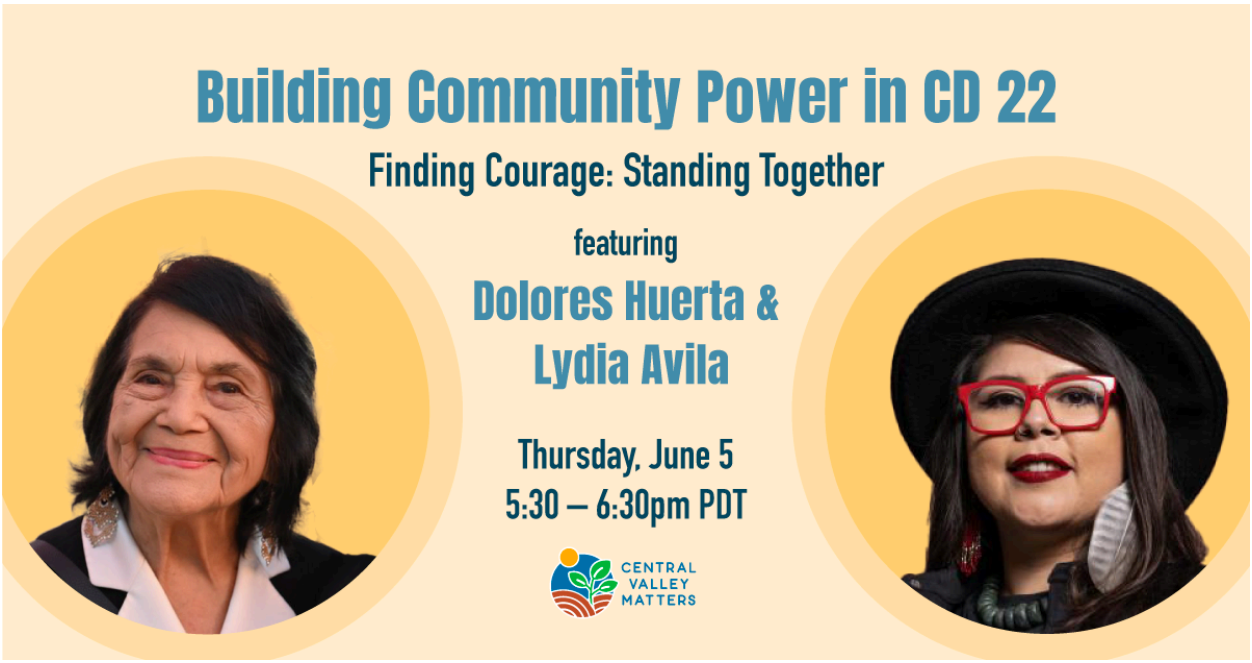

"We can read about history, we can talk about history, or we can make history." Dolores Huerta

Dear _____,

Opening: Your personal opening – recalling the last time you spoke, or other shared moment or interest.

In this difficult time, I find that i**t is so important – and rewarding – to connect with others** who are working for change, and committing to support the hard work being done now. This is why I am writing to you about an important organization here in the state, **Central Valley Matters (CVM).** Nowhere has the significance of playing the long game been demonstrated so clearly as in California's Congressional District 22. We were able to defeat Congressman David Valadao in 2018, but in the last two congressional cycles, we lost by very small margins in the face of rising Trumpism and voter apathy.

Despite these headwinds, we succeeded in electing a number of down ballot candidates to **protect school boards and ensure safe water access,** and to build the bench now! With the early investment of time and funds, the district is flippable!

Since CVM started in 2021, we continue to support excellent local organizations which are on the ground every day, organizing and educating. Over the years, we have vetted over 30 groups. **For 2025, we are extending our reach with six extraordinarily effective groups engaged in mobilizing communities and moving the Central Valley forward.**

Our groups report that the district is **waking up**. The Republican, David Valadao, has embraced Trump and DOGE policies, despite the severe hardships they cause for his constituents:

- 67% of the district relies on Medicaid
- CBP and ICE have ramped up terror against immigrant workers
- Devastating cuts are impacting veterans' benefits and social security which will close hospitals and health care facilities in the district

This time is different and we can win. Can you help us?

On June 5th at 530pm, we're kicking off fundraising for the 2026 election cycle. You can sign up here. Our mentor and friend, Dolores Huerta and Lydia Avila will inspire and guide us as we raise $120,000 to fuel the funding gap for CVM's excellent grassroots organizations.

In recent years, we have raised almost $1.5 million for vetted local community groups that are trusted messengers in Congressional District 22. Today we are each reaching out to a few of our friends to **commit early to help us raise $60,000** for our **EARLY CHALLEN GE FUND at this critical time.**

This is how you can help:

- **Donate through ActBlue to support Central Valley Matters' six grassroots groups here: CVM Spring 2025 Donation Link**

- Or, if you prefer to donate via check, DAF, IRA, required minimum distributions or stock, here is the **Donation FAQs for CVM - 2025.** Please reach out to centralvalleymatters@gmail.com with any questions.

- Or, tell three friends about why the Central Valley Matters and help **boost support for these groups by sharing your connection to this birthplace of the farmworker movement.** Sign up here.

Thank you for your commitment. Together, we'll see this through. I look forward to connecting soon,

Volunteer name, Central Valley Matters

PS. **Winning CD 22** is why Bay Area Congressman **Ro Khanna** held a sold-out town hall a few weeks ago, and why **Bernie Sanders and Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez** were in Bakersfield on April 15th!