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Saturday, February 4th, 2017

Press Statement

For Immediate Release

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Immigrant and Working Families "Presente" at the City Council Meeting for the Introduction of Immigrant Friendly Memorial

ALBUQUERQUE, NM- President Trump has issued executive orders relating to immigration enforcement at the border and in the interior. These executive orders:

- threaten to lead to senseless family separations
- dump billions of dollars into the private prison industry and in militarizing border communities
- turn away refugees fleeing violence and persecution,
- strip immigrants of their due process rights,
- and discriminate against the Muslim community.

EL CENTRO and its allies will meet at the Albuquerque City Council on Monday the 6th at 5:00 PM as Councilors Benton, Davis, Peña, and Gibson introduce a memorial re-affirming the City's commitment to being a Sanctuary City.

EL CENTRO's members and leaders from immigrant and refugee communities will thank the co-sponsors of the memorial and urge them, in light of new threats posed by the Trump administration, to work with the community in the near future to expand current protections and to strengthen local policies that protect our families from senseless deportations, racial profiling, and civil rights violations.

WHAT: City Council Meeting/ Introduction of Immigrant Friendly Memorial

WHEN: Monday 6th of January, 5 PM sharp (for those that can get there by 4:30, please do)

WHERE: 1 Civic Plaza NW, Vincent E. Griego Chambers, Basement Level
Albuquerque, NM 87102

In 2000, EL CENTRO (back in the days when we were part of Enlace Comunitario) and allies worked to pass a bi-partisan a resolution introduced by Councilor Hess Yntema (Republican, District) in the ABQ City Council. This resolution declared ABQ an Immigrant Friendly City and made a commitment that the city will not use municipal resources to assist in the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Since that time, EL CENTRO has worked tirelessly to combat senseless deportation and civil right violations and end collaboration between ICE and Bernalillo County (at the Metropolitan Detention Center),

local law enforcement (APD's standard operating procedures) and the City of Albuquerque (prisoner transport center).

Thanks to our allies for taking action and for engaging, side by side, with our membership to fight for the justice of our families. An attack on refugee and immigrant communities is an attack to everyone.

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**El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos is a grassroots, immigrants' rights and workers' justice organization based in Albuquerque with over 3000 members.*