



***America ReFramed* announces the U.S. broadcast premiere of
Councilwoman on WORLD Channel
at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3 in honor of Labor Day**

"Here's an Immigrant Story You Probably Haven't Seen Before"
-- Rosa Heyman, *Cosmopolitan.com*

MEDIA RELATIONS

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BROOKLYN, N.Y. (July 23, 2019) — A film about a full-time hotel housekeeper serving her first-term as a city councilwoman in Providence, Rhode Island, is headed to public television. Margo Guernsey's *Councilwoman* follows Carmen Castillo, an immigrant who advocates for the working families in her community, many of who work multiple jobs to stay afloat. The film is part of *America ReFramed*, the award-winning documentary program by American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) and WORLD Channel that gives voice to the voiceless across the country, and airs at 8 p.m. ET on Tuesday, September 3, on WORLD, during Labor Day week.

In *Councilwoman*, audiences get an intimate look at the life of Castillo, who came to the U.S. in 1994 from the Dominican Republic with three daughters in tow, and who believes that working families should earn a wage sufficient to allow them to live with dignity. In her quest for workers' rights she leads the charge in Providence, Rhode Island, for the "Fight for \$15" — the movement to have minimum wage increased to \$15 per hour. She runs a grueling reelection campaign — going door-to-door to get out the vote, attending fundraisers, meeting with community members and leaders — all while working at the hotel and in City Hall, maintaining a family, and helping her new husband adjust to life in the U.S. Through it all, Castillo stays true to her vision for justice and equity to prove that "she can do it!" But will she succeed?



The documentary aims to inspire and empower new leadership that is more representative of America—along gender, ethnic and economic lines—so as to create a richer democracy.

“Carmen Castillo’s commitment to supporting working families as embodied throughout *Councilwoman* is exhibited through both her actions and campaign to make impactful change in her community,” said Chris Hastings, executive producer & editorial manager for WORLD Channel at WGBH Boston. “Castillo forms part of a new wave of political activation, proving that more reflective and inclusive representation in government is possible,” commented Justine Nagan, executive producer & executive director of American Documentary.

Councilwoman will premiere on U.S. television and online at 8 p.m. (7 p.m. CT / 9 p.m. PT) Tuesday, September 3 on WORLD Channel as part of the latest season of [America ReFramed](#). The film will stream on [worldchannel.org](#), [amdoc.org](#) and all station-branded PBS platforms including [PBS.org](#), and on PBS apps for iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Chromecast.

Councilwoman is a co-production of Independent Television Service (ITVS).

Media Contacts

For interviews and special requests, journalists and reviewers may contact Erin Callanan at 617-300-3270 or via email at erin_callanan@wgbh.org or Alimah Boyd at 201-552-9239 or alimah@cherylduncanpr.com.

About America ReFramed

America ReFramed is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc.

America ReFramed curates a diverse selection of independent documentaries that brings to national audiences compelling stories which illuminate the changing contours of our ever-evolving country. Viewers will be immersed in stories that span the spectrum of American life, from the streets of towns big



and small to its exurbs and country roads. The documentary series presents an array of personal voices and experiences through which we learn from our past, understand our present and are challenged to seek new frameworks for America's future. *America ReFramed* is the recipient of a Peabody Award and an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for broadcast journalism. The series has earned several Christopher, GRACIE, Telly and Cine Golden Eagle Awards, as well as multiple nominations for EMMY, Independent Documentary Association, and Imagen Awards.

America ReFramed Series Credits

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White
Supervising Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio

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America ReFramed Co-Producers

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: www.amdoc.org

WORLD Channel tells stories that humanize complex issues. WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries, and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content offers a national platform to makers examining issues too often ignored by mainstream media. These emerging and master filmmakers spotlight a diversity of voices, telling stories not heard elsewhere. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award and numerous national honors — including an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay

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Journalist Awards, a Gracie, and an Asian American Journalists Award. Carried by 160 partner stations in markets representing almost 67 percent of U.S. TV households, WORLD can also be experienced via WORLDChannel.org and social media platforms.

