

Ramirez, Angelica

From: tahmina Bakhtyari <tahmina0134@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:38 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Ramirez, Angelica
Subject: Public comment



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Santa Barbara Board of supervisors,

My name is Tahmina Bakhtyari and I am a scholar in Stanford summer college premedical program. Below is my phone number and email, please contact me for any questions or concerns.
Tah.mina0134@gmail.com

(916) 291-9704

And here is my comment for tomorrow in regards to item #1:

With the number of COVID-19 cases spiking throughout our nation yet again, it can be clearly seen that there is much-needed CHANGE.

This letter is regarding the health and safety of our farmworkers. These essential workers need more guidance and help than what they have been receiving. Protecting these farmworkers from the virus needs to be the PRIORITY. The healthy foods on our grocery shelves depend on the health of these low-paid workers. There is just NOT ENOUGH SUPPORT for these low-paid farmworkers who play one of the most important roles in keeping our economy and well-being going.

I ask you to please take the time to read this and to ensure the safety and health of our farmworkers by directing Public Health and the Agricultural Commissioner to:

- 1.
2. EDUCATE
3.
 - a.
 - b. Our farm workers need to
 - c. be educated on the ways in which they can protect themselves and others from the virus. They NEED to know that their health is more important than their work. Therefore, farmworkers need to know that they will have additional sick leave, be able to access
 - d. health care by sending a letter to all farmworkers, and by doing direct outreach to farms.
 - e.
- 4.
5. INSPECT
6.
 - a. There needs to be an inspection

- b. program for our farms to ensure that farmworkers have access to clean bathrooms and workspaces. THIS ALSO INCLUDES CLEAN WATER. These necessary tools to fight the virus such as soap, hand sanitizer, and water should be provided. There is just no other option.
- c. These necessities should never be lacked and SHOULD NEVER BE AN OBSTACLE.
- d.

7.

8. PLAN

9.

- a. It is common knowledge that
- b. wildfires are another obstacle farmworkers face throughout the fire season. Therefore, there also needs to be a plan to ensure that employees are provided masks while working on the fields and when there is smoke. These masks NEED to be N95 masks that will
- c. actually WORK to protect farmworkers.
- d.

10.

11. REACH OUT

12.

- a. Spanish speaking farmworker
- b. families and indigenous workers need to be contacted in a way that is linguistically and culturally appropriate.
- c.

13.

14. TEST

15.

- a. Provide farmworkers with
- b. COVID-19 testing sites. THERE IS JUST NO OTHER OPTION.
- c.

16.

17. HELP

18.

- a. Farmworkers need to be relieved
- b. of the issue of housing and paying their rents. We ask you to address H2A housing problems and encourage H2A housing near service in cities. H2A housings that are not allowing workers to keep themselves safe by distancing should be STOPPED. All health and
- c. safety measures need to be taken seriously in order for us to help our dear farmworkers.
- d.

Farmworkers are helping us by providing healthy fruits and vegetables. There is only much we can do for them. Help these workers with housing and access to tools that can help them prevent the virus. These changes can occur, they only need you to allow them.

Thanks,

Tahmina Bakhtyari

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Karina Guzman <kivonne375@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 1:02 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Ramirez, Angelica
Subject: Santa Barbara Board of Education-Public Comments

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Santa Barbara Board of supervisors,

Karina Guzman
age: 20
contact information: (408)597-5661 | Kivonne375@gmail.com
Stanford summer college premedical scholar

My name is Karina Guzman, a Stanford summer college premedical scholar, I am speaking to you today to tell you that your efforts to advocate, protect the health and safety of farmworkers is not enough and that there is room for improvement.

I am asking you today to consider the following:

1. Farmworkers are the fundamentals of our economic system and keep America running, but what are you doing for them?
2. There is a lack of affordable health care, harsh working conditions and low pay
3. Farmworkers are the most vulnerable to get Coronavirus, yet they are not provided with masks.
4. My experience with a farm worker: This man(whose name I will not comment) told me about his health condition; he claimed to be drinking several energy drinks throughout the day to get by. He then told me that recently he has felt pain around his chest area by his heart, this can mean many things and very likely risk of getting a heart attack. He tried to get help but was not able to afford the payment nor did he have the money to afford insurance. I was very worried about this man and asked if he has any social media platform or website for folks to donate and he did not. This should not come to a surprise to anyone who is educated on the matter of the conditions that farmworkers are facing. Now I would like to know, what are you going to do ? this man does not deserve to be facing these conditions to keep America running; he is human just like you and I. There are so many things that you can do: insurance, providing masks, tents for the sun, machinery to make farming less harsh, increasing hourly pay, having someone create social media platforms for these folks to get donations etc.
5. Ensure that workers who test positive for coronavirus have access to nearby hospital, social programs for food, peer support, mental health services, financial assistance for undocumented community and everyone else who has no way of receiving financial assistance.
6. Provide nearby testing sites

I hope that you make the right decisions to address this life or death situation that the farmworker community has and continues to face.

Best Regards,
Karina Guzman

Carol Kernahan
4677 Carpinteria Ave Spc F
Carpinteria, CA 93013
805-755-9517
kernahan1992@gmail.com

July 4, 2020

Dr. Henning Ansog, Public Health Director
Santa Barbara County Public Health Administration
345 Camino Del Remedio
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Dear Dr. Ansog:

Your response to the coronavirus has missed the mark.

Are you the one who waited until Thursday afternoon to issue the order to close Santa Barbara County beaches? Furthermore, why did you not close Santa Claus Beach?

Have you even listened to the doctors at your own hospital, Cottage Health, who are sounding the alarm that on a scale of 1 to 5, the problem is at 10? They are issuing statements, videos to the public and trying to help our community stay healthy.

If you are not the one making health decisions for our county, please point me in that person's direction.

Regards,



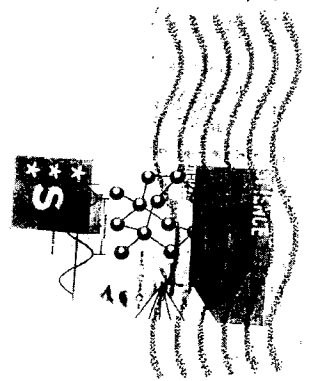
Carol Kernahan

cc: City Council Carpinteria
Board of Supervisors ✓

KERNAMAN
4677 CARPINTERA AVE
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CARPINTERA
CA

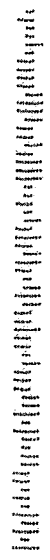
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2020 JUL 13 A 10:35
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SEAL
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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD OF ~~DEPUTY~~ SUPERVISORS
105 EAST ANAPAHU ST.
RM 407
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

93101-206659



Ramirez, Angelica

From: Ras Yaser <rasyasser@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 2:44 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Essential labor is not disposable labor!!

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

We ask the Ventura and Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to protect the health and safety of farmworkers by directing Public Health and the Agricultural Commissioner to:

- Educate farmworkers on the additional sick leave they can receive if they contract the coronavirus and how they can access health care by sending a letter to all farmworkers and by doing direct outreach to farms.
- Develop an inspection program for farms to ensure that there are clean bathrooms and farmworkers have access to water, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Direct the Ventura County Farmworker Resource Program to actively inform farmworkers of their health and safety rights including on COVID-19 and to address complaints on health and safety.
- Develop a plan for emergencies such as wildfires to ensure that employers are providing their outdoor workers with N95 masks to protect them from smoke as required by state law.
- Ensure all written and verbal outreach is conducted to Indigenous and Spanish Speaking farmworker families in a way that is linguistically and culturally appropriate.
- Provide mobile COVID-19 testing sites at agriculture work sites.
- Create materials for outreach that de-stigmatize what a positive diagnosis means for farmworkers, including information on paid sick leave available to them.
- Ensure that workers who test positive for the coronavirus have access to social programs for food, peer support, and mental health services.
- Additionally we ask the Ventura and Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to address H2A housing problems exposed by the outbreak including:
 - Encouraging H2A housing near services in cities not in county unincorporated, rural, and isolated areas.

-Discouraging H2A housing that does not allow workers to socially distance. Plan to minimize exposure of workers by treating those that share a room as a household that eats meals together, are transported together and work in the same area.

-Discouraging H2A housing that has more than 20 workers concentrated at one site.

-Committing to allowing local agencies/organizations to access and present to H2A workers.

-Directing Public Health to investigate all H2A worker housing to assess if the proper health and safety precautions are being implemented including the proximity in which workers are being housed, how workers are transported together, and if workers have regular access to soap, disinfectant, and masks at their housing.

Thank you,

Jesse Felix