



2023 IMPACT REPORT

PRESBYTERY OF TRES RIOS
BORDER MINISTRY FOUNDATION



Mural: "Juarense y Poderosa" by El Mac and Dave Grave

TRESRIOSBORDERFOUNDATION.ORG

PRESBYTERY OF TRES RIOS BORDER MINISTRY FOUNDATION

[1:25 MINUTE INTRO VIDEO](#)

But first, a word of Gratitude



Dear Friends
of Tres Rios...

WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS ENOUGH
HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE FOR YOUR ONGOING PARTNERSHIP.
WE THANK OUR SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS, SYNOD OF THE SUN,
PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND ALL OF THE INDIVIDUALS
WHO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE PRESBYTERY OF TRES RIOS
BORDER MINISTRY FOUNDATION

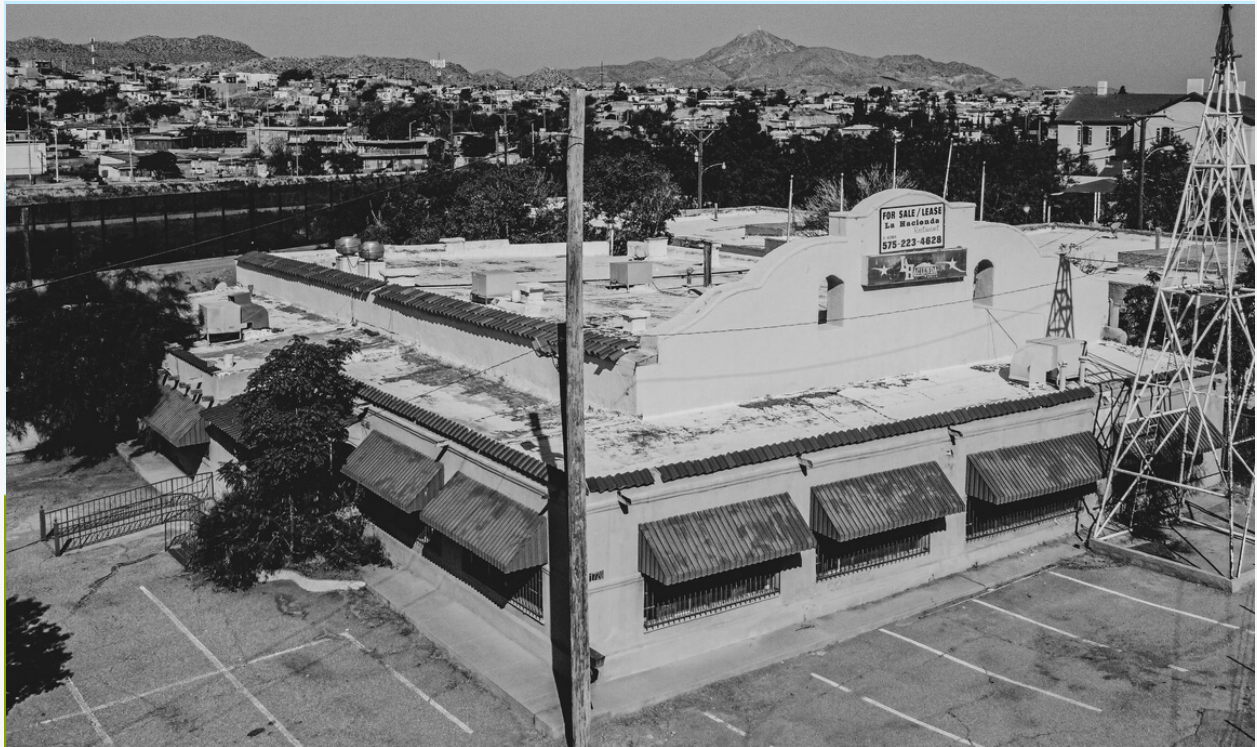
OUR MISSION IS TO
INSPIRE, EQUIP, AND CONNECT PC(USA) CONGREGATIONS
ON THE US-MEXICO BORDER AND BEYOND

YOUR PARTNERSHIP IS ALREADY MAKING AN IMPACT
IN SUPPORT OF MIGRANT SHELTER LEADERS,
ACCOMPANYING ASYLUM SEEKERS, AND DEEPENING OUR COLLECTIVE
DISCIPLESHIP IN THE JESUS WAY OF JUSTICE.

-NATE LEBBETTER

ABOUT TRES RIOS

IN RESPONSE TO GLOBAL MIGRATION IN A POLARIZING WORLD: WE ENVISION JESUS FOLLOWERS WORKING FOR NARRATIVE, SYSTEMS AND PERSONAL CHANGE



TRES RIOS BORDER FOUNDATION IS FOCUSED ON ACCOMPLISHING OUR MISSION BY FACILITATING THREE CORE AREAS OF ACTION:

- **BORDER OFFICE SPACE** (SEE PHOTO ABOVE) – WE RENT SPACE AT ABARA HOUSE ADJACENT TO THE BORDER FENCE - ONE OF THE OLDEST CROSSINGS ALONG THE ENTIRE STRETCH OF THE US-MX BORDER. WE BELIEVE PROXIMITY IS CRUCIAL TO INFORM MEANINGFUL ACTION, SOLIDARITY, AND A MUTUAL MINISTRY OF PRESENCE.
- **BORDER ENCOUNTERS** – WE INVITE PC(USA) CHURCHES, STUDENTS, AND LEADERS TO ATTEND 3-DAY TRAININGS (AKA "LISTENING TRIPS") WITH ABARA. WE AMPLIFY VOICES ON THE BORDER, INTRODUCE A THEOLOGY OF MIGRATION, PEACE BUILDING, VISIT SHELTERS, AND MORE. RESERVE DATES AT [HOSPITALITY@ABARA.ORG](mailto:hospitality@abara.org).
- **BORDER RESPONSE** – WE ACCOMPANY SHELTER LEADERS AND PASTORS IN RESPONSE TO PRESSING NEEDS ON THE US-MX BORDER WHILE ADVOCATING WITH [THE OFFICE OF IMMIGRATION](#) TO ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS.

Your Impact

MIGRANT SHELTER SUPPORT



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU: 10 SHELTERS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER WERE SIGNIFICANTLY ASSISTED THROUGH FOOD DISTRIBUTION, UTILITY ASSISTANCE, LEADERSHIP CARE

BORDER ENCOUNTERS



WE CO-HOSTED FOUR PC(USA) GROUPS, INCLUDING KEY PRESBYTERIAN LEADERSHIP NETWORKS.

BORDER ENCOUNTER SURVEYS INDICATE:

- 100% ARE BETTER EQUIPPED TO CONTEXTUALIZE CURRENT BORDER REALITIES WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY
- 83% ARE BETTER EQUIPPED TO ADVOCATE FOR SYSTEMS CHANGE
- 97% BETTER UNDERSTAND THE ROOT CAUSES OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT
- 91% CHALLENGED THEIR PERSONAL BELIEFS AND UNDERSTANDING OF IMMIGRATION

ANNUAL SUPPORT



GIVING INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN 2023 ENABLING THE FOUNDATION TO INCREASE SUPPORT OF MIGRANT SHELTERS AND PASTORS, STRENGTHENING THE HAND OF THE CHURCH IN ACTION. LONG-TERM GOAL IS ALWAYS TO INCREASE ANNUAL DIRECT SUPPORT.



2024 PROJECTIONS

- WE ANTICIPATE HOSTING TWICE THE AMOUNT OF PC(USA) BORDER ENCOUNTER GROUPS
- WE PLAN TO HIRE A FULL-TIME COORDINATOR TO INCREASE MINISTRY PARTNERS + IMPACT

"I RETAINED MY DIGNITY WHEN I FLED VIOLENCE IN MY VILLAGE. I HELD MY DIGNITY WHEN I TOOK ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS JOURNEYS IN THE WORLD. I FELT LIKE I LOST MY DIGNITY WHEN I WAS DETAINED IN THE U.S. FOR SEEKING LEGAL ASYLUM."

— ANONYMOUS CENTRAL AMERICAN NEIGHBOR

PARTICIPANTS + PARTNERS

THE FOLLOWING QUOTES ARE IN RESPONSE TO 3-DAY BORDER ENCOUNTERS
CO-HOSTED BY TRES RIOS BORDER FOUNDATION AND ABARA| BORDERLAND CONNECTIONS
ON THE US-MEXICO BORDER.

"As a lifelong border resident, I'm excited to have recently joined the Tres Rios Border Foundation. In this era of ever-increasing global migration, it is crucial that we tell our own story as a region that has always been hospitable to travelers. TRBF has planted small kernels through its initial support of shelters and visiting congregations, and I look forward to growing this organization and accompanying others along this journey, redefining our border as a place of welcome for all."

- **Vanessa Johnson**, Tres Rios Border Foundation, Board of Directors

"Abara's border encounter experience allowed my college group to take a deep dive not only into the complexities of migration but also into the wide-ranging human responses related to migration. Through personal stories shared, informative presentations, site visits on both sides of the border, and conversations with a variety of local migration stakeholders (all done through the lenses of compassion and kinship), we left forever-changed, hopeful, and empowered to share our experience with those back home."

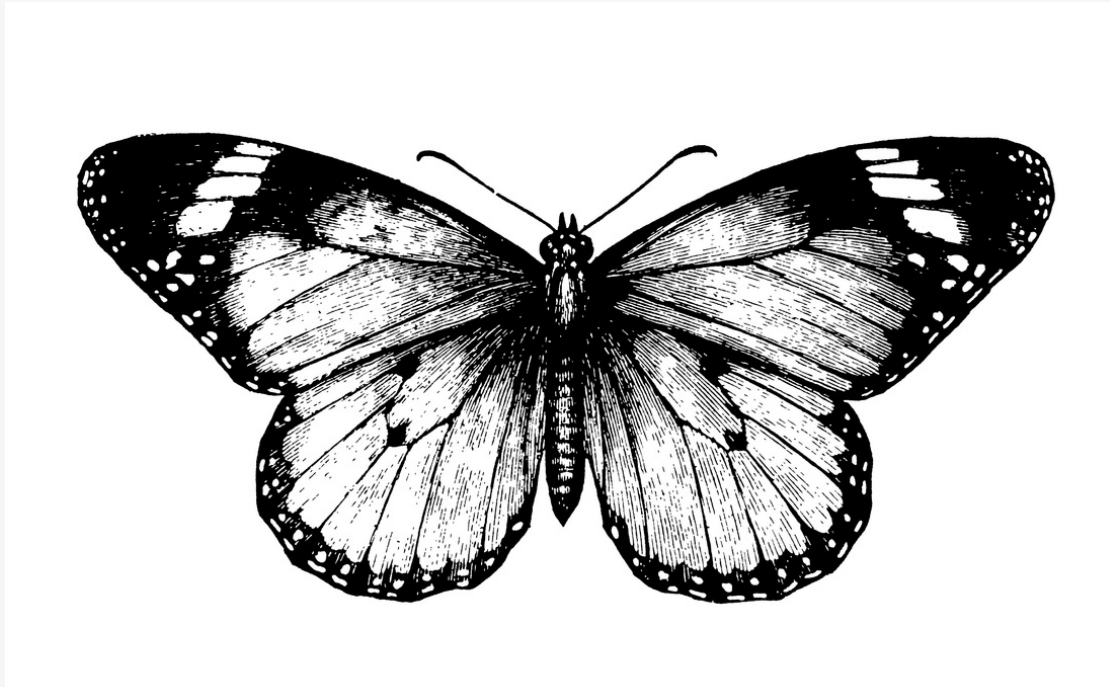
-**Jeremy Wilhelmi**, University Chaplain at University of the Ozarks

"As a pastor in El Paso, I am grateful for the work of the Presbytery of Tres Rios Border Ministry Foundation. Their efforts help to interpret the important and complex immigration issues. In a recent visit to Juarez, I saw first-hand the positive impact of the Foundation's support with guests who stay in local shelters in search of refuge. Programming in partnership with Abara House provides opportunities for congregations to listen, learn and respond in Christ's name. The La Hacienda property is the perfect location to build community working for wholeness and justice."

- **Cindy Carlisle** | Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE ARE WITNESSING PERSONAL,
NARRATIVE & SYSTEMS CHANGE ACROSS PERSONAL AND
COMMUNITY DIVIDES.



PEACE OF CHRIST,

*Sue Dickson, John Nelsen, Vanessa Johnson,
Carolyn Miller, Bill Rose, and Nate Ledbetter*

EVERYTHING RESTS ON RELATIONSHIP

PRESBYTERY OF TRES RIOS BORDER MINISTRY FOUNDATION

1201 W WALL ST MIDLAND, TX 79701
MEMO LINE: TRES RIOS PRESBYTERY

FOR GIVING INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST OUR ANNUAL
BUDGET, PLEASE CONTACT:

THERESA WRIGHT
TWRIGHT@TRESRIOS.ORG
PHONE: 432-682-5297

REV. SUE DICKSON, PRESIDENT
SUE@TRESRIOSBORDERFOUNDATION.ORG

NATE D. LEDBETTER, COORDINATOR
NATE@TRESRIOSBORDERFOUNDATION.ORG

STOCK + MUTUAL FUNDS

IF YOU'RE 70 1/2 YEARS OLD OR OLDER, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO
MAKE A TAX-FREE CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION FROM YOUR IRA
ACCOUNT TO A 501C3 ORGANIZATION SUCH AS TRES RIOS
BORDER FOUNDATION. TAX-DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPTS FOR STOCK
AND MUTUAL FUND GIFTS ARE PROVIDED TO TRES RIOS BORDER
FOUNDATION VIA STOCKDONATOR.COM WHOSE ACCOUNT IS
HELD AT FIDELITY INVESTMENTS. [DTC FORM PROVIDED HERE.](#)