



FALL 2019



RELIABLE WORKERS  READY TO SERVE



day worker center of mountain view

CHALLENGES OF MOBILE LIVING

For many years, the Mountain View apartment of **Alberto Resendiz** was his castle. Last year, his rent unexpectedly skyrocketed. He now lives in a shared minivan.



Don Beto harvests the fruits of the garden.

Like many others who are priced out of the Bay Area rental market, Alberto is a hard-working, productive member of the community. Since 2000 he has been associ-

ated with the Day Worker Center, where he is affectionately and respectfully known as **Don Beto**.

Weekdays at 6 AM, Don Beto rises and walks to the Center where he applies his gardening and construction talents to keeping the grounds tidy and welcoming. Don Beto chats with other companer@s while enjoying the Center's breakfast and hot lunch, and his greatest joy is teaching his valuable gardening skills to younger workers.

At the end of the day, Don Beto relaxes in a nearby park before heading back to his friend's minivan. Then it's a long evening of waiting for sleep before rising to do it all over again.

We don't think about industrious workers like Don Beto losing their homes. But most renters — particularly here in the Bay Area where affordable housing is scarce — are just one major life event away from being uprooted.

Living in his friend's minivan is now Don Beto's only option to stay in this area. While grateful for the shelter his friend's generosity provides, living in a vehicle presents hardships. Storing and preparing food is difficult. And there's no running water, no shower, no toilet.

Life for people who are forced to live in vehicles may become much more difficult in July

2020 when a new Mountain View law will prevent RV parking on most city streets. For Don Beto, it may become impossible to stay in his adopted city.



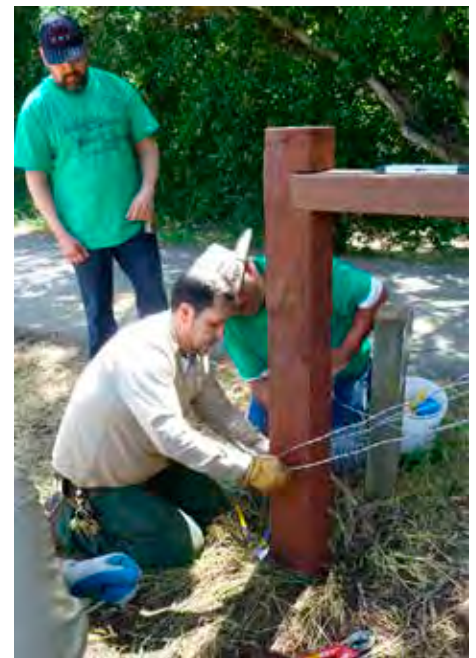
Work is available, money and food, but housing is almost impossible!

— **Alberto Resendiz**

In the rugged mountains of Xilitla in the state of San Luis Potosi, Mexico where he was born, paying work is scarce and poverty rampant. Don Beto emigrated to the Bay Area to seek work and provide for his family. He has had no problem finding work here. "Work is available, money and food," he says, "but housing is almost impossible!"

Being separated from family — including 15 grandchildren who are the apples of Don Beto's eyes — can be lonely. The respect and camaraderie he finds at the Day Worker Center goes

a long way toward easing that loneliness.



Good Neighbors Build Fences

Workers recently donated their time and skills to take down old wire fences and reconstruct new ones at Rancho San Antonio and Picchetti Ranch. Both parks are maintained by the [Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District](#), who thanked our crew for the productive day: "We appreciate their time and hard work!"

Other events where you may have seen our workers in teal shirts this year include the Diwali Festival, the Los Altos Garden Club, Oktoberfest, Run for Zimbabwe, and many others.



Don Beto teaches young worker Anthony how to blow leaves.



WHAT'S NEWS AT THE DAY WORKER CENTER



DAY WORKER CENTER CELEBRATES 23 YEARS

With grateful hearts we celebrated another memorable year of service to the community. On a warm October evening, an energetic crowd of workers, volunteers, board members, employers, and donors gathered at the Mountain View Senior Center to share delicious food, rousing music and stories, and wonderful company.

Long-serving board member and past president **Craig Sherod** was the special guest of honor, recognized with a certificate signed by Assemblyman Marc Berman and Supervisor Joe Simitian. Former CNN anchor and advocate for the Latin@ community, **Celina Rodriguez**, was the evening's mistress of ceremonies.

A huge thank you to everyone who prepared food, danced, and sang along.

Seniors Helping Seniors

Our newest program is receiving rave reviews! Local seniors can sign up for two free hours of labor offered by a senior from the Day Worker Center. A generous grant from the [Kiwaniis Club of Mountain View](#) pays \$40 to cover two hours of the worker's labor.



If you're 65 or older and need a hand with a household task, call **650.903.4102** to sign up for two free hours of help. Call at least a day in advance to make sure a senior worker is available for your project.

*My 93-years-young neighbor told me about **Seniors Helping Seniors**. What a wonderful program!*

I could have never done the work myself. My little yard is glowing, now that the leaves have been picked up.

I can't say enough good things about the gentleman that you scheduled for me. He did a terrific job, and was so pleasant and polite and kind. I feel good about this program being able to also help him and the other workers.

This program is a lifesaver. I feel so blessed!

— **Kathleen Mathias**, employer

DECORATE FOR THE HOLIDAYS, HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

Support your community when you buy your Christmas tree, wreath, garland, and more at the [Kiwaniis Tree Lot](#).

Through a generous grant from the [Kiwaniis Club of Los Altos](#), the Tree Lot offers our workers a whopping **1,043** hours of employment, so crucial during slower winter months when jobs are scarce due to bad weather.

Workers also feel the satisfaction of contributing their efforts to a worthy cause. Depending on the size of the tree purchased, the Kiwanis Club of Los Altos will donate \$5 or \$10 to your favorite school's PTA.

Choose your tree in front of Lucky's at Foothill Expressway and Arboretum Drive in Los Altos. For more information, call **650.735.1552** or visit [Kiwaniis Tree Lot](#) on the web.



Above: Executive Director **María Marroquín** recognizes former board president **Craig Sherod**.

Below: **Folkloric San Martin** dances for the gathered crowd. Photographs by **Jack Owicki** at [Pro Bono Photo](#).



23 YEARS OF SERVICE!

NEW FACES

Please give a huge “Welcome!” to our newest staff members:

Diana Contreras-Chavez

Job Coordinator & Dispatcher

Carlos Arreola, Jr.

Outreach & Education Initiative Coordinator

Alejandra Pinto-Garcia

Volunteer Coordinator



Feed Hungry Workers



Did you know the Day Worker Center provides a hot, hearty meal to around 40 workers a day, five days a week?

Workers grow vegetables for our meals that are prepared by other workers. You can help our bounteous garden with a **\$2,000** donation to install an irrigation system.

To feed the hungry crowd, our kitchen magicians could use an industrial blender (**\$1,000**), a commercial mixer (**\$650**), and a set of mixing/serving bowls (**\$125**).

Thank you for helping to provide meals for the workers!

BRUSH UP ON YOUR SPANISH

Does your Spanish begin and end with “adios”? You can learn to speak Spanish at the Day Worker Center! One of our newest programs, **Spanish as a Second Language** is an all-around “win” for students and teachers alike. Students learn Spanish from a native speaker, and gain understanding by walking in another’s shoes, learning about the teacher’s individual story and culture. Teachers who may no longer have the strength for physical labor are eager to share their language skills and give back to the community. Each eight-week course has a slightly different focus. Find out more at

DayWorkerCenterMV.org

CHANGE LIVES!

LOOK WHAT YOUR GIFT CAN DO!

\$25

Seasonal vegetable seeds to feed workers.



\$50

Train 6 workers for 8 hours.

\$75

Buy ESL books for 10 classes.



\$100

Keep our doors open for an entire week!

MAIL YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CHECK IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE, OR **DONATE AT OUR WEBSITE**



WHO'S WHO at the DAY WORKER CENTER

STAFF

Executive Director: **María Marroquín**

Programs Manager: **Carla Dardon**

Job Coordinator & Dispatcher: **Diana Contreras-Chavez**

Outreach & Ed Initiative Coordinator: **Carlos Arreola, Jr.**

Volunteer Coordinator: **Alejandra Pinto-Garcia**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: **Bill Lambert**, intellectual property attorney

Vice President: **Laura Casas**, member of Foothill-DeAnza Community College District's Board of Trustees

Secretary: **Laura Macias**, former Mountain View City Council member and mayor

Treasurer: **Steve Olson**, senior associate dean of Stanford University's School of Humanities and Sciences

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Josefina Bailon, day laborer

Marco Antonio Cedillo, cashier

Armando Espitia, Mountain View police officer

Marcos Leyva, day laborer

Francisco Mendoza, day laborer

Father Bob Moran, retired Catholic priest

David Wolff, information technology manager

WRITING & DESIGN

Laura Corbett, LMCorbett@comcast.net



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**HELP US
SAVE
MONEY!**

Call or email us with
your current address.

Better yet, **DONATE!**

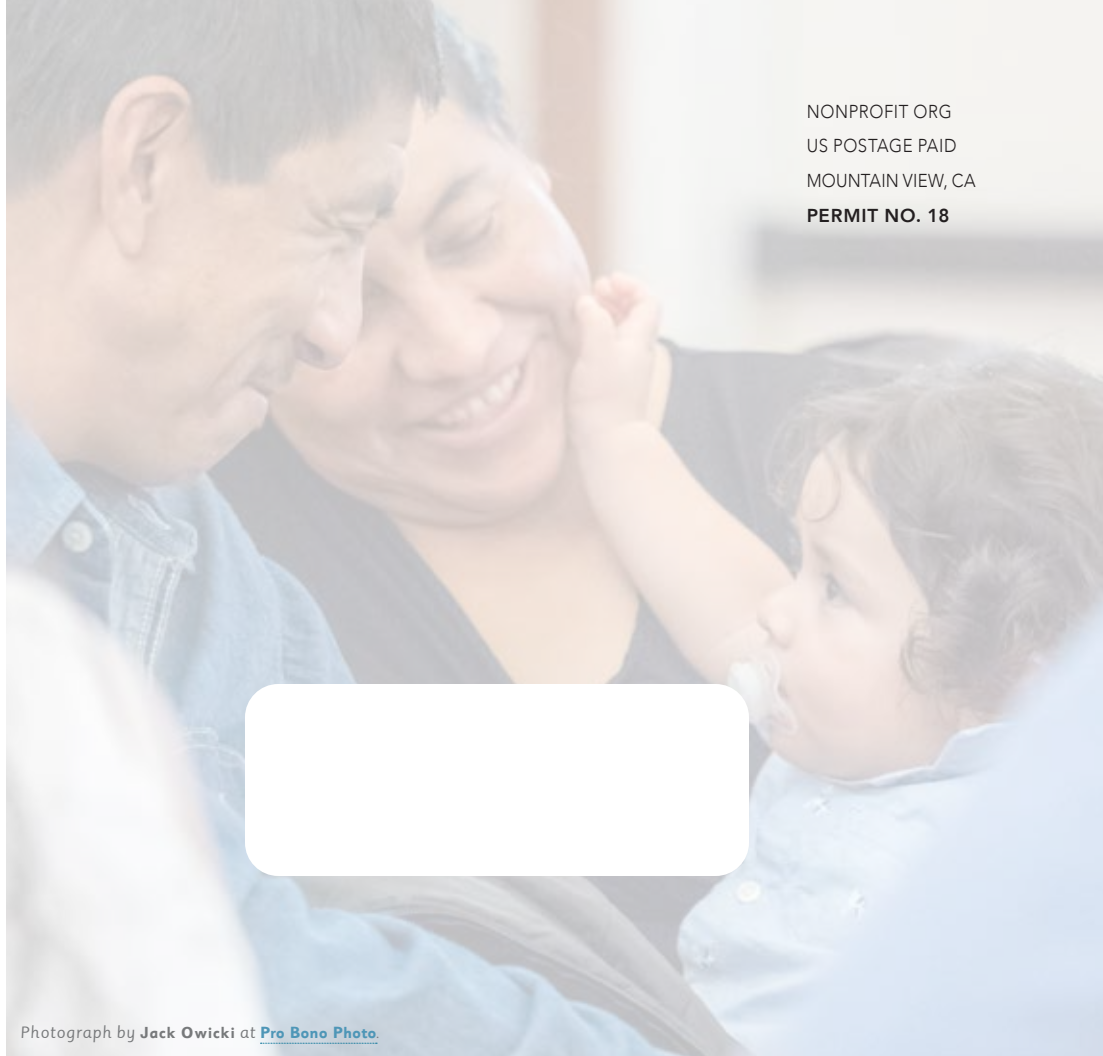
Then write your email
address on the
envelope.

650.903.4102

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Photograph by Jack Owicki at [Pro Bono Photo](#).

HIRE YOUR OWN HERO! Is your home ready for holiday guests? Yard in shape for the winter? Get help with these chores and many more! Call **650.903.4102** today.



**A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
RESILIENCE**

As we enter our 24th year of service amid the country's social upheaval and division, I'm reminded of the wonderful resilience of our workers

— both individually and as an organization — as well as the community we serve.

Here at the Day Worker Center, problems become opportunities to learn, and that learning grows into positive action. We cherish and build on the friendship and social support the Center offers, including nurturing workers and our neighbors through classes and programs that promote the betterment of the whole community.

Above all, we thank you for your friendship and support. You are a huge part of our success!

— María Marroquín

Did You Know...?

About 650 volunteer hours a month keep our center running with classes like English as a Second Language and many others, as well as translating, courier, and office help. That's not counting the 270 worker hours each month that keep our building and grounds in ship-shape.

We serve more than 65 workers every day, and those workers provide about 7,900 hours of labor a month to registered employers!



DAY WORKERS HELP THE COMMUNITY