

CHÁVEZ HUERTA

K-12 PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Dolores Huerta

Dolores Huerta was born as Dolores Clara Fernandez on April 10, 1930, in Dawson, New Mexico. She received her Associate's degree in teaching from the University of the Pacific's Delta Community College and taught grammar school for a short period of time. She found it difficult to see students come to school hungry and in need of shoes and believed she "could do more by organizing farm workers than by trying to teach their hungry children" (NWHM). She would become a voice for agricultural workers who were subjected to little pay, poor working conditions and poisonous pesticides.

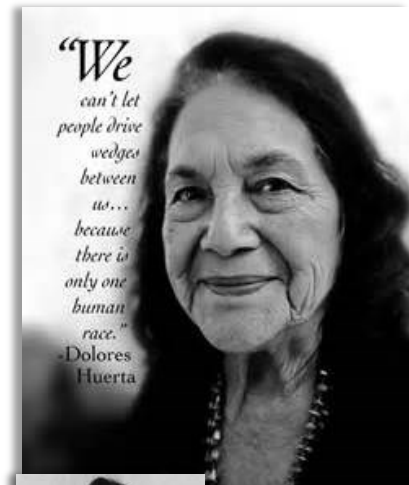
Huerta began her career as an activist working for the Community Service Organization (CSO) by fighting for economic improvements for Hispanics, leading voter registration drives, and pushing for improved public services. In addition, she fought for unemployment and healthcare benefits for agricultural workers and was a founder of the Agricultural Worker's Association (AWA).

In 1962, Huerta founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) with César Chávez and served as Vice President until 1999. She helped organize nonviolent protests with Chávez and her leadership resulted in the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, which allowed farm workers to form unions and bargain for better wages and working conditions.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, she worked diligently as a lobbyist to improve workers' legislative representation and has been recognized as one of the nation's greatest labor leaders. Her leadership has improved the livelihoods of thousands of farm workers.

"Dolores Clara Fernandez Huerta". *National Women's History Museum*. Education Resources. Web 26September2016. <https://www.nwhm.org/education-resources/biography/biographies/dolores-fernandez-huerta>.

Dolores Huerta. *Dolores Huerta Foundation*. *Creating networks of healthy, organized*



¡Sí Se Puede!