

*HOUSE FARM WORKERS!*

# 2023 Impact Report



Founded in 2004, our organization is dedicated to supporting affordable, safe, and stable housing for Ventura County farm workers and their families.



**20**

**Youth  
6 Parents**

Twice a year parents are informed about current affordable housing and how to apply.

## **Youth Leadership Program**

*House Farm Workers!* meets monthly with the youth at One Step a la Vez in Fillmore. During these meetings, our Executive Director engages the already-advocating youth with an educational activity or community guest speaker to provide them with information about affordable farm worker housing. Topics include the process of developing housing, and how to advocate for it in their community.

## **CSUCI Collaborative Immersion Project**

*House Farm Workers!* and the CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI) Center for Community Engagement have partnered with Reiter Affiliated Companies and Cabrillo Economic Development Corp. to provide an immersion opportunity for CSUCI students focused on the farm worker experience, agriculture, and farm worker housing.

**40**

**CSUCI College  
Students**

# 60

**Farm Workers  
250  
Community  
Members**

## Community Events

*House Farm Workers!* booths at community events allow for the distribution of materials, such as our farmworker housing resource sheet. Booths are an opportunity to talk with the grower, farmworker, and housing communities. Our staff is available at booths to speak with farmworkers about affordable housing and how to apply for it.

## Bus Tour

*House Farm Workers!* annual tour of existing and in-construction farm worker housing in Ventura County. Attendees hear from farmworker residents about the positive impact affordable, safe, and stable housing has made in their lives, and from a panel of housing and advocacy experts on the challenges of developing affordable housing.

# 45

**Diverse  
Attendees**

# 30

**Community  
Members**

## Film Showings

*House Farm Workers!* provides film showings upon request to community groups of our films *From Harvest to Home* and *Heroes Work Here*. We also show the films yearly to our City and Youth Groups for feedback purposes.

## Partnership with Santa Paula Art Museum for the Home Land Project

“My Home/My Land” is a community outreach project by the Santa Paula Art Museum executed in partnership with *House Farm Workers!* and generously funded by *California Humanities*. “My Home/My Land” invites our local farmworker community to contribute their voices and art to the annual “Art About Agriculture” exhibition.

# 200

**Farmworkers  
and their  
family  
members**

# 30

**Housing  
Professionals**

## County Wide Forum & Developer Focus Group

*House Farm Workers!* held two community discussions on how to build housing for Farmworkers. Reviewing the obstacles, opportunities and best practices.

## Su Voz Campesina

*House Farm Workers!* Su Voz Campesina Farmworker Group ensures that we are connecting with the population we aim to serve. Su Voz is a group of Ventura County farmworkers who gather every three months to discuss farmworker housing and share their thoughts on new or current developments.

5

**Farmworkers**

10

**Community  
Members**

## City Committees

*House Farm Workers!* has established committees that cover the unincorporated county, Santa Paula, Fillmore, Ventura, Oxnard, Camarillo and Moorpark. These volunteer-driven committees are the heart of the organization and have played a critical role in advocating on behalf of the farm worker community since 2004. The city groups mobilize public support, engage public officials, and collaborate with other grassroots organizations to ensure affordable housing for farm workers.

## Affordable Housing Task Force Groups

The Santa Paula Affordable Housing Task Force (SPAHTF) is a diverse group of Santa Paula residents and affordable housing experts from throughout Ventura County. The task force works closely with the Santa Paula City Planners, to give effective input to the General Plan, Housing Element updates, and advocate for revisions to zoning codes and other housing policies, regulations, and fees.

The Fillmore and Piru Task Force (FPTF) was formed in 2022 by House Farm Workers! to address the Fillmore Housing Element 2021-2029 Update.

20

**Community  
Members**

# 418

**Farmworkers**

**43 Agricultural  
Employers**

## Ventura County Farmworker Housing Study and Action Plan

*House Farm Workers!* in partnership with the County of Ventura, began a Countywide Farmworker Housing Study and Action Plan in Fall 2021, to identify housing needs of farmworkers in the County and consider alternate solutions to improve and develop much-needed farmworker housing throughout the County. The Study and Action Plan will be utilized by the incorporated cities and the county to develop targeted programs and strategies to address the identified housing needs of farmworkers, and to support agricultural businesses with a stable and healthy workforce.

This project is coordinated and funded by the County of Ventura, all ten cities within the county and the Thelma Hansen Fund and the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC).

## Ellen Brokaw Scholarship

The Ellen Brokaw *House Farm Workers!* Scholarship is awarded each year to college-bound or current college students whose parents are farm workers in Ventura County. This scholarship reflects our commitment to making sure our farm worker families can thrive.

The scholarship is named in honor of Ellen Brokaw, founding chairwoman of *House Farm Workers!*

# 4

**Students**

