



Dearest Friends and Supporters,

2017 has been a rollercoaster **year of struggle and growth**. Trump's election on a brazenly white supremacist, anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim platform that attempted to pit working-class people against each other sent shockwaves through our community. We faced heightened challenges of organizing in the face of acute fear, panic, and trauma. But we also saw how *in Alabama, we are uniquely prepared to fight back*. In January, we kicked into gear, hosting a series Know-Your-Rights trainings for affected communities and allies at local churches, mosques, and community centers all over the Birmingham area. We launched the campaign to make Birmingham a sanctuary city. We continued to organize against wage theft and workplace abuses and call out the systemic human rights violations at Etowah, the nation's worst immigrant jail, and we teamed up with pro bono lawyers to free our community members from detention. We fed our souls with arts and culture through hosting our annual Día de Muertos celebration and our first-ever Arts of Resistance training. Check out our full 2017 recap and other updates below.

We also dedicated ourselves this year to growing internally in order to step up our struggle: we secured federal tax-exempt status and raised enough revenue from diverse sources—including significant grassroots support—to become a fully independent, self-sustaining organization. We welcomed dozens of new members to our family, and our team will be growing in 2018 to include a new Workers' Rights Organizer, Administrative Assistant, and Organizing & Communications Fellow!

We have big plans for 2018, and **we hope you will continue to walk alongside us** as we move our communities forward (*adelante!*) toward justice, dignity, and liberation. Please consider [becoming a monthly donor, or making a one-time donation](#) (bit.ly/donatetoadelante) to Adelante to support our work during this critical time.

With love and solidarity,

Jessica Vosburgh
Executive Director

Marisol Aguilar
Board President

"Freedom is never granted; it is won. Justice is never given; it is exacted and the struggle must be continuous, for freedom is never a final fact, but a continuing evolving process..." – A. Philip Randolph
