On the border…

The U.S.-Mexico border continued to be a site of policy debate, human rights abuses, migrant deaths, as well as dynamic activism.

NNIRR’s Board of Directors toured the South Texas region in the summer, consulting with local organizers on priorities and on our Just Borders initiative. Visits with Central American women interned with their children at the Karnes “Family” Detention Center, and to the gravesites of unidentified migrants, along with a tour of life-saving water stations contributed to our commitment to focus on demilitarizing the border.

We’re supporting a current campaign initiated by border region groups to End Operation Streamline and the prosecution of migrants. #EndOperationStreamline #4borderjustice

A very special thank you to our 2015 interns

... who provided top-notch research, writing, website, social media support, energy and enthusiasm this year! We couldn’t have done it without you!

Thanks to Elise Berendt, Elvin Bruno, Mehrnush (Nushy) Golriz, Sophie Newman & Nicole Orttung

In October, migrants’ rights advocates converged in Istanbul, Turkey, for the Global Forum for Migration & Development (GFMD). NNIRR, members and partners collaborated during a round of activities that included a strategy meeting of the Women & Global Migration Working Group and presentations in the People’s Global Action on Migration, Development and Human Rights (PGA) and the Civil Society Days of the GFMD. NNIRR National Council member Carol Barton of United Methodist Women served as the first “Rapporteur on Women” during the Civil Society Days.

Earlier in the year, we had met in Geneva to strategize with partners in the Global Coalition on Migration, and joined a panel at the United Nations to speak on the significance of the new “Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders.”

NNIRR IN 2015

NNIRR staff and members pushed for human rights at borders in Geneva, Istanbul, New York, Tucson, San Antonio and more, arguing that international borders cannot be “zones of exclusion” when it comes to human rights.

In a year when both “migrants in crisis” took a global stage and anti-immigrant pundits called for a greater crackdown on borders, saving lives and protecting rights must be movement priorities.
Program Highlights for the New Year...

Increase nationwide attention on the human rights crisis at the border & relentlessly advocate for global migrant rights.

- **Collaboration with partners, advocates & allies** to address challenges facing the immigrant rights movement and strengthen a collective strategy for organizing with a human rights framework, with an eye to the 2016 elections.

- **Convening delegations and tours of the U.S. Southern Border** with a broad participation of activists, advocates, community organizers, faith-based leaders & policy-makers, to provide exposure and support to border communities.

- **Congressional visits** to provide testimony of rights abuses and the devastating impact of the criminalization and militarization of communities along the border, urging congressional action and accountability.

- **A comprehensive toolkit**: with fact sheets, resources & “take-action” materials to organize around the U.S. for a shift in border policy and protection of basic rights.

- **Promotion of the UN Recommend Principles & Guidelines for Human Rights at International Borders** and continued advocacy with our global partners to defend and expand the rights of migrants and refugees.

- **Vocal advocacy & active media messaging** toward the human rights, safety and dignity of all migrants and refugees.

NNIRR is taking a stand against the hateful scapegoating unfolding in the U.S. presidential campaign, and the backlash in Europe towards refugees fleeing violence and war, the root cause of the current “crisis of migration.”

Join us to increase nationwide attention to the border and to the voices of border communities living the daily reality of enforcement, violence, racial profiling and migrant deaths.

#4borderjustice #justborders #migrantrights #humanrights