

MAKE THE ROAD NEW YORK

# **Survival Services**

#### **OUR MISSION**

Make the Road New York builds the power of immigrant and working class communities to achieve dignity and justice through the provision of legal & survival services, transformative education, policy innovation, and community organizing.

# Our Model

Make the Road New York is a second home to tens of thousands of immigrant and working class people of color. Vibrant murals and open doors welcome passersby into our storefront centers. From our nightly meals and community meetings to English classes and youth programs, we connect to every member of the family. Our four-pronged method allows us to achieve a uniquely broad and deep impact:

> SUPPORT families over the long term to thrive.

#### EDUCATE

#### ANTICIPATE AND

TACKLE individual crises.

community members to help them exercise their rights, become civic leaders, and build a stronger future.

#### TRANSFORM

policies and systems to create a more just and fair New York.

# **Our Unique Capacities**

**CULTURAL COMPETENCE** Our staff are bilingual and from the communities we serve. We work side-by-side with community members to design and deliver services.



**ADAPTABILITY** We can stand up a new program within days to respond to unanticipated events such as climate disasters, immigration policy changes and public health emergencies.



**RIGOROUS EVALUATION** We continuously evaluate and adjust our programs to improve results and meet shifting needs.



**FLEXIBILITY** When Covid hit, we took our programs remote without missing a beat, launching a bilingual hotline, expanding our emergency food program, and staying in close touch with community members. We've developed a hybrid model to quickly switch back and forth as conditions change.



### **Our Programs**

#### **EDUCATION, TRAINING & COLLEGE ACCESS**

- Citizenship preparation
- Youth-led college access and financial aid applications
- Wraparound services for students in community schools
- Computer & financial literacy
- English for Speakers of Other Languages

#### **LEGAL SERVICES**

- Housing and public benefits
- Immigration and naturalization
- TGNCIQ justice and civil rights
- Workplace justice
- Impact litigation
- Community education

#### **HEALTH SERVICES**

- Covid vaccines, testing and education
- Community health worker training and job placement
- Community health worker home visits
- Benefits enrollment (health insurance, SNAP and more)
- Health care navigation
- TGNCIQ health advocacy
- Medical debt reduction
- Food pantry services
- Peer health coaching
- Occupational health and safety training

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PEER SUPPORT

- After-school and summer programs for youth
- Daily community organizing committee meetings
- Know Your Rights training

## **Our Impact**

Sophisticated toolbox of anti-poverty services directly supports 25,000 individuals a year

Storefront community centers embedded in the hearts of immigrant and working class neighborhoods enable community members to find us whenever urgent needs arise

People from over 100 countries served

Impact litigation preserved DACA and protected immigrant rights across the US

Policy design and organizing result in tangible improvements in the lives of millions

Helped launch sister organizations in Connecticut, New Jersey, Nevada and Pennsylvania to support growing immigrant communities in other states



## Resolving Individual Crises

We eliminate crushing medical debt, ensure access to health care, and tackle the full array of emergencies that our communities face. Due to our long-term relationships of trust with community members, we are uniquely able to surface crises before they take hold, and take action to avert or resolve them.

Every year we support 26,000 New Yorkers to:

avoid eviction and get critical repairs

win back lost wages, defend workplace rights, and claim benefits

avoid deportation or adjust immigration status

access healthcare and food, resolve medical debt and obtain benefits Olga came to MRNY because she had lost her job as a line cook when Covid hit, and her application to the NYS Excluded Worker Fund which she had submitted on her own—had been denied. Our attorneys immediately appealed the denial, which had resulted from confusing technical issues. After tremendous advocacy, the Department of Labor finally awarded her the full \$15,600 in benefits, which helped Olga move out of a shelter.



### Supporting Families to Get Ahead

Our adult education classes, college access program and health care job training help community residents develop the tools to build better lives. Our community organizing and leadership development programs engage people as leaders and decision-makers rather than simply clients in need.

**1,500** adults served annually with ESOL and civics classes

Community school services that have reduced suspensions and increased postsecondary enrollment

180 people trained as Community Health Workers, who then put tens of thousands of New Yorkers on track to better health

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## Educating Entire Communities

We use our extensive neighborhood network and our array of trainings, classes and press contacts to educate hundreds of thousands of people on their rights as immigrants, tenants, consumers and workers, so they can avoid crises and become advocates for themselves and their neighbors.



Weekly Facebook livestreams on "know your rights" topics reach thousands

Social media posts that reach a following of 100k+ with critical information We are in local and Spanish language press almost daily

Rachida Rouias, a Moroccan immigrant and mother of three, came to MRNY because she was frustrated with her low-paying retail job. **Through our ESOL classes, she improved her English and went on to complete our rigorous Community** 

Health Worker Training Program. MRNY supported her to find a career-track job at a local non-profit, where she helps seniors to adopt healthy behaviors. She continues to volunteer in Make the Road's food pantry.



### Transforming Policy and Systems

We design and help to implement enforceable, farreaching policies that create opportunities for millions. Through policy design and advocacy, impact litigation, and community organizing, we expand the safety net, change the rules of the game and help our people gain real power.



#### **EXPANDING THE SAFETY NET**

When Covid hit, we raised and **distributed \$4.5 million to families who had lost income** and couldn't access government aid. We then designed and organized for a government-scale solution, **winning the first-in-the-nation \$2.1 billion excluded workers fund.** We helped implement this program, ensuring that it was accessible to those who most needed it. Our attorneys and organizers helped get cash into the hands of 130,000 excluded workers.

**DPEZ CABRER** 

"Make the Road is uniquely able to reach New York's most vulnerable residents in times of crisis. From delivering Covid vaccines to the hardest to reach neighborhoods, to getting cash relief into the pockets of immigrant Hurricane Ida survivors, this organization has led the way in making New York a truly inclusive and welcoming city."

> Dave A. Chokshi, MD (Clinical Professor, NYU Langone, and former Commissioner of the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene)

#### PLEASE DONATE TODAY

www.maketheroadny.org/donate

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By mail: Make the Road New York PO Box 73 Brentwood, NY 11717

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