

Questions for Southern Workers Assembly Worker Interviews

As we prepare for the Southern Workers Assembly to be held in Charlotte, NC on September 3rd, as a step toward building a united workers movement to organize labor in the South, we are interviewing Southern workers who are engaged in efforts to organize and win improvements at work, in their communities, and the larger society.

1. State your name, state and city, local union or worker organization, if you are an officer, and are you in the public or private sector?
2. Does your state have right-to-work laws; and if so, how have they affected efforts by workers to organize unions?
3. What is the percentage of union membership in your state?
4. How many union campaigns have taken place in your state in the past 2 years? Were they within the public or private sector? What was the outcome?
5. Do you know of, or have you participated in any meetings that brought together local unions, worker organizations and community forces to discuss building a coordinated effort to organize labor in your state or city?
6. Are there still strong divisions among workers in your state based on race, gender, sexual orientation and immigration status? If so, what efforts are being made to unite these workers?
7. Has your work place been a target of raids on immigrant workers?
8. Do you think that an active labor movement would help to strengthen the broader movements for social and economic justice in your state and city and throughout the South? If so, how?
9. What are some of the issues you feel should be taken up at the Southern Workers Assembly?
10. Do you feel that workers in the South should form a Southern Labor Alliance to begin planning a united campaign to organize workers in the South into a social justice labor movement?