloreshuerta.org/jobs/

IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED TO VOTE... NOW IS THE TIME! VISIT: VOTE.ORG

For more information on how you can join the Vecinos Unidos® contact 1-833-564-6343 or 1-833-JOIN-DHF To support the organizing work of the Dolores Hueta Foundation, please visit Give2DHF.org