



# MAKE THE ROAD CONNECTICUT

## OUR WORK

MRCT builds the power of immigrant and working class communities to achieve dignity and respect. Our work is multi-issue and multi-generational, and combines deep base-building and leadership development with highly effective issue-based campaigns and robust civic engagement programs utilizing the strategies described below.

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Our members identify common problems, devise solutions, and wage grassroots campaigns to enact those solutions. Recent victories include winning a language access campaign for parents in Bridgeport public school, ongoing advocacy and organizing to protect immigrants rights by ensuring full compliance with the TRUST act throughout the state.

## POLICY INNOVATION

Our leadership works with members to design enforceable solutions to widespread problems. Some examples include, MRCT's fight to improve the schedules of CT workers to be more predictable and fair, working with parents and student leaders to raise awareness about transportation deficiencies as barriers to education access for students in Bridgeport and throughout the state.

## SURVIVAL SERVICES

MRCT's regularly conducts Know Your Rights trainings, Emergency Preparedness planning sessions, and Legal Clinics to help safeguard the community against the looming threat of ICE detention and deportation. In many cases, with training and education families are able to keep ICE out of their homes, but if or when that is not possible they have a plan and a strategy in place to defend their case.

## TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

MRCT organizes students with the purpose of being trained as Youth Leaders in their schools and communities. In the program, youth learn about reforms that are underway in other places to help frame their campaign and think big and create lasting change in their communities that will benefit generations to come.

## MEET OUR MEMBERS



**Flor** is a youth leader who has helped bridge our intergenerational organizing within our organization and in her school. She can be seen in the youth weekly committee meetings leading a workshop or action.



**Veronica** has helped shape our Fight Back committee by leading legal clinics and emergency preparedness workshops, and bravely shared her personal story during the legislative session to win the expansion of the Trust Act.



## ABOUT MAKE THE ROAD CONNECTICUT

Since MRCT began in early 2015, the organization has grown substantially, operating committees that meet weekly in our Bridgeport and Hartford community centers to fight for immigrant and workers rights. MRCT believes that the path to change is to build the power of communities to organize themselves and fight back against inequality. MRCT members lead our rallies, create strategies to win our campaigns, and educate community members about their rights.

MRCT has been a leader in organizing parents and youth in Bridgeport and Hartford in the fight for educational justice, access, and equity, and supports community members who are undocumented and currently in deportation proceedings, have had family members deported, or are children of parents who have been separated by deportation by creating an invaluable space where the community is able to come together to speak openly about their fears and begin to process their collective trauma.

## OUR IMPACT IN A SINGLE YEAR

- mobilized more than **1,000 people to take action** in support of immigrant and workers' rights;
- provided **educational programming to 500 immigrant families**;
- secured numerous **immigrant and workers rights victories** at the state and local level throughout Connecticut;
- trained more than **100 immigrant members** of the organization **in media and leadership skills**.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## OFFICE LOCATIONS

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