



San Joaquin Valley Funders' Gathering Thursday, December 5, 2013

Site Visit

Vibrant Communities, Opportunities for Advancement: Immigration and Agriculture in the Central Valley

TOUR 2:

Driving south from Fresno, this site visit will take us to Tulare County where we will join with leading organizers and community members working on critical issues including immigration reform, pesticide reform, farmworker and agricultural labor, coalition building, innovative community engagement and more. Tulare is home to major citrus production and is the largest dairy producing county in the US with more cows than people. Join us to learn from both those who live and work in these communities and who are most impacted as well as those working across the Valley on these important issues.

Guides:

Camellia Rodriguez Sack-Byrne
Virginia Clarke

Schedule:

12:30 pm Bus departs hotel – Piccadilly Shaw Hotel
We'll have some brief context setting comments en route to Lindsay.

1:45 Arrive El Quinto Sol
 115 N. Elmwood Ave
 Lindsay, CA 93247

Leoncio Vasquez, Executive Director, and **Yenedit Valencia**, Community Worker, of the **Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indigena Oaxaqueno (CBDIO)** will talk about the indigenous migrant communities: place of origin, migration and challenges our communities find in the US, as well as some of the programs we have designed to respond to the immediate needs of the families.

Sally Kinoshita, Deputy Director, and **Jesus Martinez**, Ph.D., Consultant and Coordinator of the Central Valley Deferred Action Project, of the **Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)** will discuss: some of the principal characteristics of the Central Valley and the immigrant communities in this region of California; the ongoing efforts of local agencies, institutions and organizations to assist them in the process of applying for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), naturalization and other immigration options they may qualify for; the creation and evolution of the Central Valley Deferred Action Collaborative, a regional network that emerged to address the challenges faced by these communities; and the strategic planning being made in the event there is or is not an immigration reform.

2:45 Depart for Plainview



3:00 Arrive Plainview

It is in the small rural communities in the San Joaquin Valley where the power of agribusiness and the paradox of increased pollution and limited food access in the heartland of the country's fresh fruit and vegetable production areas takes its biggest toll: on real workers and their families. Both a critical regional employer and a source of pesticide poisoning, water contamination and poor air quality, the agricultural system in the Valley needs to be transformed to better meet the needs of California's rural communities. Nowhere is this more apparent than in communities like Plainview, an unincorporated community in Tulare County with little or no resources. This stop will address advocates' work on pesticides, environmental justice and sustainable agriculture, while highlighting the Plainview committee -- an example of community engagement and participation. We will be meeting with:

- **Isabel Arrollo**, program director, El Quinto Sol de America, Lindsay, CA
- **Tracey Brieger**, director, Californians for Pesticide Reform(CPR), San Francisco, CA
- **Maria Barajas** and **Domitila Lemos**, members, El Comite del Bienestar de Plainview
- **Leticia Ceballos**, El Comite La Voz de Tonyville
- **Leticia Rocha**, El Comite del Rancho
- **Eunice Martinez**, from El Comite Para El Mejoramiento de Tooleville

4:00 Depart for Fresno

5:00 Arrive back at Piccadilly Shaw Hotel

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