



Union of Workers of the Popular Economy

Social and Community Workers Branch



***“We are the ones who
are missing”***



UTEP is the union of workers excluded from the formal labor market in Argentina.

It represents 500,000 workers of the Popular Economy who organized themselves to resist and defend their rights in the face of the technocratic neoliberal model that condemns millions of human beings to discard and exclusion.



ORGANIZED POPULAR ECONOMY



In Argentina there are 5,000,000 workers in the popular economy. Those organized in the UTEP set up **branches** by economic activity with the aim of fighting for their demands and obtaining the necessary **popular public policies** to improve their living conditions.

- 1 - Waste Pickers.
- 2 - Public Spaces (street vendors, artisans, fair vendors)
- 3 - Land workers.
- 4 - Textile and clothing.
- 5 - Construction and social infrastructure.
- 6 - Sociocommunity and Care Work.
- 7 - Recovered factories.
- 8 - Released workers and family workers in small community enterprises.

"CIRA - Children's Recreation and Learning Centers.



The CIRAs of the Popular Economy arose in response to the need of the families of cartoneros to have a place to take their children when they went out to collect waste in the afternoon and evening. They were a fundamental victory of the cartoneros' struggle, since there were no other children's centers that worked in the evenings, so they had to take their children to work with them.

Subsistence



Transformation





"CIRA - Children's Recreation and Learning Centers.



*CIRA are currently a **Popular Public Policy** necessary to guarantee the dignity of families working in the popular economy.*

The Socio-Community Branch currently supports **15 CIRA** that cover the needs of **850 families** of excluded workers.

The existence of these spaces has transformed the reality of these companions:

- **Caring for children from 0 to 15 years old.**
 - **Combating child labor.**
 - **Care based on the pedagogy of Popular Education.**
 - **Planning based on the real needs of families.**
 - **Cooperative and community organization of work.**
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