ATA and its members believe in an inclusive country that stands for tolerance and respect for all people, regardless of race, religion, country of origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and immigrant status. The actions of our current president do not represent or create that kind of country. Calling for the construction of a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, banning entry of refugees and citizens of specific countries, and threatening to end the DACA program only serve to promote discrimination and continue to create strong divisions between the people in this country. His executive orders on immigration have made practically every undocumented immigrant a priority for deportation, regardless of criminal history or time lived in the United States, completely ignoring their economic and cultural contributions to this country.

Comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship will always be what the immigrant community needs but, in our current situation, seems unattainable. Immigration law is complicated but the reality is that the majority of the undocumented population has no pathway to legal status, it simply does not exist. So, the question for us now is what can we do? Since the 2016 election, CATA members have been meeting and discussing what we can do to protect the undocumented community in the absence of immigration reform and the increased enforcement activity of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

One strategy that we have been working on is limiting the risks for the undocumented population when

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CATA is Marching for Change

Native Nations March
March 10, 2017 Washington, D.C.

CATA staff, as a part of a delegation from the Grassroots Global Alliance It Takes Roots Campaign, joined the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and Indigenous grassroots leaders for a march and rally highlighting the necessity to respect Indigenous Nations and their right to protect their homelands, environment and future generations.

People’s Climate March
April 29, 2017 Washington, D.C.

As part of a delegation from the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance, CATA staff participated in the People’s Climate March with over 200,000 people protesting against the current administration’s anti-environmental policies and showing support for environmental, food, and racial justice.
Interacting with law enforcement. CATA members along with other community allies have been dialoguing with law enforcement to ensure that their policies do not unnecessarily expose the immigrant community to contact with ICE. They have been meeting with local politicians to talk about how they can better protect their immigrant constituents. CATA has also been working with local elected officials on establishing a Municipal Identification program in Bridgeton, NJ so that residents have access to a form of identification that does not indicate country of origin and is recognized as valid by law enforcement and other municipal agencies. We hope to continue that work with other cities in the future.

We are building connections and relationships between our membership and other community allies to work together to support the immigrant community. CATA members have been meeting with community allies to talk about what the immigrant community needs and to strategize how best they can work together. CATA members are motivated by this increase in community support, seeing that they are not alone in this fight.

We know that now is the moment to organize ourselves and lift up our voices, as many times as it takes, against racism and discrimination. We need to be united in order to face what is coming in the future. We cannot think just of ourselves and in our own interests, we must see how we are all connected in the struggle for the greater good. It is our responsibility to be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters, including the Latino community, refugees, Muslims, the LGBT community, African-Americans, and any other group that comes under attack.

The actions of the current administration provide us with an opportunity to reflect on how we are going to live out our values. It gives us the opportunity to act in defense of these values and to seek out unity and justice for everyone.

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**EarthShare® New Jersey**

CATA is proud to be a member of EarthShare New Jersey (ESNJ), a non-profit organization created and directed by member organizations to represent us in employee workplace giving campaigns.

Please consider making a donation to CATA through your workplace. Don’t have a workplace giving campaign at your office? Contact CATA to assist you in setting one up. The code for CATA for the Federal Campaign is 39411 and the NJ State Campaign is 3341. Visit [www.cata-farmworkers.org](http://www.cata-farmworkers.org) for a complete list. For more information on ESNJ go to [www.earthsharenj.org](http://www.earthsharenj.org).
The Eastern Shore of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia – an area known as Delmarva – is dominated by agriculture. However, the most valuable farm products on the Eastern Shore are not vegetables, but chicken broilers. Over the past several years, the number of poultry houses has increased dramatically. From 2013-2014, the area gained 141 new poultry houses and indicators are that this trend will continue. Perdue is headquartered in Salisbury, MD and is the third largest employer in the county. The concerns associated with the industrial scale production of chickens include the low wages and unsafe working conditions for chicken catchers and processors, the pressure on poultry farmers to indebt and impoverish themselves to the poultry industry, to the environmental concerns associated with the massive production of chicken manure.

Residents have been organizing to discuss and understand the impact of this industry on the community and the environment. Town Hall meetings have been held throughout the Eastern Shore to bring together community members for these discussions and to learn about the impacts on workers and the environment that have been documented thus far.

CATA has had relationships with workers in the poultry industry for some years and we have been aware of the difficult conditions facing these workers. In the face of an expanding industry, CATA determined last year to place more emphasis on building relationships with and identifying the issues and concerns of poultry workers throughout Delmarva.

Last year we convened a Poultry Workers’ Forum. This forum brought together workers from across a number of poultry companies to identify and discuss common problems faced in the industry. Workers identified a number of common problems including frequent accidents, the speed of the processing line, the inability to take bathroom breaks while working, inability to use or cash out earned vacation time and more. Most commonly identified, however, was the fear of taking action and the experience of knowing other workers who had lost their jobs as a result of speaking out or seeking assistance. We have continued to build leadership within our community with Know Your Rights Trainings, health and safety trainings, and community meetings as we work to identify pro-active steps workers can take to protect and defend themselves on the job.

This past winter CATA joined the National Poultry Workers’ Coalition coordinated by Oxfam U.S.A. in order to build relationships with workers organizing in the poultry industry across the country.

In the spring of this year, CATA worked with Oxfam America to bring the fight for workers’ rights in the

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Poultry Worker Campaign... Continued from page 4

poultry industry to the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Over the past several years, Oxfam has engaged in a consumer campaign to pressure the major poultry processors across the country, including Tyson, Sanderson Farms, Pilgrims, and Perdue, to make commitments to improve the conditions of workers in the industry. On April 26, we brought this campaign to Salisbury, MD – the home of Perdue’s headquarters – as we gathered outside of the main Perdue processing plant in Salisbury to show support for workers’ rights and to call on Perdue to do the right thing for their for workers. Over the past year, Perdue has made commitments to making improvements for their chickens, publishing a detailed animal welfare policy, promising to provide windows for chickens, more exercise, etc. While we applaud Perdue for their concern for the animals, we also call on them to show at least an equal amount of concern for the humans who do the important work of raising, slaughtering and processing those birds.

We are thankful for all those community members who came out to this first action. Thanks to Standing Up for Racial Justice in Delmarva, to the faith leaders, Socially Responsible Agricultural Project and more. We will be working to deepen this work organizing poultry workers for their rights as workers. Workers’ Rights are Human Rights!

On April 28, 2017 CATA, Oxfam, and other allies stand in front of the main Perdue processing plant in Salisbury to show support for workers’ rights and to call on Perdue to do the right thing for their for workers.

Keep up with CATA on Facebook!
Just search for CATA - The Farmworker Support Committee to see pictures and updates of our members and the work that we do.
CATA’s Organic Community Gardens Continue to Flourish

BY: KATHIA RAMIREZ

SALISBURY, MD
After some months of constant communication with the City of Salisbury, council meetings and meetings with the Mayor, on May 11 of 2017, we finally signed a 10 year lease with the City for a community garden at the Waterside Playground in Salisbury, MD. This location is central to where many of our members live and we are excited to see this garden grow!

In the next months that remain of the season, we will be building the garden, making sure we have a visible sign, making the raised beds out of cinder blocks, planting some fall crops and getting it ready for a full planting next season! We’re thankful for the support from the Salisbury Community Gardens Secretary and the Eastern Shore Community Foundation who have helped make this project a reality.

CATA's Salisbury Food Justice Committee, excited to begin this wonderful project which will bring chemical-free food to the Salisbury community. We look forward to working with other individuals in the area and providing more nutritious food to the neighborhood.

BRIDGETON, NJ
This summer marks the 5th season for the Bridgeton Community Garden. Through our participation in agroecology encounters, we have been able to implement such practices as companion planting and using plant based fertilizers. In the past year, we have been working to transform our greenhouse into an herbal garden. This past April, we also hosted our 3rd Herbal Medicine Exchange between members of the Food Justice community and CATA members. Through these exchanges, we have had the opportunity to explore around local parks to identify local, wild plants of NJ and their benefits and uses through the help of an herbalist clinician, Richard Mandelbaum. Richard also brings some of his students to do individual consults and demonstrations with the community.

This season in the garden we planted garlic, radish, cilantro, peppers, strawberries, beets, lettuce, tomato, cucumber, zucchini, cantaloupe, okra, rosemary, rue, epazote, dill, lemon balm, papalo, pipicha, carrots, blueberries, and blackberries. We are grateful to Philly Chile Farm who has been a great supporter of CATA’s gardens and donated many plants over the years.

KENNETT SQUARE, PA
After battling with groundhogs last year, the Kennett Square garden is currently in its 3rd season. Members of the Kennett Square community usually meet on Saturdays to have their communal work days. We also have started a series of workshops on topics that members identified including how to make compost, identifying herbs that repel pest, the different uses of herbs, and bio fertilizers. The crops planted in the garden for this year include swiss chard, tomato, garlic, cilantro, cabbage, squash, cucumber, sweet peppers, hot peppers, peas, beans, and corn.
CATA Celebrates International Workers Day
BY: MEGHAN HURLEY

This past May 1 was celebrated as International Worker’s Day with a call to action for a national strike of immigrant workers. CATA members and community allies organized and participated in various activities during the day to call attention to the crucial role that immigrants play in our economy and communities as well as highlight their valued contributions. CATA members and community allies marched through the streets of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania in the morning for immigrant rights. RadioCATA held a special two hour live program with interviews and commentary from CATA members on the importance of celebrating May 1 and also participating in the national strike. CATA also hosted a Solidarity Supper in Bridgeton, NJ in the evening for the community to come together with those that has been a part of the strike to share in a meal and discuss how to move forward, working in solidarity around the issues of immigration and human rights.

Join us for an evening of dinner, dancing, and fun to raise money for a great cause!

All proceeds from this event will benefit CATA and its work with the immigrant community. We'll have food, drinks, dancing, and raffles with great prizes. We hope you'll join us for a good time and to support a great organization!

For tickets and sponsorship information: www.cata-farmworkers.org/fundraiser
I want to be an ally with CATA’s work for justice!

Here is my donation of:

$30____ $50____ $75____ $100____

$250____ $500______ Other____

Name:________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip:___________________________________________________________________
Phone:__________________________________________________________________________
Email:__________________________________________________________________________

You can mail your tax deductible checks payable to:
CATA, P.O. Box 510, Glassboro, N.J. 08028

If you prefer, you can donate online through our secure website:
www.cata-farmworkers.org