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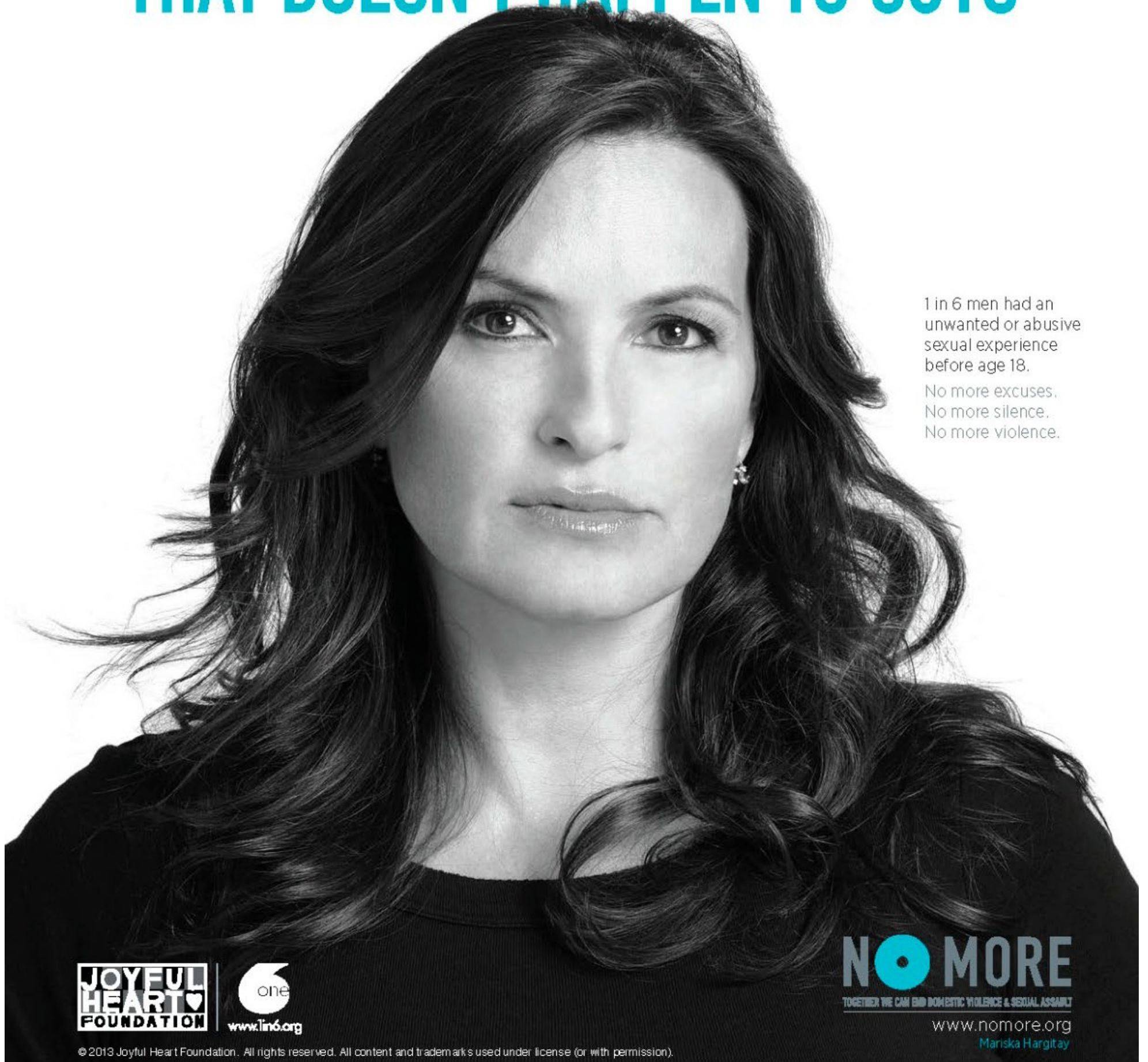
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Mariska Hargitay

Commentary/Comentario

Despite Parliamentarian's 'No,' Democrats Must Get Immigration Done

Maribel Hastings



Photo/Foto: America's Voice

The Senate Parliamentarian's recommendation to not include language legalizing undocumented immigrants in the budget plan to be considered under reconciliation is, obviously, a setback. But that doesn't mean the Democrats can wash their hands of this issue. On the contrary, the Democrats who still control the White House and Congress, albeit with tight majorities, have to get truly creative to arrive at some mechanism that allows the largest number of people possible to obtain a pathway to citizenship.

There are humanitarian, economic, political, and historical reasons why they should. There are people who have waited decades to regularize their status; it's been almost thirty-five years since the 1986 amnesty. Legalization brings major economic benefits to the nation. And politically, for decades the Democrats have been promising a reform that never arrives.

The immigrants waiting for a solution are already fearless. Setbacks don't keep them from continuing to strive to get ahead and keep operating in this society.

But that does not mean the Democrats—who claim to defend the interests of these immigrants and who have, over decades, counted on the political support of those who support these immigrants due to family ties or empathy—can rest on their laurels and once again say "it can't be done."

The excuse has always been that the Republican opposition

has stopped any advance; and although this is true, we have already repeated ad nauseum the previous opportunities that Democrats had—and wasted—to advance this issue.

What was missing was the addition of the Parliamentarian's "No" to the Republican opposition's argument.

We also hope that, unlike in previous opportunities, the Democrats don't become paralyzed by the same old Republican strategy of using immigrants as punching bags in election years. The Parliamentarian's "No," the tragic situation at the border with the arrival of thousands of Haitians, as well as the Afghan refugee crisis have fortified Republicans to keep on falsely correlating immigration with crime. And there are always moderate and conservative Democrats who run from the topic like the devil from the cross, to avoid riling up their constituents.

With control of both chambers in play, as in previous times, the Democrats avoid thorny topics

and always insist that "if we win, we'll tackle the issue." Then they win and since we are always in the middle of elections, those difficult topics get postponed for decades.

It's not just immigration. Some months ago, the Parliamentarian said "No" to a gradual increase in the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, as part of the budget package. There are also measures to combat climate change and modernize the country's fragile and antiquated infrastructure.

These are issues that the loyal base of the Democratic Party supports; the base that, election after election, goes to the polls to give them another chance. It's time for the Democrats to return the favor and produce concrete results, even though the Parliamentarian said "No." She is not an elected official who is indebted to her constituents. The Democratic legislators are.

In a telephonic press conference with pro-immigrant activists, the Democratic Senator from New Jersey, Bob Menéndez, insisted



It's time for the Democrats to return the favor and produce concrete results, even though the Parliamentarian said "No." She is not an elected official who is indebted to her constituents. The Democratic legislators are.

that the Parliamentarian's "No" was to one specific proposal, and there are others on the table that will soon be offered.

He also insisted that they will continue exploring other available options.

We shall see.

Maribel Hastings is a Senior Advisor to *América's Voice*.

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Los Demócratas Deben Cumplir en Inmigración, Pese al NO de la Parlamentaria

Maribel Hastings

La recomendación de la Parlamentaria del Senado de no incluir lenguaje para la legalización de indocumentados

en el plan de gastos que se consideraría mediante conciliación es, obviamente, un revés. Pero eso no significa que los demócratas se crucen de brazos para seguir postergando este tema. Por

el contrario, los demócratas que todavía controlan la Casa Blanca y el Congreso, aunque por estrechas mayorías, tienen que ponerse verdaderamente creativos para arribar a algún mecanismo que permita que la mayor cantidad posible de indocumentados obtenga una vía a la ciudadanía.

Hay razones humanitarias, económicas, políticas e históricas para que lo hagan. Hay personas que llevan aguardando décadas para regularizarse y han pasado casi 35 años desde la amnistía de 1986. La legalización supone mayores beneficios económicos para el país. Y políticamente, los

demócratas llevan décadas prometiendo una reforma que nunca llega.

El inmigrante que espera esa solución ya está curado de espantos. Los reveses no los detienen en seguir buscando la forma de salir adelante y de seguir funcionando en esta sociedad.

Pero ello no supone que los demócratas que dicen defender los intereses de esos inmigrantes y que durante décadas han contado con el favor político de quienes apoyan a esos inmigrantes por lazos familiares o de empatía, se duerman en sus laureles y otra vez digan "no se pudo".

La excusa siempre ha sido que la oposición republicana ha frenado



Es hora de que esos demócratas devuelvan el favor y produzcan resultados concretos, aunque la Parlamentaria diga no. Ella no es una funcionaria electa, que se deba a sus representados. Los legisladores demócratas lo son.

do cualquier avance; y aunque es cierto, ya hemos repetido hasta el cansancio las oportunidades previas que los demócratas han tenido y han desperdiciado para impulsar este tema.

Lo que nos falta es que al argumento de la oposición republicana se agregue que la Parlamentaria dijo NO.

Esperemos también que, como en oportunidades previas, los demócratas no se paralicen ante la desgastada estrategia republicana de usar a los inmigrantes como chivos expiatorios en año de

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Hablamos tu Idioma

Ivana Farbman Javier Sierra

El episodio de esta semana

La verdad Sucia

Episodio I: La crisis climática y las grandes empresas de servicios públicos.

En este episodio, la presentadora Ivana Farbman se sienta con Javier Sierra, Columnista Nacional y Director Asociado de Comunicaciones de Sierra Club.

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Are We Latinos a Disinherited Community?

Javier Sierra

In this Hispanic Heritage Month, we Latinos need to ask ourselves: Are we a disinherited community?

The richness of the Latino contribution to the progress of the US is immeasurable. Any American can see our profound influence in the country's political and cultural life, and our enormous labor and economic input.

Yet our cultural and natural heritage is in serious peril.

"We are seeing a deterioration of our cultural heritage," says Maite Arce, president of Hispanic Access Foundation (HAF). "Our parks and

important historical sites are being destroyed due to abusive development, local politics and the great complexity of the process to protect these sites."

“This gap in the acknowledgment of our natural heritage resembles the great deficit of access to nature we Latinos experience.”

By featuring several examples across the country, a HAF study

reveals that "sites that commemorate Latino heritage are disproportionately excluded when it comes to officially designated heritage and conservation sites."

The report focuses on places that represent the profound architectural, cultural and historic roots of the Latino community "to protect, share and celebrate them as part of the American narrative."

Castner Range, for instance, rises as an oasis of nature and serenity in the middle of the El Paso, TX, hustle and bustle. Not only does it serve as an essential basin to replenish the area's aquifer, but it also is the ancestral land of Comanches and Apaches and contains a mul-



Castner Range, TX.

titude of archaeological sites of these two Tribal cultures.

Friendship Park, in San Diego, right on the border, serves as a

bridge between the American and Mexican cultures. In 1971, First

See Sierra on page 20

¿Somos una Comunidad Desheredada?

Javier Sierra

En este Mes de la Herencia Hispana tenemos que preguntarnos: ¿Somos una comunidad desheredada?

La riqueza de nuestra contribución a la cultura y progreso de Estados Unidos es inconmensurable. Cualquier estadounidense puede ver nuestra profunda influencia en la vida política y cultural de nuestro país, y nuestra enorme contribución laboral y económica.

Aún así, nuestra herencia cultural y natural está en serio peligro.

"Estamos viendo un deterioro de nuestra herencia cultural", dice Maite Arce, presidenta de Hispanic Access Foundation (HAF). "Se están destruyendo nuestros parques e importantes lugares históricos debido al desarrollo abusivo, la política local y la enorme complejidad del proceso de protección de esos lugares".

Usando varios ejemplos por todo el país, un estudio de HAF

revela que "lugares que conmemoran la herencia latina se excluyen desproporcionadamente a la hora de catalogarlos como sitios oficialmente protegidos".

El reporte se centra en lugares que representan las profundas raíces arquitectónicas, culturales e históricas de la comunidad latina "para protegerlas, compartirlas y celebrarlas como parte de la narrativa estadounidense".

Castner Range, por ejemplo, se alza como un oasis de naturale-

za y sosiego en medio del bullicio de El Paso, TX. No solo sirve como cuenca esencial para reabastecer el acuífero de la zona, sino que también es hogar ancestral de los apaches y comanches y contiene innumerables restos arqueológicos de estas culturas indígenas.

El Parque de la Amistad, en San Diego, junto a la frontera, sirve de puente entre las culturas de Estados Unidos y México. En 1971, la primera dama Patricia Nixon inauguró el parque esperando que

“Esta brecha en el reconocimiento de nuestra herencia natural se asemeja al gran déficit de acceso a la naturaleza que padecemos los latinos.”

"nunca sea un muro entre estas dos grandes naciones para que la

Vea Sierra/Esp, página 18

Putting New México's Babies First

Jacob Vigil, MSW

In homes across New México, parents and caregivers have long been forced to make an impossible choice – one made even harder in the last 18 months by COVID-19. Do I care for my baby or sick family member, or do I leave them, to work and earn the pay we need to survive? This choice has dire implications for babies, families, public health, and the economy.

In the early months of the pandemic, Congress passed emergency paid leave measures,

“Do I care for my baby or sick family member, or do I leave them, to work and earn the pay we need to survive?”

recognizing the important implications that paid leave has on public health. While a sign of progress, those measures were only temporary. Permanent paid family leave is not only beneficial to all – whether it's to take care

of oneself, a family member with a chronic health condition or one who's had surgery – it's extremely important for growing families. Researchers estimate that providing 12 weeks of job-protected paid leave in the U.S. would result in nearly 600 fewer infant and post-neonatal deaths per year. Paid leave is also shown to improve maternal mental health and foster better child-parent relationships. It provides parents the time they need to breastfeed, attend well-child doctor visits, and ensure their newborn receives all necessary immunizations – all of

which have long-lasting benefits for their children's health.

Working parents do their best to make sure that their babies get the essential love and care they need in the first months of life. But we know that offering families time off to give children a healthy start in life, without risking financial security, is critical for a healthy work environment, a healthy home environment, and, ultimately, a healthy economy.

We also know that one of the disparities created by structural racism is that families of color are less likely to have the means to build the savings needed to al-



Photo: New México Voices for Children.

low them to take unpaid time off to cope with family events or illness.

See Vigil on page 18

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Commentary / *Comentario*

The Serious Task of Redistricting Our Communities in Colorado

Carmen Medrano

No matter where we come from or the color of our skin, most of us want the same things: a home, a living wage, and the opportunity to leave a better future for our kids and grandkids. We want healthy food and clean water, affordable and safe neighborhoods to raise our families.

Sadly, barriers to these opportunities persist for communities of color, particularly the Latino community, and in nearly every imaginable category: healthcare, af-



Photo/Foto: United for a New Economy

fordable housing, high-performing schools, air quality, good-paying

jobs, vaccine access, economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and more. In the metro region, the communities that still lack these basic human needs are located along the I-25 and I-70 corridors. An analysis by the Colorado Health Institute showed persistent patterns of inequality in parts of Adams and Weld counties when compared to wealthier, whiter parts of the counties. In Commerce City, CO, the rising cost of housing creates incredible strain on current residents even as many Latino families continue to move there to escape skyrocketing housing

costs in Denver. And it's not going to slow down: according to the state demographer, over 1 million people will move to Colorado in the next two decades. Many of these new Coloradans will be people of color, continuing a trend that is already firmly underway. Every metro county except Denver has become less white over the last 20 years, according to the U.S. Census Bureau; as more people move to Colorado, the importance of advocating for ourselves will only increase.

The redistricting process is intimately connected to these issues



Ultimately, redistricting is the process of determining who has the power to influence lawmakers and elected officials who make policy determining the quality of our air, tax burdens on our wallets, and quality of our schools.

facing our communities. Ultimately, redistricting is the process of

See [Medrano](#) on page 17

La Seria Tarea de Redistribuir Nuestras Comunidades en Colorado

Carmen Medrano

No importa de dónde venimos o el color de nuestra piel, la mayoría de nosotros queremos las mismas cosas: un hogar, un salario digno y la oportunidad de dejar un futuro mejor a nuestros hijos y nietos. Queremos alimentos sanos y agua limpia, barrios asequibles y un mundo seguro. Queremos ser libres.

Lamentablemente, las barreras a estas oportunidades persisten para las comunidades de color, en particular la comunidad latina, y en

casi todas las categorías imaginables: atención sanitaria, vivienda asequible, escuelas de alto rendimiento, calidad del aire, empleos bien remunerados, acceso a las vacunas, recuperación económica de la pandemia del COVID-19, y mucho más. En la región metropolitana, las comunidades que aún carecen de estas necesidades humanas básicas se encuentran a lo largo de los corredores de la I-25 y la I-70. Un análisis realizado por el Instituto de Salud de Colorado mostró patrones persistentes de desigualdad en partes de los condados de Adams y Weld en

comparación con las partes más ricas y blancas de los condados. En Commerce City, el aumento del coste de la vivienda crea una tensión increíble en los residentes actuales, incluso cuando muchas familias latinas siguen trasladándose allí para escapar de los costes de la vivienda que se han disparado en Denver. Y no va a disminuir: según el demógrafo del estado, más de un millón de personas se trasladarán a Colorado en las próximas dos décadas. Muchos de estos nuevos habitantes de Colorado serán personas de color, continuando una tendencia que ya está en

marcha. Todos los condados metropolitanos, excepto Denver, se han vuelto menos blancos en los últimos 20 años, según la Oficina del Censo de EE.UU.; a medida que más personas se trasladen a Colorado, la importancia de abogar por nosotros mismos aumentará.

El proceso de redistribución de distritos está íntimamente relacionado con estos problemas a los que se enfrentan nuestras comunidades. En última instancia, la redistribución de distritos es el proceso de determinar quién tiene

Vea [Medrano/Esp](#), página 18



En última instancia, la redistribución de distritos es el proceso de determinar quién tiene el poder de influir en los legisladores y funcionarios electos que hacen la política que determina la calidad de nuestro aire, las cargas fiscales en nuestros bolsillos y la calidad de nuestras escuelas.

How to Really Support People Who Have Abortions

A. Rochaun Meadows-Fernández

I had no one to support me after my abortion senior year of high school, mostly because seeking support would mean telling someone my secret.

At the time, I lived with my aunt during the week to attend the high school in her affluent neighborhood. Though she was a Black woman, her predominantly White and Asian community was different from the one I was used to. I felt every bit of my status as an outcast.

The parallel lines on that pregnancy test were an added marker of difference that signified I was more of an anxious fugitive than a welcome visitor. At 17 years old, I was familiar with how an unintended pregnancy could derail one's life, especially if it happened to a teen. On the other hand, I lacked a script for what to do when you didn't intend to carry that pregnancy to term.

Zachi Brewster, an abortion doula and sex and pleasure educator, who alternates living between England and Italy, says the biggest

societal failure in supporting individuals who've had abortions is not teaching about them or having considerations that normalize the experience before someone finds themselves needing an abortion.

"When I'm supporting someone, I always ask, 'when did you first learn about abortion?' because that often gives them an idea about where their ideas about abortion came from—and how they think about their abortion," she says, noting the political context in which we frame abortion often prevents the space for care.

Had we had that conversation when I was pregnant at 17, I'd say television, because my primary source of public health and social education, neglected the topic. For that reason, the end of my pregnancy marked the gestation of 10 years of shame and fear of stigma.

While roughly one in four individuals capable of being pregnant have an abortion by 45, many are left to process the experience alone. In a world full of abortion stigma, we find many ways of asking, "who loves and supports the individuals who have had abortions?"



"Every single one of those people, what they need is kindness. That's one of the most simple and radical things that you can do."

Gina Martínez, Colorado Doula Project

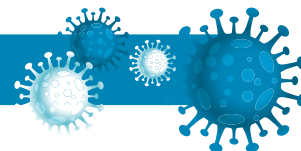
And now, as the world tries to make sense of the enactment of Tex-

See [Meadows-Fernandez](#) on page 21

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Do Cloth Masks Offer Protection Against Delta Variant?

By Amanda Michelle Gomez

In recent months, some European airlines have banned the use of cloth face coverings to control the spread of the coronavirus during air travel, instead favoring surgical masks — sometimes referred to as medical or disposable — and N95 respirators.

It's another salvo in the debate over the effectiveness of the ubiquitous cloth mask, which sprang into fashion when surgical masks and N95s were harder to find in the pandemic's early days. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention still promotes cloth face coverings in its guidance about masks.

And masks remain a critical mitigation tool because people primarily become infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes covid-19, by inhaling small aerosol particles that linger in the air or large respiratory droplets produced in coughs and sneezes.

But the science is changing. Delta, currently the primary variant in the United States, is far more contagious than the original coronavirus, so the density of virus in the air is greater.



“If delta is circulating and if you're going to wear a mask, why don't you wear one that the data tell you is good?”

Stephen Luby, Stanford University

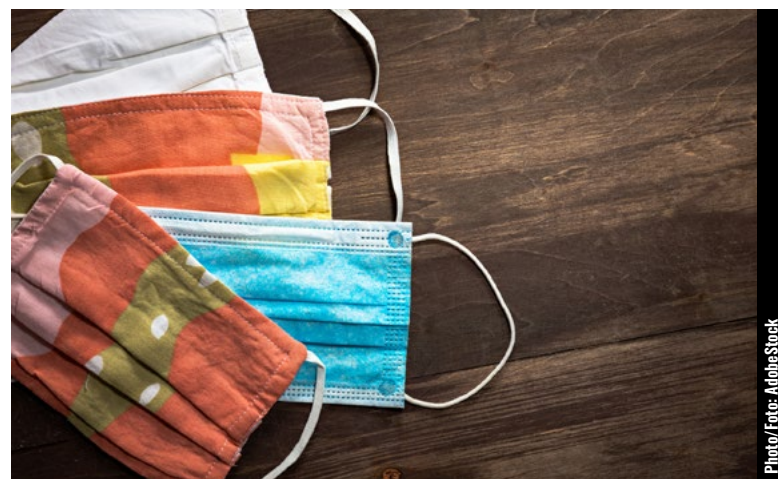
Some experts have adjusted their advice proportionally. “Given the delta variant that's out there, you probably need to upgrade your mask,” Dr. Ashish Jha, a leading covid expert and dean of the Brown University School of Public Health, said on “Fox News Sunday” earlier this month.

What Type of Mask Should You Wear?

Don't worry if you are confused. Mask guidance has been mixed since the dawn of the pandemic, and new research has altered conventional thinking. We decided to dig in and sort out the latest developments.

First, people were told masking wasn't necessary. Soon after, this recommendation changed, but the public was advised against purchasing surgical-style masks used by health professionals because of dire shortages of such protective gear. Americans instead were told to spring for cloth masks or make do-it-yourself versions. Shortages do not appear to be as big a problem now, though the CDC still advises against choosing N95 respirators.

As recently as late August, the nation's top infectious-disease doctor, Dr. Anthony Fauci, declined to recommend higher-quality masks. “Instead of worrying about



People who wear masks are less likely to get infected than people who don't. / Las personas que usan máscara tienen menos probabilidades de infectarse que las que no.

what kind of mask, just wear a mask,” he told “The Mehdi Hasan Show” on MSNBC.

So, what gives? Dr. Peter Chin-Hong, an expert on infectious diseases at the University of California-San Francisco, said Fauci was taking a harm-reduction approach. “It probably is more important to wear something that you feel comfortable with, and you can wear for

long periods of time if you're going into a particular environment ... rather than saying you need to wear the gold standard thing at all times,” he said.

“A baseline should be a surgical mask,” added Chin-Hong. “It's easier to implement. It's cheap, albeit not always environmentally friendly.”

See [Masks](#) on page 19

¿Ofrecen las Mascarillas de Tela Protección Contra la Variante Delta?

Por Amanda Michelle Gomez

En los últimos meses, algunas compañías aéreas europeas han prohibido el uso de máscaras de tela para controlar la propagación del coronavirus durante los vuelos, en favor de las quirúrgicas y los respiradores N95.

Se trata de un nuevo debate sobre la eficacia del popular cubrebocas de tela, cuyo uso se extendió desde los primeros días de la pandemia, cuando se emitieron las primeras recomendaciones. De hecho, los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) las siguen incluyendo en su “guía para el uso de máscaras”.

Las máscaras siguen siendo una pieza fundamental en la lucha contra la pandemia, porque las personas se infectan principalmente con el SARS-CoV-2, el virus que causa covid-19, al inhalar pequeñas partículas de aerosol que permanecen en el ambiente y las gotas respiratorias que se producen al toser y estornudar.

Pero la ciencia está cambiando. La variante delta, que actualmente es la principal en los Estados Unidos, es mucho más contagiosa que el coronavirus original, lo que significa que la carga de virus en el aire es mayor.

En consecuencia, algunos expertos han revisado sus recomendaciones. “Por la variante delta, probablemente haya que actualizar también las máscaras”, dijo el doctor Ashish Jha, experto en covid-19 y decano de la Escuela de Salud Pública de la Universidad Brown, en FOX News Sunday a principios de este mes.

¿Qué tipo de cubreboca se debe usar?

Hay confusión. Las orientaciones sobre las máscaras han ido cambiando, y las nuevas investigaciones han modificado el pensamiento convencional.

Primero se dijo que la máscara no era necesaria. Poco después, esta recomendación cambió, pero se aconsejó no comprar las quirúrgicas que utilizan los profesionales de salud por la gran escasez de este tipo de equipos de protección. En su lugar, se recomendó a los estadounidenses que compraran máscaras de tela o que hicieran sus propias versiones. Ahora, la escasez no parece ser un problema tan grande, pero los CDC siguen desaconsejando comprar máscaras N95.

A finales de agosto, el doctor Anthony Fauci, el líder médico en enfermedades infecciosas, se negó a recomendar máscaras de mayor calidad. “En lugar de preocuparse por el tipo de máscara, basta con usarla”, afirmó en el programa The Mehdi Hasan Show de MSNBC.

¿Qué es lo que pasa? El doctor Peter Chin-Hong, experto en enfermedades infecciosas de la Universidad de California en San Francisco, opinó que Fauci intentaba controlar el tema para evitar males mayores. “Parece más importante usar algo con lo que te sientas cómodo y que puedas llevar durante

largos periodos de tiempo si vas a un entorno concreto... en lugar de decir que tienes que llevar el estándar de oro en todo momento”, señaló.

“La base debería ser una máscara quirúrgica”, añadió Chin-Hong. “Es más fácil de colocar. Es barata, aunque no siempre sea respetuosa con el medio ambiente”. Chin-Hong sólo se pone una N95 cuando hay incendios forestales. “Incluso en el hospital, uso principalmente una máscara quirúrgica”, aseguró.

Aunque cree que el gobierno y los funcionarios de salud pública deberían hacer hincapié en el uso de máscaras quirúrgicas, Chin-Hong dijo que las máscaras de tela pueden ofrecer suficiente protección en determinadas circunstancias.

Por ejemplo, una persona totalmente vacunada, probablemente obtendría una protección adecuada llevando un cubrebocas de tela durante breves periodos de tiempo cuando un espacio interi-

“Si delta está circulando y tienes que usar una mascarilla, ¿por qué no usas una que los datos te dicen que es buena?”

Stephen Luby, Universidad de Stanford

or no esté lleno. Mucho depende del contexto, por lo que el doctor propuso estas preguntas para ayudarnos a tomar decisiones: Si vas a entrar en un espacio cerrado, ¿habrá mucha gente en el edificio? ¿Cuánto tiempo vas a estar dentro? ¿Todo el mundo tendrá puesta una máscara? ¿Están, o estás, totalmente vacunados? ¿Eres inmunodeprimido?

Cuanto más arriesgada sea la situación, más probable es que una máscara de mayor calidad sea la mejor opción. “Nada implica riesgo cero, por lo tanto, se trata de redu-

Vea [Mascarillas](#), página 20

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Disabled Migrants Seek Help Through Lawsuit, Activism

By Heidi de Marco

Desperation led José Luis Hernández to ride atop a speeding train through northern México with hopes of reaching the United States 13 years ago. But he didn't make it. Slipping off a step above a train coupling, he slid under the steel wheels. In the aftermath, he lost his right arm and leg, and all but one finger on his left hand. (Hernández is featured on Cover)

He had left his home village in Honduras for the U.S. "to help my family, because there were no jobs, no opportunities," he said. Instead, he ended up undergoing a series of surgeries in México before heading home "to the same miserable conditions in my country, but worse off."

It would be years before he finally made it to the United States. Now, as a 35-year-old living in Los Angeles, California, Hernández has begun organizing fellow disabled immigrants to fight for the right to health care and other services.

No statistics are available on the number of undocumented disabled immigrants in the United States. But whether in deten-

tion, working without papers in the U.S. or awaiting asylum hearings on the Mexican side of the border, undocumented immigrants with disabling conditions are "left without any right to services," said Monica Espinoza, the coordinator of Hernández's group, Immigrants With Disabilities.

People granted political or other types of asylum can buy private health insurance through the Affordable Care Act or get public assistance if they qualify. In addition, Medi-Cal, California's Medicaid program, provides services to people under 26, regardless of immigration status. Those benefits will expand next spring to include income-eligible undocumented people age 50 and up.

"That's a small victory for us," said Blanca Angulo, a 60-year-old undocumented immigrant from México now living in Riverside, California. She was a professional dancer and sketch comedian in México City before emigrating to the United States in 1993. At age 46, Angulo was diagnosed with *retinitis pigmentosa*, a rare genetic disorder that gradually left her blind.

"I was depressed for two years after my diagnosis," she said —



Blanca Angulo, an immigrant from México, has a genetic eye disease and was already beginning to lose her sight when she came to the U.S. at age 32. She remembers telling the smuggler who helped her cross the border not to let go of her hand. / Blanca Angulo, inmigrante de México, tiene una enfermedad genética de los ojos y ya estaba empezando a perder la vista cuando llegó a los Estados Unidos a los 32 años. Recuerda haberle dicho al coyote que la ayudó a cruzar la frontera que no le soltara la mano.

nearly sightless and unemployed, without documents, and struggling to pay for medical visits and expensive eye medication.

The situation is particularly grim for undocumented immigrants with disabilities held in detention

centers, said Pilar Gonzalez Morales, a lawyer for the Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center in Los Angeles.

"They always suffer more because of the lack of care and the lack of accommodations," she said. Furthermore, "covid has made it harder to get the medical attention that they need."

Gonzalez Morales is one of the attorneys working on a nationwide class action lawsuit filed by people with disabilities who have been held in U.S. immigration detention facilities. The complaint accuses U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security of discriminating against the detainees by failing to provide them with adequate mental and physical health care. The 15 plaintiffs named in the lawsuit, which is set for trial in April, have conditions ranging from bipolar disorder to paralysis, as well as deafness or blindness. They are not seeking monetary damages but demand the U.S. government improve care for those in its custody, such as by providing wheelchairs or American Sign Language interpreters, and refraining from prolonged segregation of people with disabilities.

Most of the plaintiffs have been released or deported. José Baca Hernández, now living in Santa Ana, California, is one of them.

Brought to Orange County as a toddler, Baca has no memory of Cuernavaca, the Mexican city where he was born. But his lack of legal status in the U.S. has over-

shadowed his efforts to get the care he needs since being blinded by a gunshot six years ago. Baca declined to describe the circumstances of his injury but has filed for a special visa provided to crime victims.



"They always suffer more because of the lack of care and the lack of accommodations."

Pilar Gonzalez Morales, Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center

ICE detained Baca shortly after his injury, and he spent five years in detention. An eye doctor saw Baca once during that time, he says; he relied on other detainees to read him information on his medical care and immigration case. Mostly, he was alone in a cell with little to do.

"I had a book on tape," said Baca. "That was pretty much it."

According to the lawsuit, treatment and care for disabilities are practically nil in government detention centers, said Rosa Lee Bichell, a fellow with Disability Rights Advocates, one of the groups that filed the case.

Her clients say that "unless you are writhing or fainted on the floor, it's nearly impossible to get any kind of medical care related to disabilities," she said.

See **Disabled** on page 22

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Migrantes Con Discapacidades Buscan Ayuda a Través de Demandas



Foto/Photo: Heidi de Marco/Kaiser Health News

Miembros de Immigrants With Disabilities reunidos en el State Historic Park de Los Angeles, a fines de julio. / Members of Immigrants With Disabilities gathered at the Los Angeles State Historic Park in late July.

Por Heidi de Marco

Hace 13 años, la desoperación llevó a José Luis Hernández a subir a un tren que iba a alta velocidad en el norte de México con la esperanza de llegar a los Estados Unidos. Pero no lo logró. Resbaló y cayó bajo las ruedas de acero: perdió el brazo y la pierna derechas, y cuatro dedos de la mano izquierda. (Hernández en la Portada)

Había dejado su pueblo natal en Honduras rumbo a los Estados Unidos "para ayudar a mi familia, porque no había trabajos, no había oportunidades", dijo. En cambio, terminó teniendo que someterse a una serie de cirugías en México antes de regresar a casa "a las mismas condiciones miserables en mi país, pero peor".

Pasarían años antes de que finalmente llegara a los Estados Unidos. Ahora, a los 35 años y viviendo en Los Ángeles, Hernández ha comenzado a organizar a otros inmigrantes con discapacidades para luchar por el derecho a la atención médica y a otros servicios.

No hay estadísticas disponibles sobre el número de inmigrantes indocumentados con discapacidades en los Estados Unidos. Pero ya sea que estén detenidos, trabajando sin papeles o esperando audiencias de asilo en el lado mexicano de la frontera, no tienen "ningún derecho a los servicios", dijo Mónica Espinoza, coordinadora del grupo de Hernández, Immigrants with Disabilities (Inmigrantes con Discapacidades).

Las personas a las que se les otorga asilo político o de otro tipo pueden comprar un seguro médico privado a través de la Ley de Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio (ACA) o, si califican, obtener asistencia pública. Además, Medi-Cal, el programa de Medicaid en California, brinda servicios a personas menores de 26 años, independientemente de su estatus migratorio. Esos beneficios se ampliarán la próxima primavera para incluir a personas indocumentadas de 50 años en adelante que cumplan con los requisitos de ingresos.

“

“Siempre sufren más por la falta de atención y la falta de alojamiento”.

Pilar González Morales,
Civil Rights Education
and Enforcement Center

“Esa es una pequeña victoria para nosotros”, dijo Blanca Angulo, inmigrante indocumentada de 60 años originaria de México que ahora vive en Riverside. Fue bailarina profesional y comediente de en la Ciudad de México antes de emigrar a los Estados Unidos en 1993. A los 46 años, a Angulo le diagnosticaron *retinosis pigmentaria*, un trastorno genético poco común que gradualmente la ha ido dejando ciega.

“Estuve deprimida por dos años después de mi diagnóstico”, dijo, casi ciega y desempleada, sin pa-

peles y luchando para pagar las visitas médicas y los costosos medicamentos para los ojos.

La situación es particularmente sombría para los inmigrantes indocumentados con discapacidades detenidos en centros de detención, dijo Pilar González Morales, abogada del Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center, en Los Ángeles.

“Siempre sufren más por la falta de atención y la falta de alojamiento”, dijo. Además, “y covid ha dificultado más la obtención del cuidado médico que necesitan”.

González Morales es una de los abogadas que trabaja en una *demanda colectiva* a nivel nacional presentada por personas con discapacidades que han sido retenidas en centros de detención de inmigrantes en los Estados Unidos. La demanda acusa al Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas de EE.UU. (ICE) y al Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de discriminar a los detenidos al no brindarles atención de salud física y mental adecuada.

Los 15 demandantes nombrados en la demanda, cuyo juicio comenzará abril, tienen afecciones que van desde trastorno bipolar hasta parálisis, así como sordera o ceguera. No buscan resarcimiento económico, pero exigen que el gobierno de los Estados Unidos mejore la atención de las personas que están bajo su custodia, por ejemplo, proporcionando sillas de ruedas o intérpretes de lenguaje de señas, y evitando la segregación prolongada de personas con discapacidades.

La mayoría de los demandantes han sido puestos en libertad o deportados. José Baca Hernández, que ahora vive en Santa Ana, es uno de ellos.

Lo trajeron de niño al condado de Orange, y Baca no recuerda Cuernavaca, la ciudad mexicana en donde nació. Pero la falta de un estatus legal en los Estados Unidos ha eclipsado sus esfuerzos por obtener la atención que necesita desde que quedó ciego al recibir un disparo hace seis años. Baca se negó a describir las circunstancias de su lesión, pero solicitó una visa especial para las víctimas de delitos.

ICE arrestó a Baca poco después de su lesión y estuvo cinco años detenido. Contó que un oculista lo visitó una vez durante ese tiempo; confió en otros detenidos para que le leyeran información sobre su atención médica y su caso de inmigración. La mayor parte del tiempo estaba solo en una celda con poco que hacer.

“Tenía un libro en audio”, dijo Baca. “Eso fue todo”.

Según la demanda, el tratamiento y la atención a las discapacidades son prácticamente nulas en los centros de detención del gobierno, dijo Rosa Lee Bichell, miembro de Disability Rights Advocates, uno de los grupos que presentó el caso.

Sus clientes dicen que “a menos que te estés retorciendo o te desmayes en el suelo, es casi imposible obtener ningún tipo de atención médica relacionada con discapacidades”, agregó.

“Hay una especie de vacío en el panorama de la defensa de la

inmigración que no se centra directamente en abordar las necesidades de las personas con discapacidades”, dijo Munmeeth Soni, director de litigios y defensa del Immigrant Defenders Law Center en Los Ángeles. “Es una población que creo que realmente se ha pasado por alto”.

ICE y Seguridad Nacional no respondieron a las solicitudes de comentarios sobre la demanda.

Covid-19 representa una amenaza particular para las personas con discapacidades detenidas por ICE. Por ejemplo, el 25 de agosto, 1,089 de las más de 25,000 personas en las instalaciones de ICE estaban en aislamiento o en observación por el virus.

En un fallo interino, el juez federal que escuchó la demanda colectiva de Baca este verano ordenó a ICE que ofreciera vacunación a todos los inmigrantes detenidos que tengan afecciones médicas crónicas o discapacidades, o que tengan 55 años o más. La administración Biden apeló la orden el 23 de agosto.

Hernández, quien perdió sus extremidades en el accidente de tren, fue uno de los cientos de miles de inmigrantes centroamericanos que anualmente viajan hacia el norte a través de México en trenes a los que se denominan colectivamente como “La Bestia”, según el Migration Policy Institute. Las lesiones son habituales en “La Bestia”. Y se han reportado más de 500 muertes en México desde 2014 entre personas que buscan entrar a los Estados Unidos.

Ve [Discapacidades](#), página 23

“
THE CRISES KEPT
PILING ON ONE
AFTER ANOTHER.”



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Colorado Immigrant Rights Leaders Respond to Parliamentary Ruling

COLORADO

On September 19, the United States Senate Parliamentary ruled that broad pathways to citizenship could not be passed through the Budget Reconciliation Process. This impacts close to 106,000 Coloradans and millions around the country who would have benefited directly.

Democratic lawmakers and the White House are facing pressure to disregard the Senate parliamentary after the unelected official

on Sunday deemed a crucial immigration measure out of bounds for reconciliation, endangering an effort to provide a pathway to citizenship for millions of people, reported Common Dreams on Monday.

"We call on our Colorado senators and representatives to continue to show leadership and persistence, standing with undocumented Coloradans and our community to ensure Congress passes a pathway to citizenship this year. Colorado voters and state legislators have transformed our state into one of the most in-

clusive in the country - we call on you to keep fighting for that vision in DC," stated Jordan Garcia of the American Friends Service Committee. "Hundreds of our members and their loved ones will march this coming Saturday [Ya Es Hora: March for Citizenship] in Denver to make sure you do."

Opening a path to citizenship would have significant positive impacts on the economy and the treasury and appears vital to America's economic recovery. Undocumented immigrants are vital to the response to the ongoing pandemic, and vital to the continued economic recovery. Citizenship will boost our GDP by \$1.5 trillion, generate billions in tax revenue, create 400,000 new jobs, and increase wages for American workers by \$600 each year. In September, nearly 60 economists penned a letter to Senate leadership outlining the enormous economic benefits and significant budgetary impact of a pathway to citizenship.

"I am a small business owner and a recipient of the DACA program, whose parents had to immigrate from México due to my Muscular Dystrophy diagnosis which has caused me to depend on my wheelchair. I now reside in Aurora, as I have for the past 15 years," explained Mario Rocha, member of Colorado People's Alliance. "I need my Colorado Representatives and Senators to be champions for families like mine and make sure we deliver a pathway to citizenship this year. We can't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to do the right thing."

"To my community," continued Rocha, "join us this Saturday to march for citizenship for all—for ourselves, for our parents, for Colorado."

Adrienne Aguirre Deshaies, Community Organizer with Together Colorado, added: "As a movement, we aren't deterred. Like millions of immigrants who have given so much, especially during the pandemic, we'll keep fighting. Like migrant farmworkers who continue the harvest so your family is well fed, we'll keep fighting. Like immigrant beneficiaries of TPS and DACA, many of whom are frontline workers helping to care for your loved ones, we'll keep fighting. Like the youth fighting for their parents and siblings—we know they will keep fighting to win a pathway to citizenship. So will we. Now is the time. This is the year to provide a pathway to citizenship for



Photo: AFSC & Coloradans for Immigrant Rights

On September 25th, community leaders and advocates across Colorado will lead a historic march through Denver to demand that Congress and the Biden Administration acts to create a pathway to citizenship for millions of undocumented immigrants and to demand all elected leaders work for justice for all the nation's immigrants and refugees.

all - Black, brown, Asian Pacific Islanders; asylum seekers, Dreamers, TPS holders, farm workers, essential workers and their families - we are united."

“To my community, join us this Saturday to march for citizenship for all—for ourselves, for our parents, for Colorado.”
Mario Rocha, Colorado People's Alliance

The public supports legalizing undocumented community members across party lines. Polls consistently show over 70% of voters support citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

"We remain confident that Congress will pass legislation this year that recognizes the public's support for undocumented immigrants. The public supports citizenship, the White House supports citizenship, and all the Democrats in Congress support citizenship. As women of color who are often at the forefront of this struggle for equity and justice, we will not waver in our goal to accomplish a path to citizenship for our community members," said Dusti Gurule, Executive Director of **Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)**.

Democrats in Congress have the votes to deliver on their promise of a path to citizenship for millions. A multiracial, multiethnic and multi-generational majority put Democrats in the majority when they ran in part on a platform promising to transform immigration laws.

Ya Es Hora: March for Citizenship

Community members from across the state (Lamar, Grand Junction, Fort Morgan, Boulder, Aurora, Denver), Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC), American Friends Service Committee of Colorado (AFSC), American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado (ACLU), Colorado People's Alliance (COPA), United Farm Workers Foundation (UFWF) will march through downtown Denver to call on Congress to create a pathway to citizenship for millions; a large rally will follow the march at Auraria Campus with speeches from directly impacted individuals and state legislators in Colorado, performances from local artists, tables from local organizations, a pop-up clinic with COVID-19 vaccinations, and food vendors.

The Ya Es Hora: March for Citizenship will be held on Saturday, September 25. Marchers will gather at Viking Park, 2801 W. 29th Ave., Denver, at 11am with speeches from impacted individuals. March will begin at 12pm and will proceed for an hour. March will end at 1pm at Auraria Campus: Tivoli Quad. A rally will take place at Auraria Campus from 1pm-3pm.

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Líderes de los Derechos de los Inmigrantes Responden al Fallo Parlamentario



El 25 de septiembre, líderes comunitarios y defensores de todo Colorado liderarán una marcha histórica a través de Denver para exigir que el Congreso y la Administración Biden actúen para crear un camino hacia la ciudadanía para millones de inmigrantes indocumentados. Aquí, líderes comunitarios en Washington, D.C.

COLORADO

El 19 de septiembre, el parlamentario del Senado dictaminó que algunos caminos amplios hacia la ciudadanía no podían pasar a través del Proceso de Conciliación Presupuestaria. Cerca de 106,000 habitantes de Colorado y millones en todo el país se beneficiarán directamente.

Los legisladores demócratas y la Casa Blanca se enfrentan a la presión de ignorar al parlamentario del Senado después de que el funcionario no elegido considerara el domingo que una medida crucial de inmigración estaba fuera de los límites de la reconciliación, poniendo en peligro un esfuerzo para proporcionar una vía a la ciudadanía para millones de personas, informó Common Dreams el lunes.

"Hacemos un llamado a nuestros senadores y representantes de Colorado para que continúen mostrando liderazgo y perseverancia, respaldando a los residentes de Colorado indocumentados y a nuestra comunidad para garantizar que el Congreso apruebe un camino hacia la ciudadanía este año. Los votantes y legisladores estatales de Colorado han transformado nuestro estado en uno de los más inclusivos del país; les pedimos que sigan luchando por esa visión en Washington, DC," Jordan García, del Comité de Servicios de los Amigos Americanos, continúa: "Cientos de nuestros miembros y sus seres queridos marcharán este próximo sábado en Denver para asegurarse de que lo hagan".

Al abrir un camino hacia la ciudadanía tendría impactos positivos significativos en la economía y tesorería que parece vital para la recuperación económica de Estados Unidos. Es vital incluir a los inmigrantes indocumentados en la respuesta a la pandemia y vitales para que continúe la recuperación

económica. La ciudadanía aumentará nuestro PIB en \$1.5 billones, generará miles de millones en ingresos fiscales, creará 400,000 nuevos empleos y aumentará los salarios de los trabajadores estadounidenses en \$600 cada año. En septiembre, casi 60 economistas escribieron una carta a los líderes del Senado en la que describen los enormes beneficios económicos y el impacto presupuestario significativo de un camino hacia la ciudadanía.

"Soy dueño de un pequeño ne-

“

“Para mi comunidad, únanse a nosotros este sábado para marchar por la ciudadanía para todos: para nosotros, para nuestros padres, para Colorado”.

Mario Rocha, Alianza del Pueblo de Colorado

gocio y beneficiario del programa DACA, cuyos padres tuvieron que emigrar de México debido a mi diagnóstico de Distrofia Muscular que me ha hecho depender de mi silla de ruedas. Ahora vivo en Aurora, como lo he hecho durante los últimos 15 años", dijo Mario Rocha, miembro de la Alianza del Pueblo de Colorado. "Necesito que mis representantes y senadores de Colorado sean campeones para familias como la mía y aseguren de ofrecer un camino hacia la ciudadanía este año. No podemos perder esta oportunidad única de hacer lo correcto. Para mi comunidad, únanse a nosotros este sábado para marchar por la ciudadanía para todos: para nosotros, para nuestros padres, para Colorado".

Adrienne Aguirre Deshaies, Organizadora Comunitaria con Juntos Colorado dijo: "Como movimiento, no nos desanimamos. Como millones de inmigrantes que han dado

tanto, especialmente durante la pandemia, seguiremos luchando. Como los trabajadores agrícolas migrantes que continúan la cosecha para que su familia esté bien alimentada, seguiremos luchando. Como inmigrantes beneficiarios de TPS y DACA, muchos de los cuales son trabajadores de primera línea que ayudan a cuidar a sus seres queridos, seguiremos luchando. Como los jóvenes que luchan por sus padres y hermanos, sabemos que seguirán luchando para ganar un camino hacia la ciudadanía. Nosotros también. Ahora es el momento. Este es el año para brindar un camino hacia la ciudadanía para todos: negros, morenos, asiáticos de las islas del Pacífico; solicitantes de asilo, soñadores, titulares de TPS, trabajadores agrícolas, trabajadores esenciales y sus familias: estamos unidos. Marcharemos por todos este sábado."

El público apoya la legalización de los miembros de la comunidad indocumentados a través de las líneas partidistas. Las encuestas muestran consistentemente que más del 70% de los votantes apoyan la ciudadanía para los inmigrantes indocumentados. "Seguimos confiando en que el Congreso aprobará una legislación este año que reconozca el apoyo del público a los inmigrantes indocumentados. El público apoya la ciudadanía y todos los demócratas en el Congreso apoyan la ciudadanía. Como mujeres de color que a menudo estamos al frente de esta lucha por la equidad y la justicia, no vacilaremos en nuestro objetivo de lograr un camino hacia la ciudadanía para los miembros de nuestra comunidad," dijo Dusti Gurule, Directora Ejecutiva de Organización de Colorado para la Oportunidad y los Derechos Reproductivos de las Latinas (COLOR).

Los demócratas en el Congreso tienen los votos para cumplir su promesa de un camino hacia la ciudadanía para millones. Una mayoría multirracial, multiétnica y multigeneracional puso a los demócratas en la mayoría cuando se postularon en parte en una plataforma que prometía transformar las leyes de inmigración.

Ya Es Hora: Marcha por la ciudadanía

Miembros de la comunidad de todo el estado (Lamar, Grand Junction, Fort Morgan, Boulder, Aurora, Denver), Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC), American Friends Service Committee of Colorado

(AFSC), American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado (ACLU), Colorado People's Alliance (COPA), United Farm Workers Foundation (UFWF) liderarán una marcha por el centro de Denver para pedir al Congreso que cree un camino hacia la ciudadanía para millones; un gran rally seguirá a la marcha en el campus de Auraria con discursos de personas directamente afectadas y legisladores estatales en Colorado, actuaciones de artistas locales, mesas de organizaciones locales, una clínica móvil ofreciendo vacunas COVID-19 y vendedores de comida.

Ya Es Hora: Marcha por la ciudadanía, Sábado 25 de septiembre de 2021. Los manifestantes se reunirán en Viking Park, 2801 W 29th Ave, Denver, a las 11 a.m. con discursos de personas afectadas. La manifestación comenzará a las 12 p.m. y continuará durante una hora. La manifestación terminará a la 1 p.m. en el Campus Auraria. Un rally en comunidad tendrá lugar en el Campus de Auraria, Tivoli Quad, de 1 p.m. a 3 p.m.

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Colorado Opens Four Large Vaccination Sites Through September 30

COLORADO

Four large community vaccination sites will provide additional capacity through September 30, to meet potential increase in demand as deadlines for employer-mandated vaccines approach. Each site will be able to accommodate up to 1,000 doses per day. The state mobile vaccination program will provide buses, staff, and supplies at Dick's Sporting Goods Park in Commerce City, Aurora Municipal Center, Southwest Plaza in Littleton, and Chap-

el Hills Mall in Colorado Springs. Although appointments are not required, registration links are listed below for all sites and will be listed at covid19.colorado.gov/vaccinefinder. The sites are open seven days a week and hours of operation vary.

All existing enrolled vaccine providers continue to provide vaccine first doses. Any eligible person can get their first, second, or third dose at these surge locations. In addition, there are more than 1,600 enrolled vaccine providers in Colorado, and [mobile vaccine clinics](#) are

still being scheduled across the state, having already made more than 1,100 stops to date. Vaccine provider locations are posted and updated on the [state's COVID-19 website](#).

Large Community Vaccination Site Information

Aurora - Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E Alameda Pkwy, Aurora, CO 80012, Drive-through clinic, 9 a.m.- 7 p.m. [Register online for an appointment](#)

Littleton - Southwest Plaza Mall, 8501 W Bowles Ave, Littleton, CO

80123, Drive-through clinic, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., [Register online for an appointment](#)

Colorado Springs - Chapel Hills Mall, 1710 Briargate Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, Walk-in clinic, 10 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. [Register online for an appointment](#)

Dick's Sporting Goods Park parking lot, 6000 Victory Way,

Commerce City, CO 80022, Lot H 9/23-9/30, Walk-up clinic, 11 a.m. -9 p.m. [Register online for an appointment](#)

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Colorado Abre Cuatro Centros de Vacunación

COLORADO

Cuatro centros de vacunación para comunidades grandes estarán brindando capacidad logística adicional a fin de satisfacer un posible aumento en la demanda de vacunas a medida que se acaban los plazos de vacunación obligatoria solicitada por empleadores, hasta 30 de septiembre. Cada uno de estos sitios podrá aplicar hasta 1.000 dosis por día. El programa estatal de vacunación móvil pondrá a disposición autobuses, personal y suministros en Commerce City (Dick's Sporting Goods Park), en Aurora (Aurora Municipal Center), en Littleton (Southwest Plaza) y en Colorado Springs (Chapel Hills Mall). Aunque no hace falta programar una cita, se indican a continuación los enlaces de cada centro para inscribirse; estos también se incluirán en el sitio web covid19.colorado.gov/vaccinefinder.

er. Los centros están abiertos los siete días de la semana (el horario de atención varía).

Todos los proveedores de vacunas ya inscritos siguen proporcionando las primeras dosis de la vacuna. Cualquier persona que reúna los requisitos necesarios podrá recibir su primera, segunda o tercera dosis en alguno de estos centros. Por otra parte, hay más de 1.600 proveedores de vacunas inscritos en Colorado, y se siguen planificando [clínicas móviles de vacunación](#) en todo el Estado; de estas, ya más de 1.100 han tenido lugar hasta la fecha. Los sitios proveedores de vacunas se anuncian y actualizan en el [sitio web estatal sobre el COVID-19](#).

Información sobre sitios de vacunación en comunidades grandes

Aurora - Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E Alameda Pkwy, Aurora,

CO 80012, Clínica con atención a vehículos por ventanilla, 9 a.m.- 7 p.m., [Marque su cita en línea](#)

Littleton - Southwest Plaza Mall, 8501 W Bowles Ave, Littleton, CO 80123, Clínica con atención a vehículos por ventanilla, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., [Marque su cita en línea](#)

Colorado Springs - Chapel Hills Mall, 1710 Briargate Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, Clínica donde se acude sin cita previa, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., [Marque su cita en línea](#)

Commerce City - Estacionamiento de Dick's Sporting Goods Park, 6000 Victory Way, Commerce City, CO 80022, Lot H del 23 al 30 de septiembre, Clínica donde se acude sin cita previa, 11 a.m. -9 p.m., [Marque su cita en línea](#)

Continúe manteniéndose informado visitando covid19.colorado.gov.

Para Noticias de Colorado:
ELSEMANARIO.US

Candidates Prioritize Equity and Academics

COLORADO

By Yesenia Robles

A majority of the seats on the Aurora school board are up for grabs this November in the district's first school board election since the pandemic disrupted education.

Six candidates, including one incumbent, will compete for the four open seats. All seats are at-large, meaning Aurora voters will select their top four candidates to join the seven-member board.

Of the four open seats, three are being vacated by school board members who chose not to pursue a second four-year term, including Marques Ivey, who turned in

enough signatures to run again but now is withdrawing from the race.

The work of school boards has become increasingly difficult in the last two years. State politicians have left many decisions about reopening schools during the pandemic to the school districts and their boards, which have faced the anger of critical community members.

In Aurora, the stress of those decisions added to [friction between the school board and the district superintendent](#) as they struggled to define the board's authority. The outgoing board has [set up a structure for how to govern](#), leaving the superintendent to manage most daily decisions. They hope that the governance model will outlast

them even as new board members step in with their own ideas for the district.

“

“Do they have an understanding of the types of students in Aurora and their background and what we might need?”

Rediet Moges, Student

Some Aurora candidates note the friction and say they want the board to have a better relationship with the superintendent.

Las grandes tabacaleras llevan décadas apuntando a las comunidades latinas.

Desde la década de 1970, las compañías tabacaleras han estado comercializando agresivamente productos con sabor a los latinos, ofreciendo descuentos en cigarrillos con sabor, cigarrillos y productos mentolados en los barrios predominantemente latinos para enganchar a nuevos clientes.

Por desgracia, sus esfuerzos han sido exitosos.

Hoy en día, el 50% de los fumadores latinos usan cigarrillos mentolados, en comparación con el 29% de los fumadores blancos. Casi 1 de cada 4 estudiantes latinos de secundaria usan productos de tabaco, con preferencia por los cigarrillos electrónicos con sabor. No podemos quedarnos de brazos cruzados mientras las compañías tabacaleras continúan beneficiándose de la salud de los jóvenes latinos de Denver.

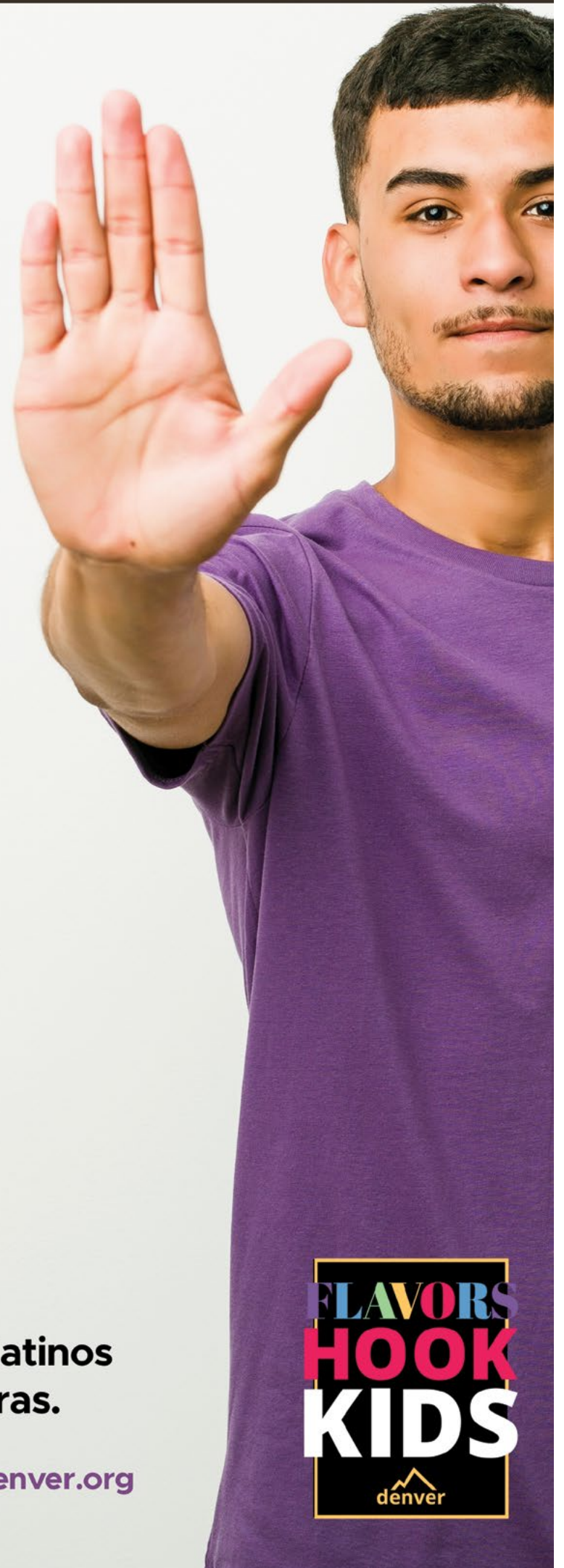
Es por eso por lo que estas organizaciones locales estatales apoyan la acción para poner fin a la venta de productos de tabaco con sabor en Denver:

Tepeyac Community Health Center
Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy & Research Organization (CLLARO)
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)
Denver Latino Commission
Latina Initiative
National Association of Hispanic Nurses
Servicios de La Raza
La Raza Youth Leadership Institute

Es hora de priorizar la salud y la vida de los latinos sobre las ganancias de las grandes tabacaleras.

Para obtener más información, visite FlavorsHookKidsDenver.org

PAGADO POR AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION



State News / Noticias del Estado

New México Officials Urge DHS to End Title 42

NEW MEXICO

By Susan Dunlap

Several elected New México officials signed onto a letter sent by the American Civil Liberties Union of New México to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas asking for the end of border expulsions under Title 42.

Title 42 is a program started under former President Donald Trump which has continued under President Joe Biden. Under Title 42, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) expels asylum seekers at the border rather than allowing them to enter the country and go through the process of applying for asylum in the U.S.

Under Biden, some exemptions became available though, CBP still turned away the majority who requested asylum at a port of entry. But Katie Hoepfner, a spokesperson for the American Civil Liberties

Union (ACLU) of New México, told *NM Political Report* in an email that the situation "is now deeply troubling because there is no way for people seeking asylum to safely approach ports of entry and request protection, no matter how vulnerable they are."

The letter states that allowing asylum seekers to enter into the U.S. is not only a legal responsibility but that it can be done safely. The letter states that recent research shows that 99 percent of asylum seekers who were not detained or released from immigration custody showed up for their hearings in 2019. The letter calls the expulsion of asylum seekers from ports of entry as "discriminatory" and "unlawful." Asylum seekers have the right to seek asylum in the U.S. under the Refugee Act.

Four state senators, seven House representatives, two Las Cruces city councilors, the Alamogordo Mayor Pro Tem and the heads of organizations that work

with asylum seekers in New México signed the letter.

Many thought that President Biden would end Title 42 by the end of July. Hoepfner said in her email that when that didn't happen, nonprofits helping to process people through the exemptions of Title 42 felt they could no longer be a part of the "harm reduction" approach.

"They were unwilling to be co-opted or complicit in this unlawful policy," she said.

Conservatives including U.S. Rep. Yvette Herrell, a Republican representing New México's 2nd Congressional District along the border, have argued that Title 42 needs to be kept in effect during the COVID-19 pandemic. She said in a letter to Mayorkas in June, that if Title 42 is lifted, the spread of COVID-19 would increase due to migrants crossing outside of ports of entry.

But both the Trump and Biden administrations put very few re-



The U.S.-México border wall; showing a view from México. / El muro fronterizo entre Estados Unidos y México; mostrando una vista desde México.

strictions on international travel. Rev. George Miller, who runs a refugee center at El Calvario United Methodist Church in Las Cruces, previously told *NM Political Report* that hundreds of beds could be available for asylum seekers across New México. Miller was one of the co-signatures on the letter to Mayorkas Tuesday.

Other advocates have said the federal government and non-government organizations (NGO's) have the capacity to test and vaccinate against COVID-19 when people cross ports of entry along the southern border. Miller told *NM Political Report* that most asylum

See **New México** on page 22

Funcionarios de Nuevo México Instan al DHS a Poner Fin al Título 42

NEW MEXICO

Por Susan Dunlap

Varios funcionarios electos de Nuevo México firmaron una carta enviada por la Unión Americana de Libertades Civiles de Nuevo México al Secretario del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de los Estados Unidos, Alejandro Mayorkas, pidiendo

el fin de las expulsiones en la frontera bajo el Título 42.

El Título 42 es un programa iniciado bajo el ex presidente Donald Trump que ha continuado bajo el presidente Joe Biden. Bajo el Título 42, la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de Estados Unidos (CBP) expulsa a los solicitantes de asilo en la frontera en lugar de permitirles entrar en el país y pasar por el proceso de solicitud de asilo en

Estados Unidos.

Con Biden, se hicieron algunas excepciones, aunque la CBP seguía rechazando a la mayoría de los que solicitaban asilo en un puerto de entrada. Pero Katie Hoepfner, portavoz de la Unión Americana de Libertades Civiles (ACLU) de Nuevo México, dijo a *NM Political Report* en un correo electrónico que la situación "es ahora profundamente preocu-

pante porque no hay manera de que las personas que buscan asilo se acerquen con seguridad a los puertos de entrada y soliciten protección, sin importar lo vulnerables que sean".

La carta afirma que permitir que los solicitantes de asilo entren en Estados Unidos no sólo es una responsabilidad legal, sino que puede hacerse de forma segura. La carta afirma que una inves-

tigación reciente muestra que el 99% de los solicitantes de asilo que no fueron detenidos o liberados de la custodia de inmigración se presentaron a sus audiencias en 2019. La carta califica la expulsión de los solicitantes de asilo de los puertos de entrada como "discriminatoria" e "ilegal". Los solicitantes de asilo tienen derecho a solicitarlo en Estados Unidos en virtud de la Ley de Refugiados.

Cuatro senadores estatales, siete representantes de la Cámara de Representantes, dos concejales de la ciudad de Las Cruces, el alcalde pro tempore de Alamogordo y los directores de organizaciones que trabajan con solicitantes de asilo en Nuevo México firmaron la carta.

Muchos pensaron que el presidente Biden pondría fin al Título 42 a finales de julio. Hoepfner dijo en su correo electrónico que cuando eso no sucedió, las organizaciones sin fines de lucro que ayudan a procesar a las personas a través de las exenciones del Título 42 sintieron que ya no podían ser parte del enfoque de "reducción de daños".

"No estaban dispuestas a ser cooptadas o cómplices de esta política ilegal", dijo.

Los conservadores, incluida la diputada Yvette Herrell, republicana que representa al 2º Distrito Congresional de Nuevo México a lo

**COMMUNITY PRINTMAKING:
WELLS PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD MURAL!**

October 16th 10am – 2pm
Johnny Tapia Community Center
591 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Materials and personal instruction will be provided to participants to create handmade prints on themes relating to the surrounding neighborhood. Prints will be pasted on to large panels to create a mural for display at the Walker Property.

Registration is required due to public health and safety considerations. Sign up for a one-hour time slot between 10am and 2pm. There are three spaces per time slot.

Also come visit the Wells Park Redevelopment Interactive Booth! Learn about the park expansion plan and give feedback!

ONE ALBUQUERQUE parks & recreation
Register for the workshop at:
bit.ly/walkerpropertyplan



Albuquerque Celebrates Return of International Balloon Fiesta

NEW MEXICO

The City of Albuquerque is ready to welcome back eager balloonists and spectators to Balloon Fiesta Park next month. After a hiatus last year for COVID-19, Mayor Keller and other city leaders announced plans to bring back Balloon Fiesta this year.

"We couldn't be more excited to welcome everyone back to Balloon Fiesta Park next month for what is truly one of the most spectacular events in the world," said Mayor Tim Keller. "I'm so grateful to our community for its commitment to keeping each other safe, and I can't wait to see all the families enjoying this special time of year together."

Throughout the pandemic, Balloon Fiesta Park has served as a critical location, offering widespread COVID-19 testing as well as opportunities for socially distanced recreation and activities. Over the past year, the City's Parks and Recreation and Municipal Development Departments have stayed hard at work, making needed improvements to the park and surrounding area to improve the overall experience.

"While Balloon Fiesta will have some exciting new surprises this year, what we're most looking forward to is getting back to the familiar event we know and love," said Paul Smith, Executive Director, Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. "We're glad to have people back at Balloon Fiesta and enjoy-

ing the rest of what Albuquerque has to offer as well."

While things will look familiar as Balloon Fiesta Park will once again fill with locals and visitors, there are important modifications and protocols in place to ensure a safe event. City departments are working together to make help keep residents and visitors safe from traffic control and public safety to park maintenance and clean up.

The Department of Arts and Culture will be hosting a number of events to celebrate the Balloon Fiesta, providing family fun during the nine-day event at a number of City facilities. Event information can be found at cultureabq.com.

For More New México News:
ELSEMANARIO.US



Photo: Fotos Forsaken/Flickr/cc 2.0

The City of Albuquerque is ready to welcome back eager balloonists and spectators to Balloon Fiesta Park next month. / La ciudad de Albuquerque está preparada para recibir de nuevo a los ansiosos globeros y espectadores en el Parque Balloon Fiesta el próximo mes.

Albuquerque Celebra el Regreso de la Fiesta Internacional del Globo

NEW MEXICO

La ciudad de Albuquerque está preparada para recibir de nuevo a los ansiosos globeros y espectadores en el Parque Balloon Fiesta el próximo mes. Después de un paréntesis el año pasado para la COVID-19, el alcalde Keller y otros líderes de la ci-

udad anunciaron planes para traer de vuelta la Fiesta del Globo este año.

"No podríamos estar más contentos de dar la bienvenida a todo el mundo al Parque Balloon Fiesta el mes que viene para lo que es realmente uno de los eventos más espectaculares del mundo", dijo el alcalde Tim Keller. "Estoy muy

agradecido a nuestra comunidad por su compromiso de mantenerse a salvo, y no puedo esperar a ver a todas las familias disfrutando juntas de esta época tan especial del año".

A lo largo de la pandemia, el Parque Balloon Fiesta ha servido como un lugar crítico, ofreciendo pruebas generalizadas de

COVID-19, así como oportunidades de recreación y actividades socialmente distanciadas. Durante el último año, los departamentos de Parques y Recreación y de Desarrollo Municipal de la ciudad han seguido trabajando duro, realizando las mejoras necesarias en el parque y sus alrededores para mejorar la experiencia general.

"Mientras que la Fiesta del Globo tendrá algunas sorpresas nuevas y emocionantes este año, lo que más esperamos es volver al evento familiar que conocemos y amamos", dijo Paul Smith, Director Ejecutivo de la Fiesta Internacional del Globo de Albuquerque.

Vea Globo, página 18

Poet Laureate Joy Harjo Headlines Anaya Lecture

NEW MEXICO

U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, an alumna of The University of New Mexico, is the featured speaker at the 10th annual Rudolfo and Patricia Anaya Lecture on the Literature of the Southwest sponsored by the UNM English Department.

The event is Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Albuquerque Journal Theatre at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th Street SW, Albuquerque, with a book signing and reception to follow. The lecture is free and open to the public. Please [reserve a ticket](#).

The 10th annual lecture is the first since Anaya's passing in 2020, and will honor his legacy by hosting Lobo alumna and U.S. Poet Laureate Harjo, whose literary arc began in the English Department at UNM.

Harjo is an internationally renowned performer and writer of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, serving her second term as the 23rd Poet Laureate of the United States. She is the author of nine

books of poetry and two memoirs, including her latest, *Poet Warrior*.

"Bless the poets, the workers for justice, the dancers of ceremony, the singers of heartache, the visionaries, all makers and carriers of fresh meaning—We will all make it through, despite politics and wars, despite failures and misunderstandings. There is only love." ~ Joy Harjo.

The Washington Post lists *Poet Warrior* in its top 10 hardcover bestsellers, noting, "The first Native American to serve as U.S. poet laureate shares her journey of personal development as represented through her work." *The New York Times* recommends *Poet Warrior* as one of its top seven memoirs to read this season, saying, "Harjo, the first Native poet laureate, draws on her family's ancestral stories and artistic influences in her second autobiography, which she wrote in verse and prose. She puts it simply: 'I do not want to forget, though sometimes memory appears to be an enemy bringing only pain.'"

Harjo's lecture is something of a homecoming. She received her

Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts degree in 1982 from UNM. She studied with renowned Chicano author Professor Rudolfo Anaya where she learned, "At the forefront was story-making that had roots in community."

She began writing poetry when she was a UNM student "under the guidance and care" of poetry professors David Johnson and Gene Frumkin.

"They opened the door, invited me in, and fed me the best in poetry and ideas. I was also an active member of the Kiva Club, the Native student organization. We were politically active, were deeply involved in social justice issues. They were my family. We also had the Living Batch Bookstore across the street on Central which became a central meeting place," Harjo recalled.

"I would not be where I am without what was given me in my education at UNM," she continued. "My professors and the staff held my trust as they challenged me to



Photo: Matika Wilbur/JayHarjo.com

U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo.

See Harjo on page 19

National News/Noticias Nacionales

Scholarships Help Latinx Students on the Path to Higher Education

Colgate-Palmolive Company is now accepting applications for its annual *Haz la U* («Make the U») educational grant program for the 2022-2023 academic year. In partnership with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF), the program aims to address the financial needs that Latinx students may face on their journey for higher education. 31 educational grants totaling \$100,000 will be awarded to Latinx high school students throughout the U.S. who have demonstrated academic excellence, volunteerism, and leadership within their communities. [Applications are now officially open](#) and will close on November 14, 2021.

As part of this year's effort, Colgate has created a film that features the story of Lizbeth Luevano, a 2019 *Haz La U* grant recipient. Lizbeth grew up in California's Coachella Valley in a mixed status household. Her father was a field worker and her mother helped raise over 10 children in her neighborhood, instilling the values that today de-

fine her: dedication, compassion, and an unwavering desire to help others. As a result, Lizbeth is attending Stanford University, where she plans to major in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity as well as Earth Systems.

“As a recipient of the *Haz La U* grant it has given me the opportunity to attend Stanford University and ultimately pursue a career in immigration law.”
Lizbeth Luevano

“It was difficult seeing that disparity between my other middle-class peers, having to realize that there were things that were accessible to them that weren't accessible to me,” said Lizbeth Luevano. “As a recipient of the *Haz La U* grant it has given me the oppor-

tunity to attend Stanford University and ultimately pursue a career in immigration law. My hope for the future is living in a space where I can see my neighbors thrive, where I can see my neighbors have the same accessibility to an education.”

“We are proud to continue our commitment to the Latinx community and award grants to these extraordinary students through *Haz la U*,” said Dana Medema, Vice President and General Manager of North America Oral Care at Colgate-Palmolive. “We are inspired by Lizbeth's story to aid her community because at Colgate, we believe everyone deserves a future to smile about. We hope that by sharing her story, more students will rise above and aspire to be leaders of tomorrow.”

For over 10 years, Colgate has partnered with the Hispanic Heritage Foundation to award *Haz La U* scholarships through their annual Youth Awards. “We're extremely proud to continue our partnership with Colgate for the *Haz la U* grant



Lizbeth Luevano, a 2019 *Haz La U* grant recipient. / Lizbeth Luevano, una de las ganadoras de *Haz La U* en 2019.

by providing educational assistance to Latinx students, which will get them a step closer to achieving their higher education goals,” said Antonio Tijerino, President and CEO, Hispanic Heritage Foundation. “This important effort with Colgate through our Youth Awards program will showcase the tremendous talent and potential of our youth. These scholarships will help young leaders continue on their track to making an impact on our community and America.”

On the regional level, The *Haz La U* grant program will award 10 Gold level grants of \$4,000 each, 10 Silver level grants of \$3,000 each, and 10 Bronze level grants of \$2,000 each. One regional winner will receive a National level grant of \$10,000. To watch Lizbeth's story, apply and learn more about *Haz la U* («Make the U») visit Colgate.com/MakeTheU.

For More National News:
ELSEMANARIO.US

Las Becas Ayudan a los Estudiantes en el Camino Hacia la Educación Superior

La compañía Colgate-Palmolive ya está aceptando aplicaciones para su beca anual *Haz la U* para el ciclo escolar 2022-2023. En asociación con la Fundación Herencia Hispana (HHF), el programa busca ayudar con las necesidades financieras que los estudiantes Latinx pueden tener en su trayecto a la universidad. Se otorgarán 31 becas con un total de \$100,000, disponibles para estudiantes Latinx de preparatoria en los EEUU, quienes hayan demostrado excelencia académi-

ca, voluntariado y liderazgo en su comunidad. Las aplicaciones están abiertas hasta el 14 de noviembre del 2021

Como parte de los esfuerzos de este año, Colgate ha creado un video que cuenta la historia de Lizbeth Luevano, una de las ganadoras de *Haz La U* en 2019. Lizbeth creció en Coachella Valley, California en un hogar de estatus migratorio mixto. Su padre era un campesino y su madre ayudaba a cuidar a más de 10 niños en su vecindario. Y ellos le inculcaron los valores que la definen hoy: dedicación, compasión, y un gran deseo por ayudar a otros. Como resultado, Lizbeth continúa con su educación en la universidad de Stanford, donde busca el título de Estudios Comparativos en Raza y Etnicidad, así como Sistemas de la Tierra.

“Fue difícil ver la diferencia de oportunidades que mis otros compañeros tenían, dándome cuenta que había cosas que eran accesibles para ellos pero no para mí,” dijo Lizbeth Luevano. “Como ganadora de la beca *Haz La U* me ha dado la oportunidad de ir a la Universidad de Stanford, para lograr mi carrera como licenciada

de inmigración. Mi esperanza para el futuro es vivir en un ambiente donde mis vecinos puedan prosperar y tener como yo acceso a la educación.”

“Colgate-Palmolive es una compañía en crecimiento innovadora y solidaria que reinventa un futuro más saludable para todas las personas. Estamos orgullosos de continuar nuestro compromiso a la comunidad hispana y otorgar becas a estos estudiantes extraordinarios a través de *Haz la U*,” dijo Dana Medema, vicepresidente y gerente general de cuidado bucal de Norte América de Colgate-Palmolive. “Nos inspira la historia de

“Como ganadora de la beca *Haz La U* me ha dado la oportunidad de ir a la Universidad de Stanford, para lograr mi carrera como licenciada de inmigración.”
Lizbeth Luevano

Lizbeth que ayuda a su comunidad porque en Colgate nosotros creemos que todos merecemos un futuro para sonreír. Esperamos que por compartiendo su historia, más estudiantes busquen y aspiren a ser los líderes de mañana.”

Por más de 10 años, Colgate-Palmolive se ha asociado con la Fundación Herencia Hispana para otorgar becas de *Haz La U* a través de su programa anual Youth Awards. “Estamos sumamente orgullosos de continuar nuestra colaboración con Colgate y su programa *Haz la U*. Pues ofrece asistencia educativa a estudiantes hispanos, llevándolos un paso más cerca de lograr sus objetivos de educación superior,” dijo Antonio Tijerino, presidente y CEO, de la

Medrano

determining who has the power to influence lawmakers and elected officials who make policy determining the quality of our air, tax burdens on our wallets, and quality of our schools. This is a serious task, and groups that have been historically excluded from power must be respected and represented like we deserve. It is essential to ensure that our voices are heard—not drowned out by diluting or dividing our power.

The Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy, and Research Organization (CLLARO) has proposed legislative maps that keep our communities whole and powerful. They propose three State Senate districts in the north metro region that are 30, 46, and 48 percent Latino, offering meaningful representation to Adams County Latinos. Their Congressional map captures the movement from Denver's Northside and Westside—traditionally the heart of the Latino community in the metro area—to Commerce City and Adams County, linking together areas with strong cultural, economic, and familial ties. These maps provide meaningful representation to our communities, and we strongly urge the Redistricting Commission to support their effort to draw fair and representative districts that empower each community to advocate for the lives of opportunity we desire and deserve.

Carmen Medrano is the Executive Director of United for a New Economy and UNE Action.

Read More Commentary:
ELSEMANARIO.US

Educación

Fundación Herencia Hispana. "Este importante esfuerzo con Colgate a través de nuestro programa de Youth Awards mostrará el tremendo talento y potencial de nuestros jóvenes. Las becas ayudarán a jóvenes líderes a continuar su camino para lograr un impacto positivo en nuestra comunidad y en América."

En el nivel regional, el programa de *Haz La U* otorgará 10 becas de oro con un valor de \$4,000 cada una, 10 becas de plata con un valor de \$3,000 cada una, y 10 de bronce con un valor de \$2,000 cada una. Uno de los ganadores regionales ganará 1 beca nacional con un valor de \$10,000. Para aplicar o tener más información de *Haz La U* visita Colgate.com/HazLaU.

Para Más Noticias Nacional:
ELSEMANARIO.US

Nuevo México

largo de la frontera, han argumentado que el Título 42 debe mantenerse en vigor durante la pandemia del COVID-19. Ella dijo en una carta a Mayorkas en junio, que si el Título 42 se levanta, la propagación de COVID-19 aumentaría debido a los migrantes que cruzan fuera de los puertos de entrada.

Pero tanto la administración de Trump como la de Biden ponen muy pocas restricciones a los viajes internacionales. El reverendo George Miller, quien dirige un centro de refugiados en la Iglesia Metodista Unida El Calvario en Las Cruces, dijo previamente a NM Political Report que cientos de camas podrían estar disponibles para los solicitantes de asilo en todo Nuevo México. Miller fue uno de los cofirmantes de la carta dirigida a Mayorkas el martes.

Otros defensores han dicho que el gobierno federal y las organizaciones no gubernamentales (ONG) tienen la capacidad de hacer pruebas y vacunar contra el COVID-19 cuando la gente cruza los puertos de entrada a lo largo de la frontera sur. Miller dijo a NM Political Report que la mayoría de los solicitantes de asilo sólo pasarían por Nuevo México durante uno o dos días mientras hacen arreglos para quedarse con familiares o

amigos en otras partes de los Estados Unidos.

Obligar a los solicitantes de asilo a esperar en México durante un tiempo indefinido para solicitar asilo en los EE.UU. margina aún más a las personas ya marginadas, especialmente a los solicitantes de asilo LGBTQ, dice la carta.

"Los campamentos superpoblados e insalubres aumentan el riesgo de que se produzcan brotes de COVID-19 entre las personas que viven allí, contribuyendo potencialmente a una mayor propagación de las variantes. Estas malas condiciones, junto con un acceso extremadamente limitado a los servicios sanitarios adecuados, y la amenaza de graves delitos por parte de bandas violentas, coloca a personas ya vulnerables en las peores circunstancias durante una pandemia mundial", afirma la carta.

Una de las firmantes, la representante estatal Angélica Rubio, demócrata de Las Cruces, dijo a través del comunicado de prensa que ambos partidos "han politizado el sistema de inmigración para obtener beneficios políticos".

"El Título 42 es una continuación de eso, dejando a miles de refugiados en peligro. Como nueva mexicana de primera generación, e hija

de inmigrantes mexicanos, el Título 42 va en contra de todo lo que creo. Insto al presidente Biden a no perpetuar la explotación política de nuestro sistema de inmigración y, en cambio, a trabajar para diseñar un sistema que sea integral, justo y equitativo", dijo.

La senadora estatal Carrie Hamblen, demócrata de Las Cruces, que también firmó la carta, dijo en el comunicado de prensa que el fin del Título 42 "debería haberse producido hace mucho tiempo".

"Las personas que llegan a nuestra frontera sur en busca de asilo huyen de circunstancias inimaginables. Es inconcebible que nuestro gobierno siga poniéndolos en peligro cuando tenemos los recursos y la capacidad de responder con humanidad y cuidado. Ten-

go el honor de unirme a la ACLU, a mis colegas y a la comunidad para pedir al Secretario Mayorkas que anule esta política perjudicial".

El Departamento de Seguridad Nacional no respondió a una solicitud de comentarios, pero sí dijo que el DHS responde a la correspondencia a través de los canales oficiales.

Susan Dunlap es reportera de New México Political Report. Publicado originalmente por New Mexico Political Report.

Traducido por Juan Carlos Uribe-The Weekly Issue/El Semanario.

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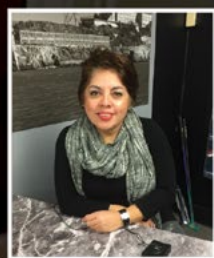
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Please contact COLOR about upcoming community forums on the "Know Your Rights" training for immigrant families and the "What's At Stake?" information sessions regarding your health care coverage.

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El Semanario 

Thus, the lack of a paid leave policy disproportionately impacts families and babies of color, which may be one reason infant mortality rates for Black babies is almost twice the national average for babies of all races. As paid leave is known to decrease infant mortality, comprehensive paid leave policies are an important step not just in ensuring more equitable opportunities for family bonding and financial security after a child's birth, but also in preventing infant deaths.

New Mexico recently made significant progress in protecting workers' economic stability and public health by enacting employer-sponsored earned sick leave for all private-sector workers. This policy will benefit more than 235,000 workers in the state, 176,000 of them workers of color, and most of them women. But while earned sick leave will provide crucial economic and health benefits for working families for short-term illnesses and emergencies, 81% of working people in the U.S. do not have access to longer-term paid family leave through their employers. This is particularly concerning not only because of the crucial benefits for children's health, but also because the policy has significant benefits for employers, including reducing

staff turnover and the subsequent costs associated with training and hiring new staff. Currently, only nine states and the District of Columbia have passed state paid leave policies. So, while where you work used to be the primary determining factor in whether you had access to this crucial support, where you live is now also a factor.

We clearly have a lot yet to do when it comes to supporting our state's families and children. With New Mexico's high rate of working poor, adverse childhood experiences, and poor child outcomes, a comprehensive paid family medical leave program would be of great benefit to our state. Paid leave is a proven engine of economic stability and growth that gives today's workers and our future workforce – their babies – the best chance for success. Now is the time for our policymakers to put New Mexico's working families first and enact a sensible paid family and medical leave program that benefits all families.

Jacob Vigil, MSW, is a Research and Policy Analyst with New Mexico Voices for Children.

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"Estamos contentos de tener a la gente de vuelta en la Fiesta del Globo y disfrutar del resto de lo que Albuquerque tiene que ofrecer también".

Mientras que las cosas se verán familiares ya que el Parque Balloon Fiesta se llenará una vez más de locales y visitantes, hay importantes modificaciones y protocolos en el lugar para garantizar un evento seguro. Los departamentos de la ciudad están trabajando juntos para ayudar a mantener la seguridad de los residentes y visitantes, desde el control del tráfico y la seguridad pública hasta el mantenimiento y la limpieza del parque.

El Departamento de Arte y Cultura organizará una serie de eventos para celebrar la Fiesta de los Globos, proporcionando diversión familiar durante los nueve días del evento en varias instalaciones de la ciudad. La información sobre el evento se puede encontrar en cultureabq.com.

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el poder de influir en los legisladores y funcionarios electos que hacen la política que determina la calidad de nuestro aire, las cargas fiscales en nuestros bolsillos y la calidad de nuestras escuelas. Esta es una tarea seria, y los grupos que han sido históricamente excluidos del poder deben ser respetados y representados como nos merecemos. Es esencial asegurar que nuestras voces sean escuchadas - no ahogadas por la dilución o división de nuestro poder.

La Organización de Liderazgo, Defensa e Investigación de los Latinos de Colorado (CLLARO) ha propuesto mapas legislativos que mantienen a nuestras comunidades enteras y poderosas. Proponen tres distritos del Senado Estatal en la región metropolitana del norte que son 30, 46 y 48 por ciento latinos, ofreciendo una representación significativa a los latinos del condado de Ad-

ams. Su mapa del Congreso capta el movimiento desde el lado norte y el lado oeste de Denver -tradicionalmente el corazón de la comunidad latina en el área metropolitana- hasta Commerce City y el condado de Adams, uniendo áreas con fuertes lazos culturales, económicos y familiares. Estos mapas proporcionan una representación significativa a nuestras comunidades, y urgimos a la Comisión de Redistribución de Distritos a que apoye su esfuerzo por trazar distritos justos y representativos que empoderen a cada comunidad para abogar por las vidas de oportunidades que deseamos y merecemos.

Carmen Medrano es la Directora Ejecutiva de Unidos por una Nueva Economía y UNE Acción.

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gente extienda su mano en gesto de amistad". El parque es hoy más necesario que nunca.

Hazard Park está íntimamente relacionado con la mayor protesta de estudiantes de secundaria de la historia de Estados Unidos. En 1967, decenas de miles de jóvenes chicanos salieron a las calles a protestar por las pésimas condiciones académicas de sus escuelas. Hoy el parque es una de las raras zonas verdes del Este de Los Angeles.

Otros lugares mencionados en el estudio son Chepa's Park (California), Duranguito (Texas), La Bodega de Doña Fefa (Rhode Island) y el Río Gila (Nuevo México).

"Tratamos de descubrir la historia compartida y diversas narrativas por medio de una investigación exhaustiva. Pero no es suficiente con solo sacar estas historias de las sombras. Tenemos que asegurarnos de que estos lugares sean protegidos federalmente", dice Manuel Galaviz, uno de los autores del estudio.

Esta brecha en el reconocimiento de nuestra herencia natural se asemeja al gran déficit de acceso a la naturaleza que padecemos los latinos.

"La mayoría de los niños de color vive en lugares donde existe una brecha de naturaleza, sin espacios verdes abiertos, por tanto, carecen de los beneficios del acceso al aire libre", dice Arce. "Tenemos que convertir los espacios abiertos de estas comunidades en parques locales para el disfrute de todos nosotros".

Según otro estudio de HAF, el 70% de las comunidades de color

vive en áreas sin parajes naturales, tienen el triple de probabilidades que las blancas de vivir en dichos lugares y sufren desproporcionadamente la destrucción de zonas naturales.

Está demostrado que el disfrute de la naturaleza reporta inmensos beneficios para los niños. No solo ayuda a reducir los síntomas del trastorno de déficit de atención, obesidad, miopía y falta de vitamina D. Además, reduce la violencia, depresión y ansiedad, y estimula el aprendizaje y ayuda a mejorar las calificaciones escolares.

El país saca un suspenso en facilitar nuestro acceso a la naturaleza y en proteger nuestra herencia cultural. Que este Mes de la Herencia Hispana sirva de aliciente para lograr que esta lamentable situación sea una reliquia del pasado.

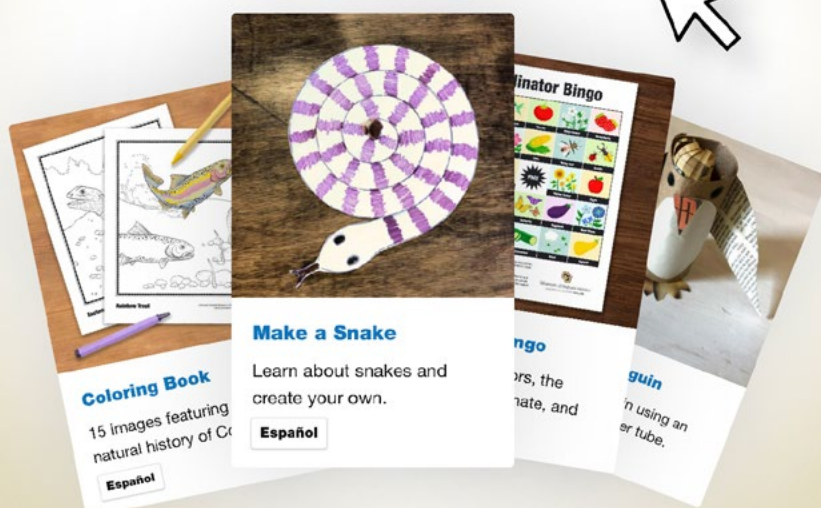
Javier Sierra es un columnista del Sierra Club.

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Masks

Personally, he wears only N95s when wildfires are blazing. "Even in the hospital, I'm mainly wearing a surgical mask," he said.

While he thinks government and public health officials should emphasize wearing surgical masks, Chin-Hong said cloth masks can offer enough protection in certain circumstances. For example, a fully vaccinated person, he said, would likely get adequate protection by wearing a cloth face covering for brief periods indoors when the venue is not at capacity. A lot depends on the context, so he provided these questions to help the decision-making process: If you are going indoors, will the building be especially crowded? How long will you be inside? Will everyone most likely be masked? Are you and others around you fully vaccinated? Are you immunocompromised?

The riskier the situation, the more likely the higher-quality mask is the best option. "Nothing is zero risk, so it's just a matter of risk reduction," Chin-Hong said.

"So definitely, masks need to be stepped up to fight delta, but it does not mean those who cannot afford N95s have no options," said Raina MacIntyre, head of the biosecurity research program at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, who has conducted many studies on masks.

MacIntyre said it is "possible to design a high-performing cloth mask." An experimental lab study she co-authored found a layered cloth mask can effectively block droplets. The study, published in May in the journal *ACS Biomaterials Science & Engineering*, recommends using a minimum of three layers — a combination of cotton/linen and polyester/nylon — to resemble the droplet-blocking performance of surgical masks.

Not only is layering important to improve filtration but so is fit. A CDC-recommended technique for improving the fit of either a cloth or surgical mask is knitting the straps and tucking the sides. A mask is generally a good fit if you feel warm air coming through the front of the mask as you inhale and exhale.

What Does the Research Say?

A large-scale, real-world study published this month found surgical masks especially effective at reducing symptomatic infections. These types of masks prevented 1 in 3 infections among people 60 and older.

Researchers from Yale, Stanford and the nonprofit GreenVoice monitored more than 340,000 adults in rural Bangladesh for at least eight weeks. Roughly half the Bangla-

deshis received interventions like free mask distribution and promotion. Villages that received interventions saw mask use jump from 13% to 42%. The same villages reported fewer confirmed covid infections and a lower incidence of related symptoms.

Villages where cloth masks were given out reported an 8.5% reduction in symptoms, while villages that received surgical masks reported a 13.6% reduction. When a third of adults with symptoms commonly associated with covid agreed to get their blood tested for the virus, researchers discovered an 11% reduction among those who wore surgical masks. Researchers observed a 5% reduction in infections among those who wore cloth masks. This study was conducted before the delta variant was circulating widely in the country. The study has not yet undergone peer review, but some experts have already heralded its methodology and results.

"When I saw those results, I threw away my cloth mask," said Stephen Luby, a co-author of the study and professor of infectious disease at Stanford University. "If delta is circulating and if you're going to wear a mask, why don't you wear one that the data tell you is good?"

"We find very strong evidence that surgical masks are effective," added Jason Abaluck, an economist at Yale who helped lead the study. "My read of that is that cloth masks are probably somewhat effective. They are probably better than nothing."

Abaluck suspects his study offers mixed evidence for cloth masks because only about a third of those who reported symptoms consented to blood testing for covid. In other words, the sample size was too small to observe anything significant. "The most likely interpretation of this whole constellation of results is that [cloth masks] actually do help. They actually do make you less likely to get covid. That's why we saw fewer symptoms," he said. A second possibility is that cloth masks prevent other respiratory diseases that have similar symptoms, he said.

Multiple observational studies and trend analyses found community masking, which includes the use of cloth masks, reduces the spread of covid. The researchers of the Bangladesh study said those studies had drawbacks, which is why they conducted a randomized clinical trial. For example, some of those studies could not observe the independent effect of masks in real-world settings because they looked at the aftermath of mask mandates, which were often cou-

pled with other covid mitigation steps such as physical distancing. However, they agreed with those studies' overall assessment: People who wear masks are less likely to get infected than people who don't.

"This is the nature of science. Science evolves," Luby said. "We had evidence that we get some protection from cloth masks, and we now have newer evidence that we get better protection from surgical masks."

Amanda Michelle Gomez is a Kaiser Health News Peggy Girshman Fellow. Kaiser Health News, a nonprofit news service covering health issues. It is an editorially independent program of the Kaiser Family Foundation, which is not affiliated with Kaiser Permanente.

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Harjo

develop my art and vision. When I taught there at UNM and anywhere else, I felt that I was the continuation of a genealogy of sorts of trust and challenge. My position as U.S. Poet Laureate is a continuation of that legacy."

In 2010, Anaya established the lecture series through a generous gift to the English Department. Founder of UNM's distinguished Creative Writing Program, Anaya is also an Emeritus Professor of English at UNM. His papers are held at UNM's Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections in Zimmerman Library, some of which are available through the Rudolfo Anaya Digital Archive.

The lecture series continues to support Southwestern literature, arts, and cultures, and the program hopes to continue offering events that are free and open to the public.

To support the lecture series and keep the events free and open to the public please visit the lecture website to donate. To help create The Rudolfo Anaya Sala, a public home for Mr. Anaya's memorabilia and other special collections in Zimmerman Library, visit the fund website or contact Carol Kennedy for more information.

For further information, visit the Anaya Lecture Series website.

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cir el riesgo", afirmó Chin-Hong.

"Está claro que hay que mejorar las máscaras para luchar contra la variante delta, pero eso no significa que quienes no puedan permitirse las N95 no tengan opciones", indicó Raina MacIntyre, directora del Programa de Investigación en Bioseguridad de la Universidad de Nueva Gales del Sur en Sidney, Australia, que ha realizado muchos estudios sobre las máscaras.

MacIntyre dijo que es "posible diseñar una máscara de tela de alto rendimiento". Un estudio experimental de laboratorio del que es coautora encontró que una máscara de tela en capas puede bloquear eficazmente las gotas. El estudio, publicado en mayo en el Journal of the American Chemical Society, recomienda utilizar un mínimo de tres capas —una combinación de algodón/lino y poliéster/nylon— para lograr el mismo bloqueo de gotas de las máscaras quirúrgicas.

No sólo es importante la superposición de capas para mejorar la filtración, sino también el ajuste. Una técnica recomendada por los CDC para mejorar el ajuste de una máscara de tela o quirúrgica consiste en anudar las correas y plegar los laterales. Por lo general, está bien ajustada si se siente que

el aire caliente entra por la parte delantera de la mascarilla al inhalar y exhalar.

Un estudio a gran escala sobre condiciones reales, publicado en septiembre, reveló que las máscaras quirúrgicas son especialmente eficaces para reducir las infecciones sintomáticas. Este tipo de mascarilla evitó una de cada tres infecciones entre personas de 60 años o más.

Investigadores de Yale, Stanford y la organización sin fines de lucro GreenVoice realizaron un seguimiento de más de 340,000 adultos, en una zona rural de Bangladesh, durante al menos ocho semanas. Aproximadamente la mitad se beneficiaron de la distribución y promoción gratuita de máscaras. En las aldeas donde esto ocurrió, el uso de máscaras pasó del 13% al 42%. Estas mismas aldeas informaron un menor número de infecciones por covid-19 confirmadas, y una menor incidencia de síntomas relacionados.

Las aldeas en las que se repartieron máscaras de tela informaron de una reducción del 5% de los síntomas, mientras que las aldeas que recibieron máscaras quirúrgicas informaron de una reducción del 12%.

Cuando un tercio de los adultos con síntomas comúnmente asociados a covid-19 aceptaron hacerse un análisis de sangre, los investigadores descubrieron una reducción del 11% entre los que llevaban máscaras quirúrgicas. Los investigadores no observaron una reducción significativa de las infecciones entre los que llevaban máscaras de tela.

Este estudio se realizó antes de que la variante delta circulara ampliamente en el país. El estudio aún no se ha sometido a una revisión por pares, pero algunos expertos ya han anunciado su metodología y sus resultados.

"Cuando vi esos resultados, tiré mi máscara de tela", aseguró Stephen Luby, coautor del estudio y profesor de enfermedades infecciosas en la Universidad de Stanford. "Si delta está circulando y tienes que usar una mascarilla, ¿por qué no usas una que los datos te dicen que es buena?".

"Encontramos pruebas muy sólidas de que las máscaras quirúrgicas son eficaces", agregó Jason Abaluck, economista de Yale que ayudó a dirigir el estudio. "Mi lectura de esto es que las máscaras de tela son probablemente algo efectivas. Mejores que nada".

Abaluck sospecha que su estudio ofrece pruebas contradictorias sobre las máscaras de tela, porque sólo un tercio de los que reportaron síntomas consintieron en someterse a un análisis de sangre para detectar covid. En otras palabras, el pequeño tamaño de la muestra produjo estimaciones imprecisas. "La interpretación de toda esta constelación de resultados es que las máscaras realmente ayudan. De hecho, reducen la probabilidad de tener covid, y por eso hemos observado menos síntomas", afirmó.

Múltiples estudios de observación y análisis de tendencias han demostrado que el uso comunitario de las máscaras, incluyendo máscaras de tela, reduce la propagación de covid. Los investigadores del estudio de Bangladesh aclararon que esos estudios tenían inconvenientes, y por eso realizaron un ensayo clínico aleatorio.

Por ejemplo, algunos de esos estudios no pudieron observar el efecto independiente de las máscaras en entornos reales porque

observaban las consecuencias de los mandatos de uso de máscaras, que a menudo iban acompañados de otras medidas contra covid, como el distanciamiento físico. Sin embargo, coincidieron en la conclusión general: Las personas que usan máscara tienen menos probabilidades de infectarse que las que no.

"Así es la ciencia. La ciencia evoluciona", apuntó Luby. "Teníamos pruebas de que obtenemos cierta protección con las máscaras de tela, y ahora tenemos pruebas, más recientes, de que obtenemos mejor protección con las máscaras quirúrgicas".

Amanda Michelle Gomez es Peggy Girshman Fellow de Kaiser Health News. Esta historia fue producida por Kaiser Health News, un programa editorialmente independiente de la Kaiser Family Foundation que no está relacionado con Kaiser Permanente.

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Sierra

Lady Patricia Nixon inaugurated the park hoping that "may there never be a fence between these two great nations so that people can extend a hand in friendship." The park is more necessary now than ever.

Hazard Park is closely related to the largest high school student walkout in US history. In 1967, tens of thousands of Chicano students hit the streets protesting against the awful academic conditions of their schools. Today, the park is one of the very rare green spaces in East Los Angeles.

Other sites mentioned in the study are Chepa's Park (California), Duranguito (Texas), Fefa's Market (Rhode Island) and the Gila River (New México).

"We sought to uncover the shared history and diverse narratives through extensive research and community outreach. However, it is not enough to simply bring these stories out from the shadows. We must ensure these places are federally protected," said Manuel Galvaiz, one of the authors of the report.

This gap in the acknowledgment of our natural heritage resembles the great deficit of access to nature we Latinos experience.

"Most children of color live in places where there exists a nature gap, without open, safe green spaces; therefore, they lack the

benefit that comes with access to nature and green spaces," says Arce. "We need to turn unused open spaces in these communities into local parks and green spaces and make them available to all of us."

According to another HAF study, 70 percent of communities of color live in areas without access to nature, they are three times more likely to lack nature access than white communities, and they disproportionately suffer the consequences of nature destruction.

It is a proven fact that enjoying nature provides enormous benefits for children. Not only does it help reduce the symptoms of attention deficit hyperactive disorder, obesity, myopia and lack of vitamin D, but it also reduces violence, depression and anxiety; stimulates learning, and helps improve academic performance.

The country gets an F in facilitating Latinos' access to nature and protecting our cultural heritage. May this Hispanic Heritage Month serve as a motivation to turn this lamentable situation into a relic of the past.

Javier Sierra is a Columnist with Sierra Club.

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as' devastating SB 8 abortion law that bans abortion after six weeks, we're reminded that individuals seeking abortions need even more support. Abortion advocates say challenging stigma, listening, and demonstrating unconditional kindness are vital to showing that love.

"The truth is that abortion stigma exists everywhere. Even in countries where abortion is incredibly accessible, people still face stigma, shame, and isolation. This shows that even in these countries, there's the element of care and support that is missing," says Camila Ochoa Mendoza, a reproductive justice researcher in Gothenburg, Sweden, and the producer of the podcast *Abortion, with love*.

Ochoa Mendoza leaned into abortion support after witnessing the loving sense of community at an [International Network for the Reduction of Abortion Discrimination and Stigma](#) (inroads) gathering. She realized she could make an impact by normalizing talking about abortion and leading those conversations with joy, respect, and love.

Her podcast was born of a central question: "What would happen if we stopped dedicating our time and energy trying to convince people that we are worthy of love and care and instead shift our attention inwards, to our community, to the people who have abortions, and ensuring that they are taken care of?"

Ochoa Mendoza says that too often individuals are left to process the scrutiny of their reproductive choices—especially with abortion—as the public lacks consideration for how patterns of oppression and inequality inform these choices. Instead, she says, we adapt "simplistic narratives" to discuss abortion that label us to the benefit of political parties and to the detriment of the people seeking abortion services.

[Reproductive Justice](#) activists have long highlighted the failure of the anti-abortion rights/pro-abortion rights binary. Anti-abortion rights conservatives often de-prioritize the personhood of pregnant

individuals and deny the importance of reproductive equity, often [co-opting](#) the language of the civil rights movement. The pro-abortion rights perspective prioritizes legal access but overlooks how a history of racialized reproductive oppression through [forced sterilization](#) and family separation adds nuance to individuals' reproductive decisions. Still, mainstream conversations on reproduction, specifically abortion, have only recently begun to challenge this language.

Both movements articulate motherhood from a middle-class—and often White—perspective that alienates low-income, queer, and BIPOC individuals through an emphasis on the legal system. Neither address how racial discrimination, the prison and immigration industrial complexes, and wage disparities create barriers to individuals' ability to raise families in nurturing communities. Those same barriers block abortion access—and care.

Through her podcast, Ochoa Mendoza aims to create space to honor all experiences of abortion and to celebrate those working to make the world a safer place for abortion seekers.

Personalizing Support

"When you're trying to get an abortion, there's so much energy focused on the physical, there's no space to think about the emotional," says Brewster, who believes individuals can "hold multiple truths" while processing their abortion experience. Through her work, she has found that most people just need someone to talk to.

"That is so simple, but it is hugely impactful when you feel that you have a space where you can go and tell someone your story, where you feel seen, where you feel supported, where you know that person [won't] judge them," Brewster says.

While an abortion might be an empowering "act of self-love" for some, she [believes](#) each individual deserves support that is anchored in community and one's individual needs based on their circumstance. Brewster's organization, [DOPO](#), is a gender-inclusive, community-oriented resource for abortion support-seekers and support-providers that meets people where they are in processing their abortion experience.

Like Ochoa Mendoza, [Brewster](#) suggests "choice" can be inaccurate to describe individuals' efforts to provide for themselves, and often their existing families, amid many forms of structural inequality. Instead, she frames her advocacy under a [model of providing](#) and re-

ceiving care in community.

"It would be wonderful if people had time to seek support from someone who could support from the moment you're considering an abortion right through. But because of the politics and the pressure, many people come to me after."

When seeking an abortion, one of the most significant types of pressure is time. Infamous "heartbeat bills" like the one in Texas—where I had my first abortion—intersect with financial, travel, and employment barriers forcing individuals, especially those who are marginalized and low-income, to expedite the decision-making process.

Kindness Through Logistical Support

Gina Martínez, co-founder and organizer of the [Colorado Doula Project](#), notes that even people who consider themselves pro-choice uphold narratives that "crisis" in life circumstance or fetal anomaly is the only legitimate reason to terminate a pregnancy.

"I think a lot of people feel like they need to justify why they're having an abortion, and that kind of stigma and lack of acceptance isolates people," says Martínez, who experienced a related yet different stigma while unmarried and pregnant with her daughter at 22. She realized that both choices—embracing parenthood or terminating the pregnancy—came with judgment.

The lack of support for pregnant people can leave them vulnerable to [crisis pregnancy centers](#), which are receiving an increasing amount of [local government funds](#). "Crisis pregnancy centers receive federal funding... yet study after study shows that CPCs routinely provide misleading and inaccurate medical information," says Katelyn Bryant-Comstock of IntraHealth International in Chapel Hill, in a 2019 interview with Reuters. The [Colorado Doula Project](#) supports individuals with the logistical aspects of abortion.

Martínez realized that people seeking abortions were severely underserved and often needed non-monetary forms of support, like transportation or someone to temporarily handle the process of grocery shopping or providing meals. They address the needs that, when left unaddressed, can push individuals towards crisis pregnancy centers.

In addition to funding abortions up to 24 weeks and providing transportation, Martínez says, CDP mails preventative resources

like condoms, emergency contraceptives, pregnancy tests, prenatal vitamins, and post-abortion care packages for free.

"Every single one of those people, what they need is kindness. That's one of the most simple and radical things that you can do," she says.

Like Ochoa Mendoza and Brewster, Martínez speaks of challenging our own perspectives around abortion as an integral part of supporting others. Each one emphasized understanding abortion more holistically, going beyond the political binary narrative, and deepening that understanding through an equity lens.

When supporting individuals seeking abortion health care or supporting those who are processing their experience small act can make a big difference. Looking for ways to get involved?

Highlight and share first-hand accounts in abortion storytelling efforts, such as [WeTestify](#). Consider signing up for [abortion doula trainings](#) like those hosted through DOPO, or fund it for someone else. Use the directory through [The National Network of Abortions Funds](#) to find the folks doing the work near you. If you don't have the funds to contribute, you can always support with your time.

But whatever you do, don't be silent, because, in the words of Renee Bracey Sherman, everyone loves someone who has had an abortion.

A. Rochaun Meadows-Fernández is an award-winning writer, speaker, and activist working to amplify Black women's voices in the mainstream dialogue, especially within conversations on health and parenting. Originally published by [YES! Magazine](#).

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"There is kind of a void in the immigration advocacy landscape that doesn't directly focus on addressing the needs of people with disabilities," said Munmeeth Soni, litigation and advocacy director at the Immigrant Defenders Law Center in Los Angeles. "It's a population that I think has really gone overlooked."



"It's a population that I think has really gone overlooked."

Munmeeth Soni,
Immigrant Defenders Law
Center in Los Angeles



Photo/Photo: Heidi de Marco/Kaiser Health News

Monica Espinoza, the Immigrants With Disabilities coordinator, guides Blanca Angulo to a meeting at the Los Angeles State Historic Park. / Mónica Espinoza, coordinadora de Immigrants With Disabilities, guía a Blanca Angulo a un encuentro el State Historic Park de Los Angeles.

ICE and Homeland Security did not respond to requests for comment on the lawsuit.

Covid-19 poses a particular threat to people with disabilities who are detained by ICE. On Aug. 25, for example, 1,089 of the 25,000-plus people in ICE facilities were under isolation or observation for the virus.

In an interim ruling, the federal judge hearing Baca's class action lawsuit this summer ordered ICE to offer vaccination to all detained im-

migrants who have chronic medical conditions or disabilities or are 55 or older. The Biden administration appealed the order on Aug. 23.

Hernández, who lost his limbs in the train accident, was among the hundreds of thousands of Central American immigrants who annually ride north through Mexico atop the trains, known collectively as "La Bestia," or "the Beast,"

according to the Migration Policy Institute. Injuries are common on La Bestia. And more than 500 deaths have been reported in Mexico since 2014 among people seeking to enter the U.S.

Hernández, who finally made it to the U.S. in 2015, was granted humanitarian asylum after spending two months in a detention center in Texas but quickly realized there

was little support for people with his disadvantages.

In 2019, with the help of a local church, he formed the Immigrants With Disabilities group, which tries to hold regular gatherings for its 40-plus members, though the pandemic has made meetups difficult. Hernández is the only person in the group with legal papers and health benefits, he said.

Angulo has found solace in connecting with others in the group. "We encourage each other," she said. "We feel less alone."

She volunteers as a guide for people recently diagnosed with blindness at the Braille Institute, teaching them how to cook, shower and groom themselves in pursuit of self-sufficiency. Angulo would like to have a job but said she lacks opportunities.

"I want to work. I'm capable," she said. "But people don't want to take a chance on me. They see me as a risk."

She's also wary of any organization that offers medical or financial assistance to undocumented immigrants. "They ask for all my information and, in the end, they say I don't qualify," she said. "Being blind and without papers makes me feel especially vulnerable."

Heidi de Marco is Reporter and Producer for California Healthline. This story was produced by Kaiser Health News, which publishes California Healthline, an editorially independent service of the California Health Care Foundation.

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New México

seekers would only pass through New México for a day or two while they make arrangements to stay with family or friends in other parts of the U.S.

Forcing asylum seekers to wait in México for an indefinite length of time to seek asylum in the U.S. further marginalizes already marginalized people, especially LGBTQ asylum seekers, the letter states.

"Overcrowded and unsanitary camps increase the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks among people living there, potentially contributing to the further spread of variants. These poor conditions, in conjunction with extremely limited access to adequate healthcare services, and the threat of serious crime by violent gangs, puts already vulnerable people in the worst of circumstances during a global pandemic," the letter states.

One of the signatories, state Rep. Angelica Rubio, D-Las Cruces, said through the news release that both parties "have politicized the immigration system for political gain."

"Title 42 is a continuation of that, leaving thousands of refugees in peril. As a first-generation New Mexican, and the daughter of Mexican immigrants, Title 42 goes against everything I believe in. I

urge President Biden to not perpetuate the political exploitation of our immigration system and instead work towards designing a system that is holistic, just, and fair," she said.

State Sen. Carrie Hamblen, D-Las Cruces, who also signed the letter called ending Title 42 "long past due," in the news release.

"The people arriving at our Southern border to seek asylum are fleeing unimaginable circumstances. It's unconscionable that our government continues to put them in harm's way when we have the resources and the ability to respond with humanity and care. I am honored to stand with the ACLU, my colleagues, and community in calling on Secretary Mayorkas to rescind this harmful policy."

The Department for Homeland Security didn't respond to a request for comment but did say that DHS responds to correspondence through official channels.

Susan Dunlap is a Reporter with New México Political Report. Originally published by New Mexico Political Report.

For More New México News:
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Foto/Photo: Heidi de Marco/Kaiser Health News

Blanca Angulo le diagnosticaron retinitis pigmentaria en 2007. "Lo primero que pensé fue '¿cómo voy a trabajar'? Soy indocumentada, nadie me va a ayudar", dijo. / Blanca Angulo was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa in 2007. "The first thing I thought about was, How was I going to work? I'm undocumented. No one is going to help me," she says.

Hernández, quien finalmente llegó en 2015, recibió asilo humanitario después de pasar dos meses en un centro de detención en Texas, pero rápidamente se dio cuenta de que había poco apoyo para las personas con sus desventajas.

En 2019, con la ayuda de una iglesia local, formó el grupo de inmigrantes con discapacidades, que trata de realizar reuniones regulares para sus más de 40 miembros, aunque la pandemia ha dificultado estos encuentros. Hernández es la única persona del grupo con papeles y beneficios de salud, dijo.

Angulo ha encontrado consuelo al conectarse con otros en el

grupo. "Nos damos ánimo unos a otros", dijo. "Nos sentimos menos solos".

La mujer es voluntaria como guía para las personas recientemente diagnosticadas con ceguera en el Braille Institute, enseñándoles cómo cocinar, ducharse y arreglarse, con la meta de que logran ser autosuficientes. A Angulo le gustaría tener un trabajo, pero dijo que no tiene oportunidades.

"Quiero trabajar. Soy capaz", dijo. "Pero la gente no quiere arriesgarse conmigo. Me ven como un riesgo".

También desconfía de cualquier organización que ofrezca asis-

tencia médica o financiera a inmigrantes indocumentados. "Piden toda mi información y, al final, dicen que no califico", dijo. "Ser ciega y sin papeles me hace sentir especialmente vulnerable".

Heidi de Marco es Reportera y Productora for California Healthline. Esta historia fue producida por Kaiser Health News, que publica California Healthline, un programa editorialmente independiente de la California Health Care Foundation.

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Hastings/Esp

elecciones. El NO de la Parlamentaria, el arroz con mango que hay en la frontera con el arribo de miles de haitianos, así como la crisis de refugiados de Afganistán le han dado municiones a los republicanos para seguir vinculando erradamente la inmigración con la criminalidad. Y siempre hay demócratas moderados y conservadores que huyen del tema como el diablo a la cruz para no alebrestar a sus representantes.

Con el control de ambas cámaras en juego, como en previas ocasiones, los demócratas evaden temas espinosos y siempre aseguran que, "si ga-

namos, abordaremos el asunto". Luego ganan y como siempre estamos en elecciones, esos temas difíciles llevan décadas postergándose.

Y no es solo inmigración. La Parlamentaria hace unos meses dijo NO al aumento paulatino de 15 dólares al salario mínimo como parte del presupuesto. También están las medidas para enfrentar el cambio climático y la modernización de la anticuada y frágil infraestructura del país.

Son temas que apoya la fiel base del Partido Demócrata que elección tras elección acude a las urnas para darles una nueva

oportunidad. Es hora de que esos demócratas devuelvan el favor y produzcan resultados concretos, aunque la Parlamentaria diga no. Ella no es una funcionaria electa que se deba a sus representados. Los legisladores demócratas lo son.

En una teleconferencia con activistas pro inmigrantes, el senador demócrata de Nueva Jersey, Bob Menéndez, aseguró que el NO de la Parlamentaria fue a una propuesta específica y que hay otras sobre la mesa que se le presentarán prontamente.

Aseguró además que se seguirán explorando las otras opciones disponibles.

Ya veremos.

Maribel Hastings es Asesora Ejecutiva de América's Voice.

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Aurora

On the candidates' minds are some long-standing issues, such as a need to improve communication with Aurora's diverse communities and the interest in guiding the district's equity work.

But the pandemic has also reshaped other district conversations. Improving academic achievement now is more urgent as the pandemic seems to have slowed students' academic progress across the country and exacerbated existing gaps in achievement. The pandemic also revealed other factors that can stand in the way of student learning, such as food insecurity and limited access to the internet.

Although candidates are hesitant to talk about issues like mask or vaccine requirements, they all admit those are common questions among community members they meet while knocking on doors.

Two high school students who are helping to organize a forum for candidates next month said that their positions on COVID measures are also important to them.

"It shows the bigger picture: Does this candidate care about my health and my family's health," said Rediet Moges, 17. Moges' mother was hospitalized with COVID earlier in the pandemic. She has since recovered. "Are they willing to listen to what health professionals are telling us and advising us?"

COVID mitigation, however, is not the top issue among students.

They also want to know how the district will help them catch up academically, improve mental health resources, and address racial and socioeconomic inequities.

Moges said that, as a student of color, she didn't always feel supported by Aurora school leaders, who were mostly white, when she tried to report issues about inequities and disparities.

Jason Hoang, 17, said he also sees disparities in school program options available to students in Aurora, compared to other districts, and hopes school board members can guide the district to changes.

"Our college-prep programs are not as rigorous as other programs at other districts," Hoang said.

Both Moges and Hoang said they want candidates who will listen to students.

"Do they have an understanding of the types of students in Aurora and their background and what we might need?" Moges asked.

The six candidates are:

Michael Carter — a military veteran, criminal lawyer, and father to three children in the school district. His priorities include improving communication between the board and the community and helping recruit and retain teachers of color. He is also concerned about the instability parents in the district felt at times during the pandemic, unsure whether or not school would resume in person.

Christy Cummings — a psychologist who also teaches in the Colorado Community College System and a mother of two district students. Her priorities include addressing student mental health by removing COVID-related restrictions and providing access to more after-school programming. "I want to represent moms," she said.

Tramaine Duncan — a math teacher in a Denver school and parent of three Aurora students. He lives near one of the schools the district closed last school year and near Aurora Central, a school that has been struggling and is facing more changes. Duncan said his priority is to better engage the community and to ensure equity as changes happen.

Debbie Gerkin — a former school principal who has already served four years on the school board. Her priorities include student achievement, social and emotional supports for students and teachers, and continuing to roll out the Blueprint plan, which is the district's long-term facilities plan to address shifts in enrollment.

Anne Keke — a teacher at a district charter school and the Community College of Denver, and mother of an Aurora student. She is also an immigrant from the Ivory Coast. Her priorities include helping to give a voice to immigrant communities in the district and closing academic achievement gaps. "The asset of Aurora lies in its diversity, in its people, and we have not tapped into it yet," she said.

Danielle Tomwing — a software engineer originally from Trinidad and Tobago and mother of two Aurora students. Tomwing is also a board member at Vanguard Classical School, a charter her daughters attend. Her priorities include addressing equity issues in the district and pushing the district to be innovative.

Yesenia Robles is a Reporter with Chalkbeat Colorado.

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- Removing and replacing walls
- Removing and replacing lighting, plumbing and electrical work

Skill required include:

- Basic construction & carpentry skills.
- Strong background in safe work practices.
- Ability to pass required background checks and drug screen. (minus THC)

Physical/Mental Demands:

- Ability and willingness to work both indoors and outdoors in the elements.
- Walking, climbing, standing, stooping, squatting, bending, twisting, kneeling, lifting, pushing and pulling
- Ability to hold air impact tools up to 30lbs.
- Ability to lift a minimum of 50lbs.

Satellite Shelters, Inc. offers a competitive salary and benefits package and potential for annual bonuses in this role.

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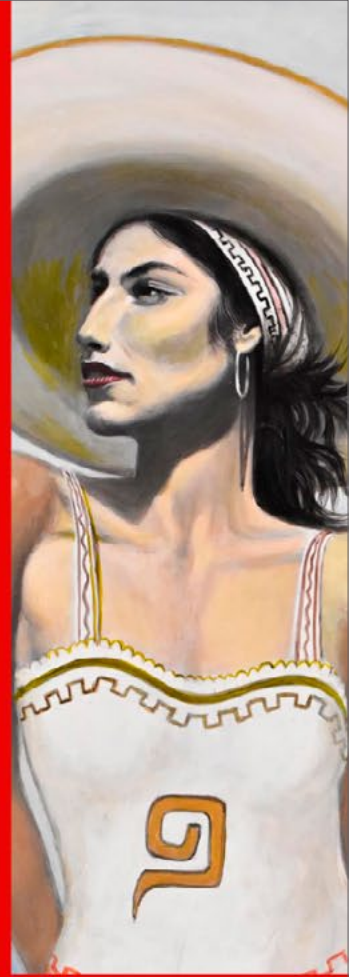
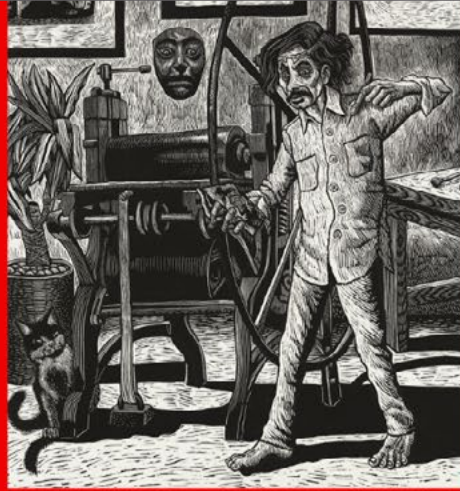
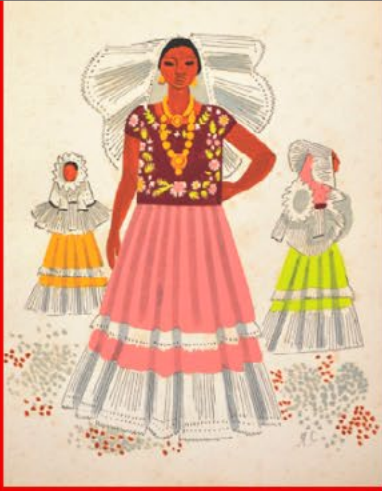
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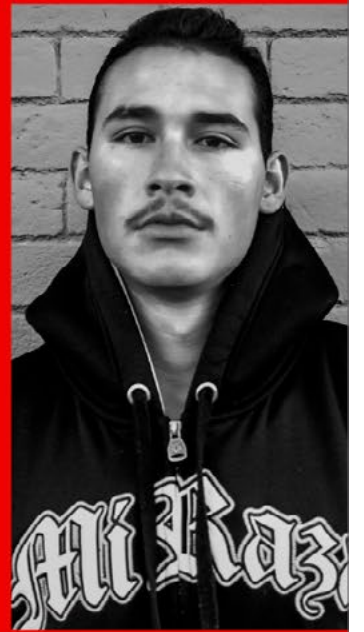



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