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# Statement On Recent Events: El Movimiento Sigue

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COLEGAS stands in solidarity with our comunidad, holding deep grief, disappointment and anger in response to the news released this morning. Moments like this are painful, particularly when they challenge the narratives and figures that have shaped our collective history. We hold space for all of this while remaining in our values.

COLEGAS condemns the reported acts of sexual abuse involving Cesar Chavez. There is no justification for harm, exploitation, or the abuse of power. We stand firmly with survivors and reject any legacy that overlooks or excuses such action.

We recognize the courage of Dolores Huerta in sharing her truth. We believe her. We stand with her. And we stand with every survivor, those who have spoken and those who carry their experiences in silence. Your voices matter, your experiences are real, and you deserve safety, dignity, and justice.

In 2025, COLEGAS was honored to welcome Dolores Huerta as a keynote speaker, where she called on us to harness the power of collective action to transform our communities and systems. In this moment, we are reminded that movements, not individuals, are what carry forward the enduring struggle for justice.

We uplift the legacy of the farmworker movement and the countless organizers, families, and community members whose labor, sacrifice, and resistance continue to shape the rights and protections we benefit from today. That collective struggle, rooted in dignity, solidarity, and justice, remains worthy of our recognition and commitment.

We urge our Latine community to actively support survivors of sexual violence, by listening, believing, and investing in accessible mental health resources and safe educational spaces where all can thrive without fear.



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We also suggest the following:

- Check in with Latine colleagues and students. Many are reeling from this news and need support;
- Promote safe spaces on your campus and work with your Latine centers to elevate mental health services and survivor support programs;
- Ensure Title IX systems and processes are visible, accessible, and confidential for reports to be made;
- Encourage faculty to revisit lesson plans, assignments, and readings to center the broader farmworker movement;
- Review campus art and murals to ensure they uplift the movement and collective struggle;
- Consider transitioning the name of your buildings, centers, programs or holidays away from individuals and toward the farmworker movement or the broader Latine experience. This shift reflects an understanding that while individuals are fallible, movements endure.

We draw strength from the courage and integrity of Dolores Huerta and many women who have spoken their truth. Their example calls us not only to persevere, but to act with accountability, clarity and care. Our community's strength lies in our willingness to confront harm, center survivors, and move forward together. Even in this painful moment, we remain committed to building a future rooted in dignity, justice and collective responsibility.

¡Si se puede!

The COLEGAS Board

National Sexual Abuse Hotline: 1.800.656.HOPE (4673) <https://rainn.org/>

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1.800.799.SAFE (7233)  
<https://www.thehotline.org/>

Crisis Text Line: <https://www.crisistextline.org/>

March 18, 2026

