

CURRICULUM VITAE

FERNANDO GARCIA



SUMMARY

Fernando Garcia is the founder and Executive Director of the Border Network for Human Rights (BNHR). His expertise lies in connecting the everyday struggle of immigrant and border communities to the development of policies that respect the rights and dignity of all residents along the US-Mexico border. Mr. Garcia has grown BNHR to comprise over 1,000 families who are permanently organized in human rights committees. Mr. Garcia presents a unique perspective on the border and how it shapes the American narrative.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Visionary Leadership
- Strong Public Policy and Analysis
- Key Partnership Development
- Public and Media Relations
- Strategic Fundraiser

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BORDER NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (BNHR), El Paso, TX **2001 - Present**

Founding Director. Responsible for overseeing the process of involving immigrant border communities in the struggle for their human rights and demanding just and inclusive immigration reform. Oversaw the transition of the Border Rights Coalition from an advocacy entity to community organizing, evolving into what is now the Border Network for Human Rights.

NATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR LEGALIZATION AND IMMIGRANT RIGHTS **2001 - 2006**

National Coordinator. A renovated alliance of community based immigrant groups and organization in the US working toward the approval and implementation of a humane and fair immigration reform that will primarily grant permanent residency to undocumented families living and working in the US. Some of the national activities included mobilizations in DC and the "One Million Postcard for Legalization Campaign."

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AFSC/CRU "PRE VOICE PILOT PROGRAM"

2002

Lead Trainer. Conducted immigrant community organizing trainings in regional AFSC offices throughout the US, including San Diego, CA; Portland, OR; Chicago, IL; and Boston, MA. Over 20 Human Rights Organizers graduated from these trainings and became the core VOICE organizing team in those areas.

AFSC-IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT MONITORING PROJECT

2001

Interim Director. Responsible for directing the AFSC-ILEMP work while the Director was on Sabbatical. Responsibilities included the coordination of the regional ILEMP partners and representing AFSC-ILEMP at national and international conferences.

IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT MONITORING PROJECT-EL PASO

1998 - 2001

Regional Coordinator. Responsible for developing community networks to address violation of human rights through community education and organizing. Focus on training and workshops on constitutional and international rights for community-based groups.

EDUCATION

Certificate in Mexican Archeology, National School of Anthropology and History, UNAM (1995)

Studies at School of Political Science, National University of Mexico (UNAM) (1990)

LEADERSHIP

- 2007- Present Steering Committee Member for Reform Immigration for Texas Alliance statewide coalition (RITA).
Steering Committee Member for Human Rights at Home Campaign (HuRAH).
Steering Committee Member for CAMBIO, the Coalition for accountable Moral and Immigration Overhaul, national coalition that pushes back on unaccountable and punitive immigration enforcement.
- 2002 - Present Member of Board of Directors of the Racial Justice Coalition integrated by Racial Justice groups from around the country.
- 2004-2006 Member of Independent Task Force on Immigration and America's Future convened by the Migration Policy Institute.