

Call & Response for Publix to Join in Creating Justice in Florida's Fields

There is a human rights crisis in the fields of Florida today. The sub-poverty wages, abuses, and modern-day slavery cases faced by the men and women who harvest our tomatoes are immoral and unjust. This reality calls us to speak out.

On this day we say a profound "no" to the continuation of a food system that exploits our sisters and brothers in the fields.

On this day we say a resounding "yes" to the emerging fair food model that ensures the dignity of farmworkers, a sustainable future of the Florida tomato industry, the social responsibility of food corporations, and fair food for consumers.

Shamefully, Publix has stopped its ears to the cries of the workers in the fields and the appeals of its customers. So this afternoon, let us lift our voices in vibrant chorus, that Publix may no longer remain deaf to the resounding calls for justice echoing from the fields of Immokalee to these very streets of Lakeland. Will you join in responding after each call: May there be justice. Or, Que haya justicia.

Response: May there be justice

Por todos los trabajadores del campo que son explotados con un sueldo de miseria --
For all farm workers, exploited through poverty wages and dire working conditions....

Response: May there be justice

For all victims of discrimination, harassment, wage theft, and other indignities in the fields....

Response: May there be justice

For Publix, that it may honor the innate dignity of those who harvest its tomatoes by working with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and contributing to a fair wage for farmworkers....

Response: May there be justice

For all farm workers who are enslaved, held against their will and forced through violence or threats of violence to work in the fields of Florida...

Response: May there be justice

For the leaders of Publix, that they may realize that there is no "fair market price" for slavery. Instead of turning a blind eye, may they address the problem by working with the CIW to enforce a code of conduct against slavery in the fields....

Response: May there be justice

Por Publix, que se une con la Coalicion y las siete companies que estan trabajando para crear un futuro mejor para los trabajadores de campo.

Response: May there be justice

For the well-being of farmworkers and their families, as they struggle to end sub-poverty wages and abuses in the fields.

Response: May there be justice

For East Coast Growers, Alderman Farms, and Lady Moon Farms, who had the courage to go against the grain and do what is right. May they be blessed as they work together with the CIW to create a harvest of justice in Florida's fields.

Response: May there be justice

For Publix, that it may leave behind the harvest of shame and instead seize the opportunity to support those growers and workers who are creating a new future for the agricultural industry.

Response: May there be justice

A new day is dawning across the fields of Florida; a day characterized by respect, equality and dignity among the human beings who harvest, grow, sell and consume the food we eat. We pray that Publix would cease its opposition and join in working with the CIW now.

Response: May there be justice