



# La Voz de Esperanza

May 2020

Vol. 33 Issue 4

Editor: Gloria A. Ramirez

Design: Elizandro Carrington

## Contributors

Tarcisio Beal, Elliot Benjamin, Norma Cantú, Elizandro Carrington, Sarah Gould, Laura Rendón, Imgard Akinyi Rop, Enrique Sánchez, Amelia Valdez, Judit Vega

## La Voz Mail Collective

The Collective is sheltering at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic but will be returning when their health and safety can be assured. Extra funds are being raised to pay for folding La Voz each month during this time.

## Esperanza Director

Graciela I. Sánchez

## Esperanza Staff

Elizandro Carrington, Sarah Gould, Paul Plouf, Kristel Orta-Puente, Natalie Rodríguez, Imgard Akinyi Rop, René Saenz, Susana Segura, Amelia Valdez

## Conjunto de Nepantleras

### —Esperanza Board of Directors—

Norma Cantú, Rachel Jennings, Amy Kastely, Jan Olsen, Ana Lucía Ramírez, Gloria A. Ramirez, Rudy Rosales, Tiffany Ross, Lilliana Saldaña, Nadine Saliba, Graciela I. Sánchez, Lillian Stevens

- We advocate for a wide variety of social, economic & environmental justice issues.
- Opinions expressed in La Voz are not necessarily those of the Esperanza Center.

## La Voz de Esperanza is a publication of

Esperanza Peace & Justice Center  
922 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78212  
210.228.0201

[www.esperanzacenter.org](http://www.esperanzacenter.org)

Inquiries/Articles can be sent to:

[lavoz@esperanzacenter.org](mailto:lavoz@esperanzacenter.org)

Articles due by the 8th of each month

## Policy Statements

\* We ask that articles be visionary, progressive, instructive & thoughtful. Submissions must be literate & critical; not sexist, racist, homophobic, violent, or oppressive & may be edited for length.

\* All letters in response to Esperanza activities or articles in La Voz will be considered for publication. Letters with intent to slander individuals or groups will not be published.

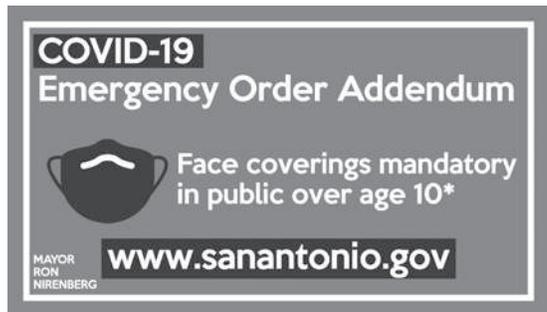
**TODOS SOMOS ESPERANZA** contra el Virus Corona-19. Each one of us who works for social justice that survives this pandemic offers hope for a better world. It *appears* like our social distancing and staying at home has had many benefits for the world, but we must remain vigilant if there are to be positive changes in the political system of this country—the U.S.A., and this world—our Earth. For if we don't remain vigilant, it will snap back to its old ways of privileging the rich and ignoring the working class and poor. Indeed, in pushing through bundles of money in the U.S. Congress for businesses, then cities and hospital districts and for pockets of people here and there those that have benefited most are still the rich. Amidst tragedy and devastation, the rich still benefit, first (note the Paycheck Protection Program that benefited national chains and corporations leaving behind small businesses).

The residual benefits of being quarantined: cleaner air, less traffic, less congestion, clearer waterways, lower crime rates—will all quickly go back to the norm of polluted air, water and physical space if we don't remain vigilant.

*Estamos enmascarados, pero temenos que ser descarados.* We must be brazen and bold-faced in calling out injustice when we see it, now in the time of COVID-19 and in the aftermath, if there is one. Many inequities have been exposed during this time and they will not get rectified if we don't shout, scream and write out what needs to be addressed and corrected. We need to be aware of what is happening around the world in our Southern hemisphere and in the African and Asian continents and challenge ourselves to stop being US-centric and Eurocentric as our media tends to be. We are all in this together, and we must work as one world together on the global level. This is not a problem to be solved by each city, or each state, or each country—it is a problem to be solved as one people, the people of Earth. If you have stories of your family experiencing separation from family members living outside the U.S. during this pandemic, write your stories and send to: [lavoz@esperanzacenter.org](mailto:lavoz@esperanzacenter.org)

—Gloria A. Ramirez, editor of La Voz de Esperanza

Many thanks to buena gente, staff, board, MujerArtes and friends of the Esperanza who sent in face mask pictures. Stay healthy and see you soon.



**ATTENTION VOZ READERS:** If you have a mailing address correction please send it to [lavoz@esperanzacenter.org](mailto:lavoz@esperanzacenter.org). If you want to be removed from the La Voz mailing list, for whatever reason, please let us know. La Voz is provided as a courtesy to people on the mailing list of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center. **The subscription rate is \$35 per year (\$100 for institutions).** The cost of producing and mailing La Voz has substantially increased and we need your help to keep it afloat. To help, send in your subscriptions, sign up as a monthly donor, or send in a donation to the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center. Thank you. -GAR

**VOZ VISION STATEMENT:** La Voz de Esperanza speaks for many individual, progressive voices who are gente-based, multi-visioned and milagro-bound. We are diverse survivors of materialism, racism, misogyny, homophobia, classism, violence, earth-damage, speciesism and cultural and political oppression. We are recapturing the powers of alliance, activism and healthy conflict in order to achieve interdependent economic/spiritual healing and fuerza. La Voz is a resource for peace, justice, and human rights, providing a forum for criticism, information, education, humor and other creative works. La Voz provokes bold actions in response to local and global problems, with the knowledge that the many risks we take for the earth, our body, and the dignity of all people will result in profound change for the seven generations to come.