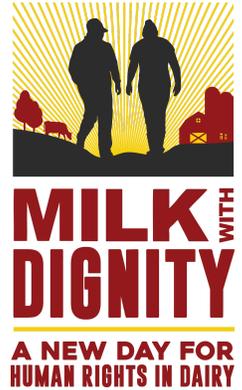




HANNAFORD SUPERMARKETS: *JOIN MILK WITH DIGNITY!*



As Hannaford customers, we are taking action today in solidarity with farmworkers and asking you to join the Milk with Dignity Program. Hannaford customers deserve a product that comes from farms where workers' human rights and dignity are respected. The only way to achieve transparency in your dairy supply chain and to ensure dignified conditions for farmworkers is by joining the only social responsibility program with a proven track record of achieving these results: the worker-driven Milk with Dignity Program. We urge you to sit down with farmworkers and speak with them directly to learn more.

At Ahold Delhaize's Annual General Meeting on April 13th, Ahold USA CEO Kevin Holt responded to a question about Milk with Dignity by claiming:

[T]he company decided to conduct a thorough due diligence of the supply chain, including on-farm assessments of working and living conditions. Hannaford actively investigated allegations with their suppliers and agencies such as the federal and state level Departments of both Labor and Agriculture.... Hannaford has not substantiated any labor or human rights abuses through the investigations that have been conducted."

It should come as no surprise that Hannaford failed to find abuses in its supply chain when it neglected to speak with workers themselves. This dynamic is precisely why a worker-driven program like Milk with Dignity is so essential. The failure of corporate self-assessments is what led workers to create their own program with protections against retaliation and with binding enforcement of worker-defined standards. These elements are necessary to achieve meaningful understandings of labor conditions and have been key to transforming conditions for the hundreds of dairy workers in Ben & Jerry's supply chain.

If Hannaford were serious about understanding the labor conditions in its supply chain, you would sit down with workers themselves and listen. You could hear more from the many workers who have courageously spoken out over the course of the Milk with Dignity campaign about conditions in your dairy supply chain.

Primitivo denounced substandard housing, grueling schedules and retaliatory firing:

I came to the farm during the winter. There wasn't enough heat in the house and you had to shower with cold water. The boss wouldn't put a space heater in because she didn't want to pay the electric bill. The hours were awful - three shifts a day. And you didn't have enough time to rest between shifts. Just all work and no rest. By the end, it was the heavy workload that made me decide to speak up. I talked to the boss and asked for a change in the schedule. She got upset and told me if I didn't like it, I could leave. And she threw me out then and there. She sent another worker to tell me to pack my bags. I didn't know what to do because I didn't have anywhere to go. She didn't even want to pay me, I had to insist. And nobody else spoke up because they were afraid the same would happen to them.

Facundo spoke out about the atrocious housing where he lived for five years:

On one half they still keep the tractors, and on the other half is where we live. The shower's so small you can just barely turn around. And the floor is black [with mold]. You scrub it but it doesn't go away. The wooden wall in the living room is broken, and [the rats] live and breed in there. I've killed about twenty of them, but they keep coming back.

And Maricela has shared about the discrimination, violence, and retaliation she has faced as a female farmworker:

During my time as a farmworker I have been discriminated against and harassed. As a woman, it's hard to face this inequality. I have worked 60 hour weeks, in the cold, for less than minimum wage. I've worked on different farms, some better than others, but the last farm I was on was the worst of them all. I worked on the farm alongside my son and my then partner. My partner was a violent man. One day he beat me. I was scared and I stayed silent. When he beat me again the next day, my son defended me and called the police. When the police came for him, my boss didn't ask how I was, she just wanted to know who called the police. When she learned it was my son, she fired him right there. My boss was furious with me, even though I was the victim. Two days later she fired me, too. She ran me off the farm, throwing my final paycheck in my face. I asked for help but there was nowhere to turn because there aren't any policies that protect us. Nobody can say that everything is alright in the dairy industry. We need change. Women are an important part of the industry. We also work to keep farms running and sustain the industry. We need the protection of Milk with Dignity on every farm.

As Hannaford customers, we are outraged by these labor abuses and human rights violations. If you haven't "substantiated" these abuses, it is because you haven't yet listened to workers themselves. We urge you to sit down with workers today, learn what is truly happening on the farms behind Hannaford-brand milk, and protect farmworkers' rights and wellbeing by joining the Milk with Dignity Program.