On February 26, 2026, Stephanie and Lily, members of the CWOP team, set out to Fresno County alongside Rommel Medina from Valley Forward, stepping beyond the office and into the heart of local dairy farms. Their purpose was clear: to gain deeper insight into how to meaningfully engage with dairy workers, build lasting connections, and listen to the concerns and resources workers may need. With open minds and a people-first approach, they navigated each farm with care—starting conversations not with policies, but with presence, respect, and genuine curiosity. Inside the milking parlors, they observed the rhythm of daily operations while connecting with workers and mayordomos who keep these farms running. One mayordomo, Jose, shared a powerful reflection: “Thank you for coming and sharing helpful resources. There is a lot of fear and intimidation within the dairy farms and farmworkers, so having groups like yours helps.”

What they experienced that day went far beyond outreach—it was a connection in action. The CWOP team left not only with a stronger understanding of how dairy farms operate, but with invaluable insight into how to approach this work with trust, intention, and compassion. Stephanie reflected, “This experience was very important to continue the advocacy part of helping our dairy and farm workers. To be able to bring reassurance during this intimidating time and also establish connections and trust.” Lily added, “I really enjoyed stepping outside the office to visit local farm dairies, learn how they operate, and meet the workers who make it all happen. They were generous in answering my questions, and it was rewarding to have the chance to share information about labor laws and their rights.” Moments like these remind us that CWOP’s work is rooted in care and driven by community—meeting workers where they are, building trust, and continuing to show up where it matters most.