

Chinese Staff and Other Organizations

Chinese Staff works with many organizations both locally and around the country. In particular we work closely with two grassroots workers' organizations, National Mobilization Against SweatShops (NMASS) and Workers Awaaz on a number of campaigns. Through our collaboration, we are able to share our experience organizing the Chinese community as a model and inspiration for other communities that confront economic injustice. Similarly, the involvement of other communities in the fight against sweatshops allows our members to see that the problem is not isolated to Chinatown alone.

In 2002 we met with so many groups around the country that it is not possible to list them all. We even work with some Republicans and Democrats and elected officials to bring attention to the sweatshop situation in this country. We also work in partnership with several institutions for legal support such as NYU Immigration Law Clinic, Fordham Law Clinic, Urban Justice Center and Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund.

To give just one example, in response to September 11th, CSWA spearheaded the formation of a newly created Beyond Ground Zero Network to address the long-term impact of the tragedy on the low-income communities largely ignored by emergency relief efforts. The Network includes: National Mobilization Against SweatShops, Workers Awaaz, Urban Justice Center, Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund. CSWA also collaborated with Catholic Charities, Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service, NYU Immigration Law Clinic, and Bellevue Occupational Health and Safety Clinic.