

**Domestic Workers United**  
**afc2015/027**

**DOMESTIC WORKERS UNITED**

**Interview Log: afc2015027\_03340\_ms03**

**Lizet \_\_\_\_\_, housecleaning day laborer and activist, interviews Nubia \_\_\_\_\_, housecleaning day laborer and activist. Interview conducted in Spanish, translated by Etta Barrman from Compu Craft Business Services.**

**For full transcription, see afc201507\_03340\_ms02.**

00:00:15 Nubia introduces herself to Lizette and they clarify they both work with Worker's Justice Project. Nubia then asks Lizet to describe her present day laborer work.

00:00:47 N describes the day labor daily routine, going to corner in Williamsburg, in the borough of Brooklyn, New York City (she lives in Queens, a neighboring borough in New York City). N clarifies that she came to the U.S. from Colombia.

00:01:25 Comments briefly on how she started domestic work two years ago, how many bosses she has had, and how they treat her.

00:02:09 Provides more details about waiting at the stop to be picked up in the mornings as a day laborer, weather conditions, and what a good day or a bad day consists of (hours can vary, pay cannot be what they are told it is).

00:03:56 N describes how many women are at the day labor stop, how they relate to each other and what skills are needed to be a domestic worker, what's necessary to do the job well, how the women get "picked" at the stop. Mentions that she has other specialty skills (archiving) but without documentation and ability to speak English perfectly, she does day labor instead.

00:06:40 When asked about ways of getting a child to eat or remedies she uses, N answers based on her experience as a mother, as she is not a babysitter.

00:08:01 Describes one good aspect of job—when she is paid as promised. How it goes when she is not paid as promised. Clarifies again that she does housecleaning, not babysitting. Has two children of her own. Describes forms of discrimination and disrespect on the job, reasons for mistrust of employers, risks, indecent proposals, lack of bathroom access, reasons for fear on the job. Says there are "no benefits." Work is not stable or secure. Hours unpredictable.

00:13:04 Yes, she sometimes shares her ethnic traditions in her workplace but does not

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elaborate.

- 00:13:41 Describes daily schedule and how she goes back home to be with her children if work does not pan out.
- 00:14:03 N clarifies she is a member of the Worker's Justice Project, but is not part of the "domestic" workers community as she works hourly or daily not as a live-in helper. Describes how she got involved with Worker's Justice program—women came to offer workshops and she learned a lot.
- 00:16:08 In regard to Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights, Nubia again affirms that domestic workers are different than day laborers. On their stop "we don't have any rights" because it is just for a few hours.
- 00:16:47 N describes rights she would like in the future, related to the DW Bill of Rights. She would like all the women at the stop to have support, a good salary, the ability to ask a lot of questions. Workers' Justice program is important because she learns through the workshops and meetings they offer.
- 00:17:39 Describes what she would like politicians to know about domestic workers. She would like colleagues to learn more about their rights with employers. N describes what she learned she could require of her employers—mop, fixed salary, leadership, how to use organic products, and more.
- 19:41 Nubia's final thoughts, exhorting other women to get organized. Interviewers take a break and decide to redo some earlier questions.
- 22:06 Describes the experience of waiting at the day laborer stop with some additional details.
- 24:29 Finishes by stating her responsibilities in this work (meet employer expectations, look up the address they are going to, take care of each other).