

**It's heating up at NDWA!**

---

May 7, 2019 at 2:44 PM PM

# NATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS ALLIANCE

Spring is here and 2019 is shaping up to be a big year for domestic workers! NDWA's quarterly newsletter includes highlights of our work, upcoming events and ways for you to get involved.

Here's what's included in this newsletter:

- [From Roma to Congress: domestic workers in the spotlight](#)
  - [Domestic worker local wins](#)
  - [Speaking out against workplace sexual harassment](#)
  - [Tell us about you!](#)
- 

## **From Roma to Congress: domestic workers in the spotlight**



ROMA, a film that tells the story of a domestic worker, was celebrated by critics, celebrities and domestic workers alike over the past few months. The movie portrays the experience of a domestic worker with complexity, purpose and power - which is different from how we are often shown in the media. Across the country, NDWA and our local affiliates held 16 community screenings of the movie for domestic workers and their families. We also talked

with each other [online in video conversations and discussions](#) about the movie and what it means for our movement.

But we're not stopping there. Movies like ROMA are rare, and they can help a wide audience - including elected officials - to better understand our stories get inspired to take action to support us. We're planning to use the momentum of ROMA to generate support for our Federal Domestic Workers Bill of Rights.

[Our Bill of Rights](#) is a proposed law that will be introduced later this year. If we succeed in getting it passed into law, it will ensure basic protections and rights for all domestic workers across the country. We've won Bills of Rights in 9 States and 1 city, so we know it can be done. But it will be a long campaign to win rights and dignity for domestic workers around the country, and we'll need thousands of domestic workers to get involved.

Get involved with the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights now!

---

### **Domestic worker wins!**

Over the past few months, we've had great wins all over the country thanks to the advocacy and strength of domestic workers like you. This includes:

[Domestic workers in Philadelphia](#) have organized to propose a local domestic worker bill of rights to their city council. If this proposal passes, Philadelphia will be the largest city to ensure rights and dignity for all domestic workers!

Thanks to the hard work of domestic workers in New Mexico, the [New Mexico Domestic Workers Bill of Rights has passed!](#) This bill ensures rights and dignity for all domestic workers.

Dozens of au pairs in Colorado won a lawsuit that resulted in a \$65.5 million dollar settlement for stolen wages and other labor violations. This is [one of the largest settlements ever](#) on behalf of low wage workers!

Want to tell us about how domestic workers are winning in your community? Email us at [membership@domesticworkers.org](mailto:membership@domesticworkers.org)

---

### **Speaking out against workplace sexual harassment**



*“But, being a domestic worker makes me even more vulnerable to mistreatment and sexual harassment, because my work is not recognized and no one sees what happens behind the closed doors of a home.*

*I thought that these things did not happen in the United States, but they do. I have also experienced sexual harassment at each of the jobs that I have held here. Once, one of my clients asked me to clean the house naked. And, another client hurt me because he tried to have his dog bite my private parts. I was able to escape from both homes, but I never got paid what I was owed for my work.”*

*- Adriana, house cleaner & NDWA leader*

For too long, domestic workers have been excluded from basic labor protections, including against sexual harassment. Because we often work in private homes by ourselves, many clients may feel that they can take advantage of us. And although some States have better protections than others, we are excluded from federal protections because we work in workplaces with less than 15 employees. But, a few weeks ago, a new bill was introduced in Congress that would change that - The BE HEARD act. Adriana, an NDWA member, traveled to Washington D.C. for the introduction of the bill to share her story above and talk about why it's so important for workers like us.

Learn more about the Act & how you can take part to make this bill into law!

---

### **Tell us about you!**

There's a lot happening with NDWA, including opportunities for gig workers (workers who find work through apps) to connect and fight for rights, local events and activities, and our campaigns around immigration justice and uniting families.

[Fill out this form to let us know your interests](#) so we can send you the information that most interests you.

And [check our list of local NDWA affiliates and chapters](#) to find out how you can connect with a local domestic worker group near you!

With love & appreciation,

Maria, Barbara & the NDWA membership team

Join NDWA today!

---

Sent Via [ActionNetwork.org](#). Para realizar su correo electronico, cambie su nombre o dirección, o parar recibiendo correos electronicos de National Domestic Workers Alliance - Contacts and Members por favor [haga clic aquí](#).