

Painters' Union Pilot Project

CPWR Immigrant Worker Conference

April 12, 2007

Day Laborers

- 25,000 day laborers look for work every morning throughout Los Angeles.
- Throughout the country, at least 117,000 day laborers look for work on any given day.
- Source: UCLA Center for Study of Urban Poverty; University of Illinois – Chicago

Day Laborers

- National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) created in 2001. Today, the network consists of 40 worker centers.
- Los Angeles largest number of day labor worker centers beginning with Harbor City in 1989. Total of 9 worker centers today.
- Institute of Popular Education of Southern California (IDEPSCA) operates these centers.

Project with Painters' Union

- IDEPSCA would create an organization of 30-40 painters/drywallers based on a cooperative type model. Hollywood Community Job Center – largest number of painters.
- IDEPSCA will implement a series of leadership training and labor history education with the 40 members.

Project with Painters' Union

- Painters' Union director of apprenticeship programs and/or organizer will meet with the day laborers and provide workshop on the history and work of the union.
- Workshop for day laborers on the apprenticeship programs and PLA agreements.
- IDEPSCA will provide workshops for the the Painters' Union on the history and work of day laborer worker centers.

Project with Painters' Union

- IDEPSCA will work with Painters' Union to integrate the 40 workers into apprenticeship programs. They will create a system of monitoring the progress of these workers. Painters' Union will provide resources for transportation and training materials/equipment.
- Painters' Union and IDEPSCA will create a map of all the area codes within the vicinity of each day laborer worker center.

Project with Painters' Union

- The Painters' Union will agree to set aside jobs for the 40 day laborers in their next PLA in the Hollywood area.
- The Painters' Union will provide skills development workshops at the Hollywood Community Job Center for the rest of the day laborers.

Project with Painters' Union

- The Painters' Union will train a group of IDEPSCA worker leaders and organizers on how to monitor prevailing wage violations within the industry.
- The IDEPSCA organizers will work to guarantee that none of the workers go out to work with these contractors.

Benefits of Project

- For IDEPSCA – Jobs for day laborers at prevailing wages and potential membership into the union. Skills development workshops at the worker centers.
- For Painters' Union – A citywide project where the IDEPSCA worker centers will work with them to target non-union contractors and force them out of competition.