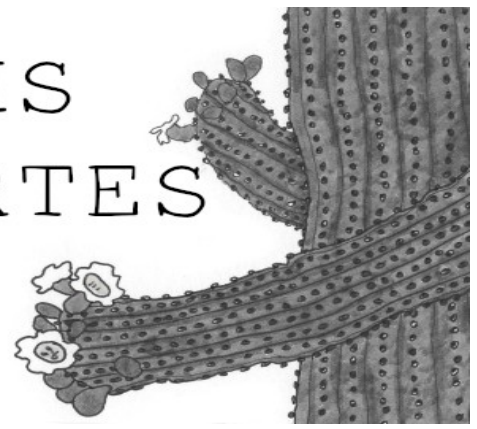


# NO MORE DEATHS NO MÁS MUERTES



Summer 2025



Dear friends,

As we enter a new season, it's important for us at No More Deaths/No Mas Muertes to express our deep gratitude for the support we have received so far this year. We live in a challenging time, and while feelings of despair are rampant, we must remember that the **solidarity work done on the borderlands will never cease to exist.**

No matter how many barriers are placed, when a group of people believes that human rights should be honored and acted upon without having to rely on the government, aid will continue to happen. People have crossed the borderlands since time immemorial, since before walls and barriers were built. They also have been helping each other the whole time, whether that be traveling companions sharing water and food, or people living in the borderlands opening their doors to host people in need, our work builds on this legacy of support.

We will come together in our network of care and provide what is necessary. We depend on one another to ensure that the functional and emotional aspects of our efforts team up to create the shifts we aspire to see. Although the work done at No More Deaths / No Mas Muertes is not widely publicized for all to see, we know that the commitment in our community is strong and persistent.

While this year and the new administration have brought about its own set of difficulties, we continue to strategize and collaborate to create tangible solutions. As the longest day of the year, June 20th, approaches, we need your support to ensure that we continue this vital support. The conditions of the summer heat call on us to provide more resources in the desert every year.

**Our goal is still the same, to provide life-saving aid through our projects;** the desert aid program, the missing migrant hotline, and our work in northern Mexico.

Acknowledging our challenges is important as it keeps us aware of where our support needs to go and we also believe it's crucial to be reminded that even when the world seems to be in disarray, we are surrounded by individuals who pay attention to those around them and act accordingly. No matter the obstacles, they will stay true to their commitment and responsibilities to their network of care. In this newsletter, we are highlighting the work of our NMD community, which allows us to tap into feelings of hope at a time when grief has become all too familiar for us.

**We all bring value to this work and as you continue to read, remember that you too belong to our network of care.**

We hope these stories plant seeds within yourself and your communities. Let us water and tend to them. If you are interested in planned giving, donations of stocks, contributing supplies, or have questions, please contact [fundraising@nomoredeaths.org](mailto:fundraising@nomoredeaths.org)

**With care,  
The No More Deaths/No Mas Muertes community**



## Story of Solidarity

by Operator 17

Greetings NMD community! I'm Operator 17, and I'm excited to share a glimpse into the Missing Persons Hotline experience. Each month, we receive hundreds of calls from people across the Americas—each one seeking answers, support, and connection as they search for missing loved ones. Our role as Hotline Operators is to provide compassionate assistance, offer helpful resources, and collaborate closely with Emergency Report Operators to relay information to Border Patrol agents.

Recently, we've seen a shift in the nature of calls. As border traffic has slowed with recent administrative changes, many inquiries now focus on detention facilities. We frequently use the ICE locator website to help families find detained individuals and keep lines of communication open.

Unfortunately, we also receive harassing calls from individuals attempting to intimidate operators with hateful language. In response, No More Deaths remains steadfast in prioritizing the safety and well-being of all team members, offering mental health support and solidarity.

Beyond the calls, the Hotline team actively engages in community events to raise awareness and foster connection. It's hard work—but meaningful, human, and sometimes even heartwarming. Thanks for being part of this journey with us—we're in this together, one call at a time.



Yard sign to support an NMD volunteer who faced federal charges under the first Trump administration

## HOTLINE STATS:

- Calls (July 2024 - May 2025): 954
- Emergency Reports (July 2024 - May 2025): 9
- Alive (July 2024 - May 2025): 4
- Dead (July 2024 - May 2025): 0
- UNKNOWN (July 2024 - May 2025): 4



## Desert Aid Trainings: Capacity Building Through Knowledge and Skillshares

by: NMD desert aid volunteer

No More Deaths began as a fully volunteer-run organization, but over the years it has evolved and grown. Thanks to the support of our donors we now provide stipends for some volunteers and have staff positions. However, most of the day-to-day work in the desert remains unpaid.

People come from all over the world to support our work, we have a base of aid workers in Southern Arizona and over the past 21 years over 1000 people have joined us to provide humanitarian aid in the borderlands.

For out-of-town volunteers, we offer housing, travel, and food stipends, as well as access to our gear-lending library. BIPOC volunteers are eligible for additional financial support. Volunteers participate in initial in-town training and field training before beginning their time with us. After volunteers have spent time with us in the field, they can become desert aid working group members where they participate in decision-making and have access to more trainings as well as stipends.

The work our volunteers and staff do is dynamic and challenging, most days we have at least one team of 2-4 people driving a truck to remote areas to leave life-saving supplies in the desert. During these trips they may come in contact with people who are lost, injured, and in distress, they may find somebody who has passed away. Because of this, our training does not stop after the first week. Volunteers and staff continuously mentor each other, teaching new skills and coordinating trainings to better respond to the needs of people crossing the border. Over the past few years these are some of the trainings volunteers and staff have attended:

**Wilderness First Aid, Wilderness First Responder:** In partnership with numerous borderlands humanitarian aid groups and with financial support from Mutual Aid Disaster Relief and other humanitarian aid organizations, volunteers became certified Wilderness First Aid providers and Wilderness First Responders, free of charge. The trainings were put on by Larkspur Rescue and NOLS. Instructors

were able to contextualize course content for the particular environments volunteers work in.

**Criminalization of Humanitarian Aid and Protocols:** We maintain that humanitarian aid is never a crime, and work within our protocols, which have been reviewed by legal counsel. However, we also recognize that during the current administration, like the last Trump presidency, the targeting of migrant communities will expand and include those who stand in solidarity with them. Volunteers reviewed the criminal charges that Scott Warren and others in the organization have faced over the years and learned more about our Foundations of Borderland Humanitarian Relief (full document available on our website) and our desert aid protocols. These documents are based on the Red Cross Code of Conduct and a human rights framework.



**Geographical Orientation:** Volunteers spent a day driving roads and orienting to mountains and landmarks in the Arivaca corridor, where many of our water drops are. This helps volunteers understand where to place water drops and respond to searches for missing persons.

**Chainsaw Safety:** Over the winter No More Deaths, along with local Samaritans chapters and Humane Borders, supported a camp along the border wall where asylum seekers would often have to wait for hours or overnight to be picked up by Border Patrol. NMD's main contribution was firewood. We hosted a chainsaw safety course for volunteers to learn how to cut firewood down to size. The course was put on by volunteers who work as arborists and wildland firefighters.

**Media Interviews and Public Presentation:** The No More Deaths' Media Coordinators put on a training for volunteers and staff to learn about No More Deaths talking points and media strategy, as well as reviewing materials made for public presentations and outreach.

Do you have a skill you would be willing to share with our volunteers? Please reach out!

Possible topics include wilderness medicine, know your rights, meeting facilitation, search and rescue/recovery, vehicle maintenance, overland navigation, conflict mediation, and many more! Remote and Southern Arizona opportunities are appreciated.



### **Coyotes**

A poem by: Arturo Magaña Amaya

*Miles bleed into flashing trees and electrical lines.  
There are millions of borders and railroad ties.  
They say I've to pay the man  
or ask María who sits on the bodega stools.  
I want a clean cup of coffee.  
You know, they used to grow  
the beans in my hills.  
And I want to sleep next to you  
and forget this desert.  
"Our wait will be very long," he says.  
I kill time blackening water jugs.  
Children mend fishing nets for hammocks.  
They want to see who is the fastest running away from me.  
A man looks at me  
and because I am a stranger, says,  
"My father died in my arms."  
Do you hear the coyotes?  
Do you hear the owls hooting?  
Let's not walk no more,  
what else is there to prove?—  
we've given them even our youth.*

Amaya, A. M. (2023). *Nostalgias of November / Nostalgias de Noviembre: Poems / Poemas*

***Your support makes it possible for us to provide humanitarian aid in the borderlands!***

***Donate online via [nomoredeaths.org](http://nomoredeaths.org) or use the enclosed envelope to mail a check.***

**Choose Your Impact**

|          |                            |
|----------|----------------------------|
| \$1.27   | = 1 water gallon           |
| \$130    | = weekly clothing          |
| \$350    | = weekly water gallons     |
| \$675    | = weekly truck fuel        |
| \$1,400  | = monthly medical supplies |
| \$8,300  | = monthly food             |
| \$18,000 | = used truck purchase      |

