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## A DESIGN FOR ORGANIZING

**A** work of art commissioned by Paula Stromberg, communications director for Office and Professional Employees Local 378 in Burnaby, British Columbia, not only served Stromberg's goal to "capture the union spirit" on her office wall, it now lives on as the design basis of the local's organizing material.

The original piece by Canadian artist Caffyn Kelley, a three-paneled fabric painting, portrays the power of workers' collective action. Two side panels incorporate Stromberg's photographs of union members at rallies, contract ratification meetings and other union events. Artist Gary Kingman is adapting the art for Local 378's organizing materials.

Working where she can witness the power of unions to ensure fairness and dignity, Stromberg says, inspired her to spend her personal money "on art that highlights labor's magnificent contributions to society." @



## Hungry for Justice

**T**he table at the Clark County Government Amphitheater offered a festive Thanksgiving spread—but the plates in front of the children were empty. The symbolic Fast for Justice brought attention to the plight of the children's parents who are among the 200,000 men and women who were stripped of their right to work by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in September. The event was sponsored by Fair Treatment for Immigrants, with the support of Culinary Workers/HERE Local 226 and Latino and immigrants' rights groups in Nevada.

Malena Burnett, an FTI representative, explains that most workers who were denied work permits had been legally working in this country for more than 10 years on annually issued permits. Following a change in immigration rules, the INS refused to re-issue those permits in September. Since then, "families in Las Vegas and throughout the country have been

struggling to make ends meet," Burnett says. Their children, who are American citizens, should have the same rights and privileges as all U.S. residents, Burnett says, "but they are being made to suffer."

Mario Rocha, Local 226 business agent, notes that many of those denied work permits are union members, including 2,000 Local 226 members who have been unable to work since the INS ruling. A coalition of unions and immigrant and civil rights groups is urging the INS to reverse its decision. @



**Not so fast:** Children of immigrants denied the right to work in the United States take part in a symbolic Thanksgiving "fast" to bring attention to the plight of their parents who had worked in this country legally for