

Are you interested
in learning more?

Do you want to get involved?

PICA is a member-led organization with a small staff. Our important work can't happen without dedicated volunteers — like you.

There are lots of ways to get involved with the kNOw US and THEM program.

Here are just a few:

- **Attend workshops**
- **Request a workshop for your school, community group, church, or union.**
- **Help with Spanish/English translation**
- **Help lead a workshop or presentation**
- **Join a working group**
- **Attend or help plan a social event**

Contact us if you're interested in learning more or would like to become a part of kNOw US and THEM and we can find something that's right for you.

Here's how to find us:

170 Park St. // Bangor, Maine
207.947.4203
www.pica.ws
info@pica.ws

Add PICA as a friend on Facebook to keep up on recent news and upcoming events.
Search: "PICA Maine"

PICA's mission is to build a global economy from the bottom up for the benefit of all people.

For more than 20 years PICA has been combining local action with international solidarity, connecting the local with the global.

The heart of our work is making direct, people-to-people connections.



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A program of



**kNOw
US &
THEM**

Using listening, education, and local organizing to make connections among those most affected by international trade in Maine



"(Free Trade Agreements) Agreements of the rich against the poor"

THE KNOW US and THEM

program aims to make important connections right here in Maine among people affected by international trade – including displaced manufacturing workers and recent economic immigrants. We believe that the more we know about each other, the less we will have an “us” and “them” mentality about people whose concerns and experiences may not be that different from our own.

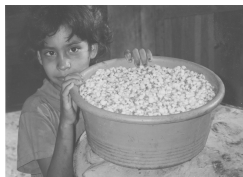
Maine has lost tens of thousands of manufacturing jobs in the years since the adoption of NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement. We continue to see the devastating effects of free trade on our communities. As a laid-off mill worker in Ashland told us, “They’re building a new school here, but are we going to have any kids to put in it?”



A shuttered sawmill in Ashland, Maine

While Maine jobs are being exported in search of cheaper labor, **many Latin Americans are being propelled north by these same free trade policies**

and subsidized American food commodities that are devastating their rural economies. In our sister city of Carasque, El Salvador, it now costs Carasqueños more to grow corn than they can buy it for in the market.



Rosa of Carasque, now living in the U.S.

The forces that are hurting towns in Maine, and those driving Central Americans to head north and cross the border into the U.S., are really the same.

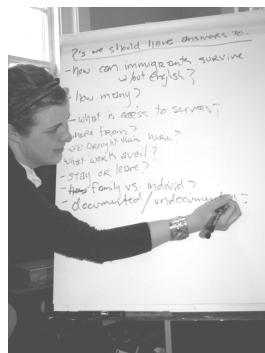
We and they, US AND THEM, are very much connected.

Proponents of free trade would much rather keep us divided than see us working together for a change that benefits us all.

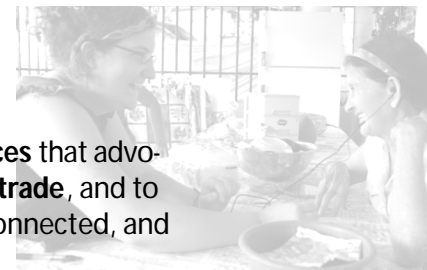
Program components

The **goals** of the kNOW US and THEM program are to **build alliances** that advocate together and achieve **worker and immigrant rights and fair trade**, and to create **broader public awareness** of these issues, how they are connected, and how they are affecting Maine communities. **This involves...**

- A “**Listening Project**” – In-depth interviews with immigrants, displaced Maine workers, and small farmers, as well as residents of our sister city in El Salvador. These interviews have helped develop themes for building connections, and are rich sources of material for further public education and discussion.



- **Organizing** – Moving people to take action together to support both immigrants and Maine workers. We are working for a fair trade system to replace the failed trade model which has displaced so many people from their jobs and homes, as well as for comprehensive immigration reform.



- The “**Global Literacy**” Project – Workshops and guided discussions. Education that builds greater understanding of the issues of immigration and trade, how they are connected, and how they affect Maine communities is a big part of the kNOW US AND THEM program. Our workshops are available for high school and college classes, as well as labor, community and faith groups.



For more information or to see audio-visual excerpts, visit our website :
www.pica.ws/programs/KnowUsandThem