

# In Celebration of CIW and Ten Years of Fair Food

*A blessing by Rabbi Susan Goldberg*



## *Min hametzar karati Yah*

From the narrow place I called out to God.

A vision was born in the narrow place, in the tomato fields of Florida. Amid forced labor, sexual assault, abuse, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers CALLED OUT for safety, respect, dignity, humanity.

Called out with organizing

Called out with stories, songs, teatro, marches, boycotts

Called out to growers, grocers, restaurants, consumers

Called out to students, clergy

Called out to us all

## *Anani ba-merchav Yah*

God answered from the expanse

The Fair Food Program was born, an international benchmark for what is possible in agriculture, what is possible for labor when we come together:

Work free of forced labor, child labor, sexual assault, and violence. *Amen*

Freedom to make complaints without the fear of losing your job—or worse. *Amen*

Work in an environment where sexual harassment, discrimination, and verbal abuse are not tolerated. *Amen*

Participation in Worker Health and Safety Committees. *Amen*

Safety from dangerous conditions including toxic pesticide exposure and lightning. *Amen*

Access to shade, clean drinking water, and bathrooms as needed. *Amen*

Living in safe and secure housing where rent does not reduce wages below minimum wage. *Amen*

We celebrate the CIW for following the teachings of the prophet Isaiah:

“To unlock fetters of wickedness

To let the oppressed go free;

To break off every yoke.

To share your bread with the hungry,

And to take the wretched poor into your home;

When you see the naked, to clothe them,

And not to ignore your own kin.

Then shall your light burst through like the dawn.”

Inspired by what is possible when we work together for justice, may our light burst forward into a new dawn. *Amen*



Courtesy of CIW/T'ruah



Courtesy of CIW/T'ruah



Courtesy of CIW/T'ruah

