

Farmworker Struggles -- Readings/Resources

(prepared for Farmworker Justice Day, Evergreen State College, 4/24/24)

Bi-National People's Tribunal on the Struggle of Farmworkers in North America

March 29 – March 31, 2024. Food Chain Workers Alliance.

Involving Community-to-Community & Familias Unidas por la Justicia (WA State)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uahrc5Bzgro>

Community-to-Community, based in Bellingham, grounded in the principles of solidarity economy, political democracy & eco-feminism.

Great resource section; profile of programs, etc.

<https://www.foodjustice.org/>

Familias Unidas por la Justicia, based in Bellingham, strategic work on farmworker organizing, conditions faced at work, movement-building.

<https://familiasunidasjusticia.com/>

Food Chain Workers Alliance, formed in 2009, based in LA, organizing by and behalf of farmworkers and others in the food-chain in US & Canada.

<https://foodchainworkers.org/>

Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, for and by farmworking women,

Involves 15 grassroots organizations in 20 states, based in CA.

<https://www.alianzanacionaldecampesinas.org/>

David Bacon, one of the most recognized documentarians of farmworker life and struggles. Collection of photos and texts:

<http://dbacon.igc.org/>

One of Bacon's many articles... this on contract labor:

<https://truthout.org/articles/biden-is-paying-growers-to-replace-farmworkers-with-bracero-contract-labor/>

“Agricultural Worker Perspectives on Climate Hazards”

WA-based research in the Journal of Agromedicine

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2023.2299378>

“Essential but treated as Expendable: Farmworkers are vital to climate justice”
<https://www.strengtheningsanctuaryalliance.org/post/essential-but-treated-as-expendable-farmworkers-are-vital-to-climate-justice>

Other articles and resources on FW health and rights, Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance collection, special focus on heat/smoke/climate:

<https://www.strengtheningsanctuaryalliance.org/agricultural-workers-health-and-rig>

SSA formed in 2017, in response to threats to immigrants from the incoming Trump administration. Work has focused on developing sanctuary communities, community protection of immigrants, farmworker rights.

United Farm Workers..... working on heat issues around the country

<https://ufw.org/heat-news/>

WA State Labor Dept – protections from heat/smoke for outdoor workers

<https://lni.wa.gov/news-events/article/22-016>

Yakima Herald... smoke rules as they impact worker in Central WA:

https://www.yakimaherald.com/news/local/state-taking-input-on-new-rules-for-working-outdoors-in-wildfire-smoke/article_36b9e962-fa61-11ed-9e64-9bbcdb302fc5.html

WA State Institute for Public Policy

Special project on the “Needs of Farmworkers”

<https://www.wsipp.wa.gov/CurrentProjects>

preliminary report:

https://www.wsipp.wa.gov/ReportFile/1776/Wsipp_The-Needs-of-Farmworkers-in-Washington-State-Preliminary-Report_Report.pdf

“Why WA farmworkers are disappearing”, Seattle Times, on the strains re: H2A guest worker program:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/business/washingtons-farmworkers-are-disappearing/>

Recent WA legislative development – transparency in wage data for farmworkers
<https://housedemocrats.wa.gov/ortiz-self/2024/03/25/legislative-news-gov-signs-bill-providing-transparency-in-wage-data-for-farmworkers/>

Public Health Institute, stories/testimony of farmworkers on climate change
<https://www.phi.org/about/impacts/digital-stories-farmworkers-document-the-health-impacts-of-climate-change-growing-need-to-advance-health-equity-climate-justice/>

Implications of Fair Trade for farmworkers' health & well-being
<https://foodsystemsjournal.org/index.php/fsj/article/view/1216>

Heat & air pollution endangering farmworkers, focus CA:
<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2023/12/heat-and-air-pollution-putting-scores-of-california-farmworkers-lives-at-risk/>

CA farmworkers – health challenges
<https://news.ucmerced.edu/news/2023/community-and-labor-centers-new-study-highlights-farmworkers-health-challenges>

Civil Eats articles on farmworkers...
[https://civileats.com/search/? sf s=farmworkers](https://civileats.com/search/?sf s=farmworkers)

Child labor, an enduring issue in agriculture and food production:
<https://jordanbarab.com/confinedspace/2023/02/15/labor-shortages-how-about-more-child-labor/>

Children in the Fields campaign...art and essays
<https://mailchi.mp/afop/cifc-2023-art-essay-winners?e=e925da64ea>

John Oliver... Last Week Tonight... 4-16-23 Special on Farmwork In the US...
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41vETgarh_8&t=835s