

“Solar Saves Lives” Fiesta

On Friday the 16th last month Former Mayor Pedro Segarra hosted a benefit Fiesta for the NeoMed Health Clinic in Gurabo Puerto Rico. The goal was to provide solar panels and battery storage for this clinic still suffering from the ravages of last years’ hurricanes. The art on display was the work of Carlos Hernandez Chavez and was inspired and created in Puerto Rico some years ago. The guitar playing for much of the evening was his as well, clearly a multi-talented artist. He was accompanied by Gonzalo Cortes, and together they accompanied the vocals of Graciela Quinones who sang several beautiful songs. After everyone had eaten, there were several guest speakers who spoke of the devastation in Puerto Rico as a result of the hurricanes, and both the need and importance of the solar panels for the people of Gurabo.



The final entertainment for the evening was Youth Mariachi of New England’s Ensemble who performed more than 10 numbers. They are composed of students form all over Connecticut who are inspired to learn and perform traditional Mariachi music.



The whole project came about when The Interreligious Eco Justice Network (IREJN) invited Alex Rodriguez to speak on environmental racism. The desire to help became the impetus for this Fiesta- fundraiser.

It was another great example of people in Asylum Hill coming together to do good and having a good time in the process. For more photos go

to: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/c8EeJk6viHcCjYs7> For more information on IREJN go to <https://irejn.org>