



**Coalición de Derechos Humanos
Alianza Indígena Sin Fronteras
Post Office Box 1286
Tucson, Arizona 85702**



For Immediate Release
End the Deaths in the Desert
200th Community Vigil
Thursday, April 8, 2004
7:00pm
El Tiradito Shrine

(on South Main Ave, just south of El Minuto Restaurant)

Tucson—It was reported last week that the bodies of three men were found on the Tohono O'odham Reservation; the men had apparently died from heat exposure. On the heels of that, we receive the report today that three more migrants died over the weekend of exposure, and yet another body found in a trash receptacle is suspected to be that of a migrant; an autopsy revealed that this man had also died of exposure. This human rights crisis on our border will never stop until we change flawed border policies, which have funneled migration through our desert. As temperatures begin to rise, the season of death that is our unbearably hot summer is almost upon us.

The Coalición de Derechos Humanos/Alianza Indígena Sin Fronteras calls all friends and allies to an **Emergency Community Vigil** this **Thursday, April 8th, 2004 at 7pm at El Tiradito Shrine**. This Thursday also marks the 200th Community Vigil to be held at El Tiradito. For almost four years, community members have borne witness to the death and violence on our borders. We have called attention to failed border policies, and have mourned the tragic, senseless loss of human life.

Since the beginning of the fiscal year on October 1, 2003, there have been 23 migrant deaths reported. This has already surpassed the number of last May, let alone March. Last year, the first heat related death shocked our community in the middle of the month of April. It is all the more painful to now have the first heat related death occur in March, and portends another deadly season on our borders, and in our communities.

As the deaths of our sisters and brothers continue to ravage our hearts and communities, we must continue to demand that failed border policies, which have wreaked havoc on our communities, caused created a climate of hatred, distrust, and violence, be immediately halted. Anti-immigrant sentiment, which has spawned the rise of vigilante activity, has grown in this climate of xenophobia. This human rights crisis that has seen the deaths of over 3,000 migrants, must not be permitted to continue.

NO MORE DEATHS!

For more information, please call (520) 770-1373

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