

BIOGRAPHY



Jaime P. Martinez

From Humble Beginnings

Jaime Martinez was born in 1946 in San Antonio, Texas and was reared by his Mexican migrant worker grandparents in the Westside barrio, a Spanish speaking community.

His involvement in activism began in 1966 as a member of his local union in San Antonio, Texas IUE-AFL-CIO Local 780, Friedrich workers. He marched and fasted for justice for the farm workers alongside Cesar Chavez, President of the United Farm Workers of America.

Jaime is founder and President of the Cesar E. Chavez LULAC Council # 4626 in San Antonio, Texas and Founder of the Cesar E. Chavez March for Justice which raises thousands of dollars for scholarship for poor migrant children to continue their education in college. He has been recognized as the top fundraiser of the year every year for the past six years.

Jaime has defended the rights of workers and marches for civil rights throughout America and has worked with community leadership such as Rev. Abernathy, right hand man of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Rosa Parks.

“The Truest Act of Courage is to Sacrifice Ourselves Totally in the Non-violent Struggle for Justice.” – Cesar E. Chavez, March 10, 1968. Delano, California.

Proud Achievements

1990 – Jaime Martinez was elected Treasurer of the IUE District Eleven and was unanimously elected for a second term by the Labor delegates to continue to serve as Treasurer in 1993, making him the “First Hispanic Executive Board Member” since the founding of the IUE union in 1949.

1994 – Elected to the National Labor Council for Latin American Advancement serving 1.5 million Latinos in the United States.

1994-1995-1996 – Jaime Martinez began meeting with activist, labor and Hispanic grass roots organizations laying the groundwork in the United States as one of the original organizers for the first Latino Civil Rights March of October 12, 1996 that was attended by over 200,000 in Washington, D.C. Jaime Martinez met with Latinos in Panama, Mexico, Chiapas, the Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica to promote International Human Rights of Immigrant workers.

1995 – Jaime Martinez served as a member for the Noble Peace Prize for Bishop Samuel Ruiz Garcia, of San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas Mexico.

1996 – Jaime Martinez led an international delegation of Latino Civil Rights leaders to Washington, D.C., to meet with Attorney General Janet Reno requesting an investigation of the civil rights violations of the undocumented immigrants who were beaten by the Riverside, California, Sheriffs Deputies.

1996 – Served as National Labor Coordinator – Coordinadora 96 National Latino Civil Rights Immigrant March in Washington, D.C.

1999 – Jaime Martinez gave testimony to the Texas House of Representatives and the Senate to declare a Texas State Holiday honoring Cesar E. Chavez on his birthday, which was unanimously passed.

1999 – Jaime Martinez was honored in Mexico City and received award recognition at the 25th Congress of the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies at the Centro Historico in Mexico City, for defending the human rights of Mexican people in the United States and Mexico.

1999 – Jaime Martinez was honored by La Prensa Foundation, San Antonio, Texas, as one of the 12 outstanding Hispanic Leaders of 1999.

1999 – Jaime Martinez submitted a report and testimony in Los Angeles, California, on immigrant rights on the Labor force to delegates of the AFL-CIO, representing 13.5 million workers who adopted resolution # 17 “Defending the Rights of Immigrant Workers.”

2000 – Jaime Martinez was appointed delegate to the International Metal Workers Federation World Council meeting in Washington D.C. – only 100 delegates from 25 countries were selected for this historic convention.

2001 – Jaime Martinez was appointed National Chairperson of the Immigration Committee for the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, representing 1.5 million Latino workers in America.

2002 – Jaime Martinez appointed Labor Advisor to the National League of the United Latin American Citizens by President Hector Flores.

2004 – Jaime Martinez was elected National LULAC Treasurer in Little Rock, Arkansas.

2006 – Jaime Martinez was the lead organizer and Chairperson of the 10th Annual Cesar E. Chavez March for Justice in San Antonio, Texas. 20,000 people participated in honor of Cesar E. Chavez.

“When in your youth and in your environment –way back in time, you looked at life in the simplest terms...the good times and the sad times. But always remember that the important keys to life are having self confidence and always being prepared to do your best. That is all that is required.”

Jaime P. Martinez

National LULAC Treasurer

Founder – Chairman Cesar E. Chavez March for Justice

SI SE PUEDE!