

CALIFORNIA WORKPLACE OUTREACH PROGRAM (CWOP)

Knowledge is Power

»»» Educate Workers!

Effective workplace laws require well-informed workers. CWOP ensures that workers receive crucial workplace rights information from trusted organizations in 46 languages statewide.

Legislators can protect and expand this program.

HISTORY OF CWOP

In 2020, the legislature adopted temporary standards, including paid leave, to protect essential workers from COVID. They realized that these new laws would not prevent the spread of COVID if workers didn't know how to demand these rights, so they launched an ambitious outreach program: the COVID-19 Workplace Outreach Project (CWOP). State labor agencies collaborated with 62 community groups to reach nearly 2 million workers in CWOP's first 14 months.

The need for this program goes beyond the pandemic. California workers are robbed of nearly \$2 billion each year through minimum wage violations alone. A survey found 38% of California workers experience workplace violations. Retaliation is common. Workers need support to find the courage to speak up.

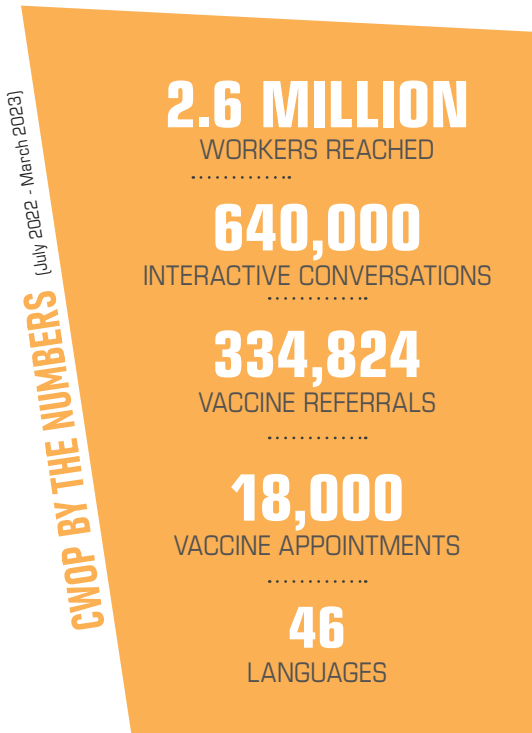
In 2023, California extended CWOP with \$25 million in funding and a new name: the California Workplace Outreach Program. Now CWOP allows us to share vital information about workplace rights, including wage theft and heat safety, in the industries with the most vulnerable workers.

Trusted Messengers

CWOP is successful because our organizations are trusted by workers in our communities. Due to fear of retaliation, workers may be reluctant to reach out to government agencies, and information about workplace rights may be hard to find or not available in their primary language. Together, CWOP organizations speak 46 languages. Our outreach staff share culture, community, and life experiences with the workers we serve; often we or our family members have worked the same difficult jobs. We understand the challenges workers face and can help them overcome their fears about speaking up for their rights.

Unprecedented Impact

CWOP operates in 38 counties that account for 96% of California's population.



Top 10 CWOP Languages in 2023

- Spanish
- English
- Mixteco
- Purepecha
- Vietnamese
- Tagalog
- Punjabi
- Tongan
- Korean
- Chinese



WHO WE ARE

The California Coalition for Worker Power (CCWP) is a group of worker centers, worker advocates, labor policy experts and labor unions dedicated to ensuring that every worker in California has the power to come together and improve their work conditions and their communities. We believe that all work is valuable and that all working people must have a voice in order for California to succeed in creating a more just and equitable society.

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COUNTING ON CWOP

Make It Official and Protect Funding

We are asking the legislature to take three actions to ensure workers can count on CWOP into the future:

- **Pass SB 1030**, introduced by Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas. SB 1030 will write CWOP into our Labor Code, marking it as an ongoing commitment to ensure that every working Californian can understand and assert their rights at work.
- **Protect 2024 funding** and allocate \$30 million for CWOP in 2025.
- **Prevent the transfer of \$125 million** from the Labor and Workforce Development Fund (LWDF) to the General Fund, to fill budget gaps. This money is for educating workers and employers about labor rights and should be spent to help workers. The Governor's proposed transfer will make it difficult to ensure there is adequate funding for CWOP in future years.