

Maryland City Struggles with Day Laborers

By Diego Mantilla,
Posted on Wed Mar 1st, 2006

Very early Thursday two weeks ago, two dozen men waited in the parking lot of Grace Methodist Church in Gaithersburg, Md. They were not supposed to be there and felt uneasy.

Three years ago, across the parking lot from the church, there was a health center that served people who only spoke Spanish. When it closed, several men who had gotten used to waiting there in the morning to find work kept coming.

Minutemen Take Campaign to Md. Centers

Group Expands Protest of Anti-Illegal Immigration Amid Accusations of Intimidation

By Nancy Trejos, Washington Post Staff Writer
February 26, 2006

After waging a high-profile fight in Northern Virginia against a center where employers can go to hire temporary workers, the anti-illegal immigration group has expanded into Maryland. In recent weeks, its members have patrolled centers funded by the Montgomery County government in Wheaton and Takoma Park that assist day laborers. They also have monitored a Gaithersburg parking lot as well as others in Montgomery and Prince George's County where men gather almost every morning, said Stephen Schreiman, director of the group's new chapter.

The Associated Press

Gaithersburg, Md. - A proposal for a day-laborer center in Montgomery County has stalled because of opposition from local landlords, businesses and residents.

About 30 property owners have blocked the city from renting space to open a site that would help illegal immigrants find work. Residents and business owners have complained that two potential sites in Gaithersburg's Old Town historic district are too close to schools, homes and businesses. They are concerned that the sites could bring crime and other problems to their neighborhoods.

Day Laborers in Our Community Our Religious Response

Marino Cordoba, labor organizer for Casa de Maryland, will talk about these questions:

- Who are the workers?
- Why do they seek work in this way?
- What are the best ways to meet their needs?

January 24, 2007

7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Rockville

100 Welch Park Drive

Rockville MD 20850

301-762-7666

Directions at www.uucr.org