

## **Minsun Farewell statement to El Centro supporters**

It is with sadness to address that I am leaving El Centro Humanitario as of the end of August, 2010 to begin my Ph. D study with the Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver. This decision to move onto the next stage of my life as a graduate student did not come easy as I had always special dedication and passion for the people I am working with at El Centro.

For the past ten years, I was with day laborers, organizing workers on the street and building a workers center that defends the rights of vulnerable immigrant day laborers and domestic workers. It has been the most important and challenged work in my life to build up a unique worker's center that organizes the poorest of poor immigrants. I worked to organize workers in Korea, organized janitors and worked with the people in the undeserved community and each organizing experience gave me so much lessons. I have been honored to work with day laborers who beat all odds of their life to support themselves and families.

I do believe in bringing a new leader as a way to mature our mission of the organization and I have no doubt that a new executive Director of El Centro will not only put her/his special efforts to directing El Centro with fresh energy and dedication but also will move El Centro to the next level. Our board of Directors that is composed of worker leaders and community members will select a new Executive Director for the next five months. Our dedicated staff will continue to strengthen the programs and I will be providing the hiring committee and El Centro staff with any assistance necessary for the smooth and successful transition.

You are one of the important supporters of El Centro. I sincerely appeal to you all to continue to support El Centro and support the new executive director of El Centro. We built up El Centro with so many workers, students, staff, volunteers and donors. All of these are the one who grow El Centro and I will be always one of them, standing behind El Centro to support the important work of El Centro.

My new journey in starting and completing my PhD will be very demanding as well, but I am ready for a new challenge in my life. No matter where I am and what I do, the faces of day laborers and El Centro will stay with me. Thank you very much.