

1 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Martha Turrin.

2 MS. TURRIN: Good evening everybody, and welcome to  
3 Las Vegas. My name is Martha Turrin. I'm a pantry worker  
4 member of MGM Grand. I came to this town in 1990. Originally  
5 I'm from Argentina. We landed in California with three kids, to  
6 the land of promises and opportunities.

7 Later I find out that it did not have a health  
8 insurance. I have three adopted children, the oldest who is 27  
9 years old. He has Downs Syndrome and also Leukemia. My  
10 youngest, who is 18 years old, she's suffering from (inaudible),  
11 chronic (inaudible) since she was eight months old. Every time  
12 she has an infection we land in the hospital. We don't have a  
13 health insurance, we have to ask for welfare help, and I feel  
14 very ashamed because we were young -- young couple who took the  
15 responsibility to adopt three children and we could not provide  
16 health insurance and I feel very ashamed.

17 I was working as a teacher's aide in the school  
18 district and in one of those PTA meetings I find out I heard  
19 about Las Vegas, the city that was having such good benefits in  
20 health. So we came in 1990. By October 1990 we have only three  
21 kids, \$65 in the bank and no health insurance. We start working  
22 in the gaming industry, and we have the health insurance through  
23 the Culinary Union.

24 My son, who has Downs Syndrome has the training. He  
25 feels very proud, and I feel very proud because he's working at  
26 the Prima Donna as a dishwasher. So the union and the gaming is

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1 doing a lot of things. Not even for workers that can survive in  
2 different areas, but for disabled people like my son. He feels  
3 proud. He feels that he's doing pretty well, and I feel proud  
4 of him also.

5 I don't ignore that gaming brings a lot of negative  
6 things, that also brings a lot of progress. I live in  
7 Henderson. We bought our home and Henderson is the fastest  
8 growing city in the whole United States, and through the gaming  
9 I'm working with my husband. He also is a member of the MGM.  
10 We can provide to our kids with health, recreation, everything  
11 they need; sometimes more than that. I feel very proud to work  
12 in the gaming industry, and being a part of the union which is  
13 so good. Gaming  
14 without the union doesn't work so well for workers. We have job  
15 security. We have health benefits and good wages, excellent  
16 wages.

17 Thank you so much for your time.

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you, very much.

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