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2014 IMPACT REPORT

ALIGN unites labor and community to create good jobs, vibrant communities, and an accountable democracy for all New Yorkers.



ALLIANCE FOR A JUST REBUILDING

ALIGN and the Alliance for a Just Rebuilding secured commitments from the de Blasio administration to overhaul the City's rebuilding process. We also launched a new Build it Back Local Hiring Initiative which will set a precedent for how climate resiliency can engage communities, create good local jobs, and build new affordable housing. This initiative sets a national precedent of using HUD Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery for workforce development and training, and will impact upwards of \$750 million in contracts. "Because of the reality of global climate change... the question is not if we will be confronted by more extreme weather events, it's when and how," Mayor de Blasio said. "We have to make a real long-term commitment to creating a stronger and more resilient New York."

CARING ACROSS GENERATIONS

ALIGN won an additional \$1.5 million in the New York City baseline budget to provide home care services to low-income and undocumented seniors and to support living wage home care jobs. Approximately 250 seniors who were on the waiting list for vital senior services will now have access. The program, called Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP), had experienced drastic funding cuts over the last eight years. Because we won a permanent increase in funding for EISEP in future City budgets, many more seniors will be able to age in their homes with dignity in the years to come.



LOW WAGE WORKERS RISING

ALIGN connected the struggles of low-wage workers across employers and industries to mobilize hundreds and demand higher wages, better schedules, and respect at work. We won City Council support to reject political donations from Walmart, helped build a growing national movement, and sent a strong message to Walmart and other corporations who follow their example that their values and business practices will not be tolerated.



TRANSFORM DON'T TRASH NYC

ALIGN launched worker and small business organizing projects to expose problems in the commercial waste industry, to educate people about the interconnectedness of environmental and economic justice, and to build support for the local campaign. After we testified at a City Council Sanitation Committee hearing, Committee Chair Antonio Reynoso responded enthusiastically about reducing truck traffic and pollution, regulating an industry that is "like the Wild West" in order to improve job quality for waste workers, incentivizing recycling, and investing to bring the commercial waste industry into the 21st Century.



PEOPLES CLIMATE MARCH & CLIMATE WORKS FOR ALL

ALIGN played a leading role in the People's Climate March, which brought together over 400,000 people in New York City for the largest march for climate action in history. We mobilized 700 Sandy survivors through the Alliance for Just Rebuilding, and 10,000 union members from 70 endorsing unions. The People's Climate March led to Mayor Bill de Blasio and the New York City Council passing a benchmark to combat climate change by reducing New York City's greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050. Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito notes this "policy platform reaffirms our commitment to creating a sustainable future for New York City. When New York speaks the world listens, and with these initiatives we will continue to serve as a model for cities everywhere in the fight against climate change." Moving forward, ALIGN is releasing Climate Works for All, a ten-point plan to help meet New York City's new climate policy, improve infrastructure and access within our city, and create high-quality, career track jobs to make all of New York City's communities more resilient and sustainable.

REAL AFFORDABILITY FOR ALL

ALIGN joined the Real Affordability for All coalition, which works to end the NYC housing crisis. We built new alliances across building construction trades unions, community, and housing organizations to begin a new partnership for local hiring and construction careers. As part of this coalition, we developed draft local hire policy which will help community members get access to union jobs in the construction field as new affordable housing and mixed-use developments are built across the city.

