

Since 2006, **Adam Kader** has served as the Worker Center Director for Arise Chicago. Growing up with a Palestinian grandfather and union member parents instilled in Adam an enduring commitment to social and economic justice that he has carried throughout his work.

During his time at Arise Chicago, Adam has overseen the organizing of low-wage workers and participated in more than 100 negotiations with employers. He developed and has coordinated the Worker Center's direct action and legal strategies, resulting in recovered wages, workplace improvements, employer agreements, and the unionization of 3 workplaces. The Worker Center has organized more than 5,000 workers to win significant non-monetary victories and to recover over \$8 million in stolen wages to date. Adam innovated and has overseen the Worker Center membership model, from which the organization draws much of its power. He led the organization's expansion into public policy, beginning with the successful passage of the Chicago Anti-Wage Theft Ordinance in 2013. Since then, the organization has won 5 additional public policies, including the Cook County Anti-Wage Theft Ordinance (2015), Chicago Paid Sick Leave Ordinance (2016), Cook County Earned Sick Leave Ordinance (2016), and the Illinois Domestic Worker Bill of Rights (2016). Adam led the designing, organizing, coalition efforts, and successful passage of the Chicago Office of Labor Standards (2018), an agency charged with enforcing the City's employment protections.

Before joining Arise Chicago in 2006, he worked as an English language instructor for adults in a variety of immigrant community settings in Chicago. He has also taught a *Labor and Social Movements* course at the University of Illinois. Adam received a master's degree in Urban Planning and Public Policy with a concentration in Community Development from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His master's project facilitated conversations about reinventing popular education pedagogy among community-based ESL instructors. He received undergraduate degrees in Anthropology and Spanish, with a minor in Gender Studies, from Lawrence University. His undergraduate work included an ethnographic project with a prominent indigenous feminist organization in Bolivia.

Besides raising his daughter, Adam enjoys old-fashioned hobbies including reading books, listening to vinyl records, and taking urban hikes.