

# WE DO THE WORK!

## This Labor Day, we honor the sacrifices of temp workers and their fight to be respected on the job!

"Temp" workers have kept New Jersey running throughout the pandemic and as the Delta variant spreads. Employed through temporary staffing agencies, a workforce of mostly immigrant women has supported you and your family as they have risked theirs. They make it possible for others to safely stay at home with their work in manufacturing and logistics for corporations like Amazon, Walmart, CVS, and Walgreens.

More than 100 NJ temp workers came together to speak out in focus groups and surveys carried out by trained New Labor members during 2020-2021. Here's what they need:



#### SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS

Only 5% of temp workers are getting safety training as required by law, and 74% are afraid of retaliation and losing their jobs if they speak out about unsafe conditions like COVID-19 exposures. Many are required to take overcrowded van rides to work, where avoiding COVID-19 is impossible.

#### **EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK**

Nearly 90% of temp workers make less than \$15/hour, and none of the 117 surveyed received hazard pay during the pandemic. Further lowering wages, 95% have pay deducted by more than \$30/week by agencies that require van rides to work.

### **EQUAL RIGHTS & PROTECTIONS**

Almost half of "temp" workers have been at their job for more than a year, and more than a third have been there for more than 2 years! But, just 12% have health insurance and only 36% say they are provided paid sick leave as required by NJ law - risking personal and public health during the pandemic! We must end permatemping and ensure hard-working people get the fairness they deserve.

Join with New Labor in the fight for workers' rights & in support of NJ legislation to protect temp workers!

"In the van there are people who sit on the floor...because sometimes there are up to 24 people in a van." "It's on us to take care of ourselves because in my job they don't give us masks, or disinfectant, nothing."

"How is it possible that a company pays an agency \$20 an hour for each worker and the agency pays you \$11? It's legal, I know, to pay \$11 an hour, but it's not fair. The agency is taking all the money we make."

"The temp agency fired me because I took a sick day and they didn't pay me; they just told me, 'There's no more work for you,' and so I lost 24 hours of sick days that I had accrued."

"The way they treat you, the humiliation sometimes... You can't be late, you can't go to the bathroom too often... They count everything down to the minute, and honestly sometimes you don't even have the right to speak because if you speak, you don't have a iob anymore."

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