



# LUCHA

**State:** Arizona

**Core Constituency/Target Audience:**

Immigrants and the Latinx Community



## ABOUT

Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA) is a membership-led, grassroots organization that builds power with Arizona's working families to advance social, racial and economic justice for all. Through grassroots campaigns, leadership development, advocacy and civic engagement, they work to create an Arizona in which every person enjoys equal rights, opportunities and protections.

LUCHA engages in voter registration and education, and advocates for progressive policy at all levels of government. They also provide empowerment services to immigrant communities, including citizenship classes, English classes, and the tools needed to navigate the immigration system.

**WEBSITE** [luchaaz.org/](http://luchaaz.org/)

**FACEBOOK** [facebook.com/lucha.arizona](https://facebook.com/lucha.arizona)

**TWITTER** [@lucha\\_az](https://twitter.com/lucha_az)

**INSTAGRAM** [@lucha\\_az](https://www.instagram.com/lucha_az)

**DONATE** [secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-az-lucha](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/sd003-az-lucha)

## LEGISLATIVE WORK

LUCHA is a member-led organization with offices in Arizona's three largest counties: Maricopa, Pima and Coconino. State legislative elections are core to their goal of effecting statewide policy that lifts up all of Arizona's residents. LUCHA endorses progressive champions at the state legislative level every year, and works to advocate for progressive policy within the state legislature.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2016, Proposition 206 was passed by Arizona voters by a near 20-point margin. Prop 206 provides up to five days of paid sick time for all workers, and it will raise the minimum wage to \$12 by 2020. LUCHA put Prop 206 on the ballot and was instrumental in its passing. Prop 206 has grown the state's economy by almost \$1 billion, lowered the unemployment rate, and even increased jobs in the food and hospitality industries.





## ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONTINUED

During the 2018 legislative session, Gov. Ducey and the state legislature tried to dismantle Prop 206 despite voters’ resounding approval. LUCHA and community members wouldn’t let them take Arizona’s victory. They showed up in droves at legislative hearings, knocked on thousands of doors, and made thousands of phone calls to legislators until they could no longer ignore the will of the people.



## ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

### Immigration

LUCHA’s immigration services department provides members with the resources, guidance and tools they need to navigate the complicated and unjust immigration system. Their office works directly with members and their families to help them apply for citizenship or renew their DACA or residency status. They also offer free citizenship classes and English classes to members to ensure that when they apply to become U.S. Citizens, they succeed.

### Education

Arizona’s public education system has been broken for too long. LUCHA’s sister organization, Arizona Center for Empowerment (ACE), has been partnering with educators, parents and community members to fight for students and teachers through advocacy and civic engagement. ACE hosts education town halls so political candidates can explain how they will support and protect public education to their potential constituents.



## STATE BRIDGES SPEAKER



### Abril Gallardo Cervera

Abril was born in Hidalgo, Mexico, it was her experience as an immigrant that has contributed to her being an organizer for now over a decade. Abril was an instrumental communications team member in the Bazta Arpaio campaign, who defeated former Sheriff Joe Arpaio in 2016.

Abril is a founding member volunteer of LUCHA and ACE and today, she is the Chief of Staff, and serves on the Advisory committee of REFrame and is a board member of the United We Dream Action. Abril utilizes her own personal experiences to continue to lead in this work because she cares deeply about building something for the community and their loved ones.



# ARIZONA FAST FACTS

- **Current Control:** Divided Government (since 2023)
- **Gubernatorial Election:** 2026
- **Length of State Senate & House Term:** 2 years
- **Redistricting:** Congressional and state legislative lines drawn by the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission

