

2024

# Annual Report



**Idaho  
Organization  
of Resource  
Councils**

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**Help us support the hands  
that feed the nation.**

# WELCOME

Hello everyone! It is my pleasure to present to you all the Idaho Organization of Resource Councils' (IORC) 2024 Annual Report. In this report you will find an overview of our accomplishments, financial health, chapter and campaign updates.

2024 was a year of **transition** and **transformation** for IORC. We said goodbye to our board who had graciously kept us afloat during the various structural changes that IORC went through in the past two years. We **honor the service of Elaine Kazakoff, Carrie Seymor, Christina Stucker-Gassi, and Linda Leeuwrik** and their continued support to IORC outside of a board of directors position. I also recognize and highlight the service of our long-time bilingual community organizer, Samantha Guerrero Martinez, who transitioned out of her role in December. I am grateful for all the time, work, and support all these folks have put into IORC and the support they continue to give us.

IORC also engaged in a **strategic planning process** with the help of our network and friend the Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC) to create our 3-year strategic plan. We successfully updated our mission, vision, and theory of change to reflect our state-wide campaigns and the communities we work for. We also had the pleasure of unveiling and debuting **our new logo** at our November Annual Meeting which couldn't have been possible without the incredible work of our friend and ally, Bobby Gaytan.

IORC also welcomed its newly elected board at our November Annual Meeting. For *the first time in its history*, IORC has an **all-Latine board**. Our Board is made up of leaders from our local communities and with lived experiences that directly tie into IORC's mission, vision, and theory of change. This is a huge accomplishment for IORC as it shows our commitment to becoming a more inclusive organization that is truly representative of the communities it serves.

We are also very lucky to have Irene Ruiz and Jacky Vazquez as our two fearless staff members. As Executive Director, Irene has been able to continue to showcase IORC's work and build IORC's financial stability with tremendous success. Jacky has been able to bring her organizational and administrative expertise to successfully bring back our in-person annual meeting last fall, continue our social media presence, and bring much needed support to all of us at IORC as our Office Manager.

I hope that you will continue to support us by renewing your membership, signing up for our newsletter, and following us on all our social media accounts. IORC has emerged as a leader and trusted organization during these challenging times. Thanks to the support of our membership, our community, and community partners we continue to take up space and do the work that our communities want us to do. **Our commitment to you all is unwavering.**

In Community,

*Marielena Vega*  
Board Chair



# Mission and Vision

Our Mission and Vision were shaped through an intentional strategic planning process that centered the communities we serve and the future we are working toward. Over a long weekend, day in and day out, our team partnered with strategic planners from our WORC Network—Sara Kendall and Elizabeth Bean—to reflect, listen, and align on what matters most. This collaborative work helped clarify our direction and strengthen our commitment to climate justice, environmental equity, and serving underrepresented communities across Idaho. For more detail on this process and its outcomes, please refer to our 2025–2027 Strategic Plan.

## Mission

To bring people together to build grassroots power through community organizing, leadership development and civic engagement, and take action to promote and protect health, safety, dignity and justice for frontline communities, including farm workers, and directly impacted communities.

## Vision

To live in a state where every person can meaningfully participate in decision-making processes that impact their lives to create just, healthy, self-reliant communities.

# 2025 Elected Board of Directors



**Marielena Vega**  
Board Chair



**Ricardo Godina**  
At Large



**Eddie Melendrez**  
At Large



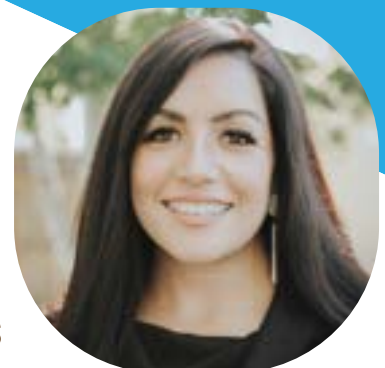
**AnaMaria Morales**  
At Large



**Irene Ruiz**  
Executive Director



**Samantha Guerrero**  
Community Organizer and Communications



**Jacky Vazquez**  
Office Manager

**STAFF**

# 2024 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

## ***JJ Saldaña Heat and Smoke Fund Campaign***

In 2023, we lost our dear friend and IORC supporter, JJ Saldaña. To honor his legacy as a true champion for the communities we serve and a trusted Vision 2C Chapter leader, we named our Heat and Smoke Fund in his honor with the blessing of his family. This year, the campaign raised more than \$13,000 to provide essential supplies to farmworkers across the Treasure Valley, Magic Valley, and parts of Eastern Idaho. We are grateful to our members, volunteers and supporters across the nation who made this campaign a success!


## ***Farmworker Awareness Week***

As part of El Día Internacional del Trabajador Agrícola, joined by community partners, we celebrated farmworkers through a community event providing food, clothing, raffles, live music and more. We are forever grateful to farmworkers everywhere!

We also celebrated the recognition of our board member, Marielena Vega, as she was named a **USA Today Women of the Year Honoree**. Quote from her interview is below.  
Congratulations Mari!

## ***Farm Aid 2024***

Our regional network, WORC, was honored with Farm Aid's 2024 People Powered Organizing and Leadership Award, recognizing the network's deep commitment to community organizing and advocacy for a sustainable future. Representing IORC, Irene Ruiz and Marielena Vega attended the event and shared highlights of the many ways we serve and provide aid to farmworkers in Idaho and Eastern Oregon.



"Being able to go in front of strangers and share something as vulnerable as my story was amazing. Sharing a part of my identity as a Latina Idahoan, from a mixed status family whose parents were undocumented at one time, who was also a farmworker herself --- it was such a powerful moment."

**Marielena Vega, IORC 2025 Board Chair Elect**

# Financials

## November 2023 – October 2024

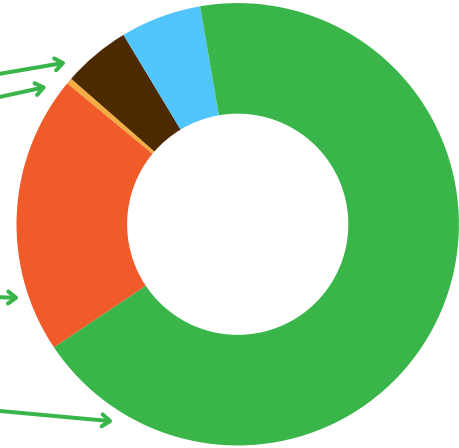
### Income

Individual Contributions - \$ 14,694

Memberships - \$ 1312

Misc Revenue - \$ 60,775

Grants - \$ 179,000



### Expenses

Salaries & Benefits - \$ 146,769

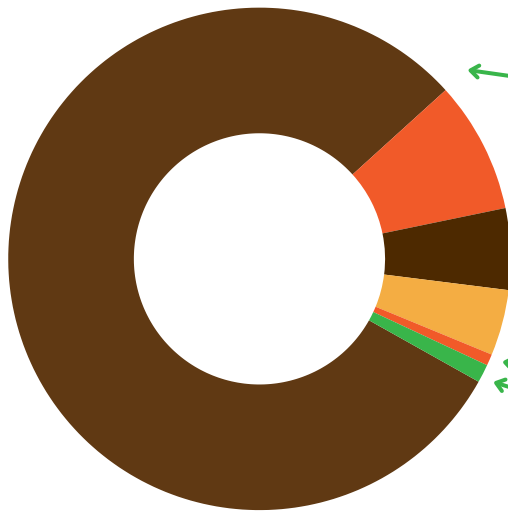
Contractors - \$ 15,520

Telecom & Supplies - \$ 9,584

Rent - \$ 7752

Travel & Conference - \$ 1344

Other - \$ 2155



### Totals

Total Income - \$ 281,048

Total Expenses - \$ 229,891

**Net Income - \$ 38,896**



**Where community  
organizing meets action.**

## **Support IORC today!**

With your help, we can make real  
change in Idaho.

Will you join our many leaders who work hard every  
day to make Idaho the place we all want to live?  
We're enthusiastic about what the future can be if  
our members and supporters come together to  
support grassroots change.

Please give today at [www.iorcinfo.org](http://www.iorcinfo.org)



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Address service requested

