

Chronology of the Coalition Against Violence Toward Women and Families at the U.S.-Mexico Border

January 2002: Coalition formed, a partnership between active and concerned people from the university and community. Co-chairs: Dr. Emma Perez (UTEP History) and Clemencia Prieto (Center on Family Violence, El Paso)

March 9: Hundreds of concerned people, both sides of the border, meet in the downtown plazas of El Paso and Juarez and walk to the border where they meet at the international bridge crossing. (Censured in the Mexican press.)

April: Women's Studies Speaker series: Speakers from the U.S. and Mexico

UTEP Student Group, FMLA, organizes on Silent Protest on the Union Lawn: People dress in mourning and hold the symbolic signs (Black cross on dark pink background)

Several coalition members, dressed in mourning, attend the Twin Plant Wives Association luncheon at which Texas First Lady Perry ("first nurse") speaks. Perry is concerned and is "pinned" (the symbolic pin, black cross on dark pink background)

Community fund-raiser for Casa Amiga, the Juarez battered women's shelter
Lourdes Portillo's film shown: Senorita Extraviada, focusing on the Juarez mutilation-murders

[NOTE: PRI Governor allegedly cut public support (meager as it was) to Casa Amiga due to criticism of the police and investigation.]

May: Continued efforts to facilitate FBI assistance to state and local police in Juarez

June: FEMAP fund-raiser for Casa Amiga in Juarez

July: Community fund-raiser for Casa Amiga, downtown El Paso

Aug.: Protest in Mourning at the Organization of American States, Washington, D.C.
Fund-raiser in Las Cruces for Casa Amiga

Sept: New Coalition Co-Chairs selected: Dr. Irasema Coronado (UTEP Political Science) and Victor Munoz

Mexico asks for FBI assistance, once again (previous assistance 1997-98)