

Moving Beyond Rhetoric: Grassroots Leaders Discuss Organizing in Venezuela and the United States

- Chavez's Venezuela and U.S. Policy
- After the Revolution: What is the Social Mission?
- Operationalizing the Venezuelan Model in the American Reality
- Building Powerful Organization in the U.S.

Belkis Urdaneta, Venezuelan grassroots organizer and leader from the **Equipo Comunitario en Derechos Humanos** (Community Human Rights Organization) joins grassroots leaders from the **Alliance to Develop Power/ADP** to discuss organizing strategy, U.S. Policy and its effects on marginalized communities, the role of oil, and how activists and the Academy can assist grassroots leaders in the social change movement.

**Sunday September 30, 2007
7:00 – 9:00 pm**

**University of Massachusetts Labor Center • 418 Pleasant Street • Amherst, MA
Gordon Hall 3rd Floor
Childcare, Translation, & refreshments provided**

The Alliance to Develop Power / ADP (formerly the Anti-Displacement Project) is a membership-based community organization that works on such issues as worker and immigrant rights, health care, and affordable housing. ADP is nationally known for its model of cooperative economic development, having transformed 1,450 units of slum housing to tenant owned permanently affordable coops, created worker-controlled businesses, and food cooperatives which distribute 180,000 pounds of food annually. The ADP Worker Center / Casa Obrera, has secured over \$300,000 in restitution from employers. ADP has created business and capital holdings worth \$45 million. These community-owned assets contribute \$20 million a year in cash flow to the local economy.

ECODH / Equipo Comunitario en Derechos Humanos (Community Human Rights Organization) is a community outreach organization based in Maracaibo in the oil-rich Venezuelan state of Zulia. Belkis Urdaneta has been working in community outreach for years, both in the capital of Caracas and most recently in the border state of Zulia.



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