

# **FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE IN THE MAQUILADORAS DIRECTORY**

## **Centro de Información para Trabajadoras y Trabajadores (Cittac)**

### **The Workers' Information Center**

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#### **Tijuana:**

Dolores 32-B Fracc. Dimenstein C.P. 22450, Tijuana, B.C., Mexico  
52 (664) 622-4269  
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www.cittac.org

#### **Contact in San Diego:**

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The Workers' Information Center (CITTAC) is a non-governmental organization of women and men from Baja California, Mexico that promotes, publicizes, supports and accompanies workers' struggles – especially within the maquiladora industry– to better their labor and living conditions, defend their human rights (especially those related to labor and gender), and create autonomous and democratic organizations.

CITTAC's purpose is to contribute towards the strengthening of movements that promote the respect for human rights, labor rights, gender rights, and the right of workers to organize, especially in the context of the maquiladora industry.

## **Coalición Pro Justicia en las Maquiladoras**

### **Coalition For Justice in the Maquiladoras**

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#### **San Antonio, TX**

4207 Willow Brook  
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www.coalitionforjustice.net

We are a tri-national coalition of religious, environ-mental, labor, Latino and women's organizations. Our efforts are grounded in supporting worker and community struggles for social, economic and environmental justice in the maquiladora industry. We dedicate ourselves to democratic process and unity of action, maintaining sensitivity to de diverse representation within our coalition.

Our actions are carried out wherever maquiladora companies and multinational corporations violate workers' rights or impact negatively on the right of communities to protect and safeguard their environment. We place special emphasis on defending the rights of women in the maquiladoras who suffer discrimination, humiliation, and sexual harassment. Our activities consist of organizing, educating and awareness raising, promoting self-reliance and solidarity among men and women workers and their communities, as well as exerting pressure on corporations.

**Colectivo Chilpancingo  
Pro Justicia Ambiental**

**Colectivo Chilpancingo Pro  
Environmental Justice**

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**Tijuana**

Colectivo Chilpancingo Pro Justicia Ambiental  
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**San Diego**

Environmental Health Coalition  
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National City, CA 91950  
(619) 474-0220  
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www.environmentalhealth.org

The Colectivo Chilpancingo, an Environmental Health Coalition affiliate, is dedicated to improving the living conditions of all residents of the Colonia Chilpancingo. The Colectivo is a force for change that seeks to claim our rights to a healthy and clean environment, safe working conditions, and human dignity. Our doors are open to those who want to join us in our struggle against injustice caused by corporate globalization.

The Border Environmental Justice Campaign works in solidarity with social justice groups in the border region to promote workers and community right-to-know about the chemicals used by the maquiladoras, to increase their capacity to influence conditions that directly affect their health, and to demand cleanup of abandoned and contaminated sites.

**Colectiva Feminista Binacional**

**The Binational Feminist Collective**

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**Tijuana**

Dolores 32-B Fracc. Dimenstein C.P. 22450, Tijuana, B.C., Mexico  
Carmen Valadez Perez at (664) 622-4269 or (664) 104-1194, carmenvaladez69@hotmail.com  
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**San Diego**

Connie García to (619) 420-0703.

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After Tijuana's Casa de la Mujer - Factor X closed its doors, some of the members of this former organization wanted to continue to work on women rights issues and to be part of the construction of a new form of activism. Women from other organizations joined them, and together we have been working on these ideas since March of 2004, and now we proudly present to you the results: the Binational Feminist Collective (*La Colectiva – The Collective*).

*Our Mission (still being developed):* To contribute in the construction of a new movement that supports and strengthens the human spiritual and political aspects of the women struggles in our border region.

## **Poblado Maclovio Rojas**

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### **Tijuana**

Poblado Maclovio Rojas. Office: 52 (664) 698-1939

On April 10, 1988 forty-five families, mostly from the southern state of Oaxaca, founded the Maclovio Rojas community. At the time, the 197 hectares that now make up the community lay vacant, just outside of Tijuana on the road to Tecate, about 20 miles from the Otay Mesa border crossing. These initial families were all members of an independent union of agricultural workers called the Central Independiente de Obreros Agricolas y Campesinos (CIOAC, Independent Center of Agricultural Workers and Peasants). CIOAC has struggled for years in support of agricultural workers, especially in the San Quintín Valley, south of Ensenada. The residents named their community after Maclovio Rojas Márquez, a CIOAC leader of Mixteco descent from Oaxaca who was killed in 1987.

Residents of Maclovio Rojas have built their houses out of whatever is available, mostly scrap materials (most conspicuous in the community are the old wooden garage doors salvaged from the U.S.). Because the government doesn't recognize their community, it assumes no obligation to provide basic services such as paved roads, schools, running water, electricity, or sewers. The residents of Maclovio Rojas have toiled for fourteen years now to establish a decent living conditions in their community. Just up the road, the nearby industrial parks that house Hyundai and other maquiladoras are fully paved and serviced. Many of the residents of Maclovio Rojas are employed in these nearby plants. In 1997, Maclovio residents were at the forefront of a struggle to establish an independent union at the Hyundai plant. Ever since they founded their community, the residents of Maclovio Rojas have been engaged in a prolonged struggle to defend their homes and freedom. The residents of Maclovio Rojas have managed to hold on to their lands for fourteen years. Today some 2,000 families (about 10,000 inhabitants) reside on the 167 hectares. Over the years, they've engaged in a series of marches and protests to keep out the bulldozers and remove their leaders from prison. Hortensia Hernandez, a community leader, spent two months in prison in 1996. On Dec. 4, six cars of the Judicial Police of Baja California entered the Maclovio Rojas community in an attempt to arrest the leaders, which include Hortensia Hernandez and Artemio Ozuna. The police was not able to arrest everyone, but they detained a co-worker and important organizer of the community, Nicolasa Ramos, along with her 2 year-old granddaughter. And yet the struggle continues.

## **Promotoras por los Derechos de las Mujeres**

### **Women's Rights Advocates**

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### **Tijuana**

María Teresa Loyola: 52 (664) 599-9431  
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We would like to announce that we are creating a new organization that is a continuation of the dreams and lessons that we learned from the *Grupo Factor X Women House*; a group that taught women their rights, how to defend them and how to educate other women about them.

We are reaffirming our decision to continue promoting the mission inherited from other visionary women who not only dreamed about equality but also led the way to attaining women's rights. We are determined to enlighten other women like us (working women) about our rights. *Women's Rights Promoters* wants to provide solidarity, advice, and friendship to women who are or were laboring in factories or working at home and whose basic rights are violated.

## **Red de San Diego en Solidaridad con los y las Trabajadoras de la Maquila**

### **San Diego Maquiladora Workers' Solidarity Network**

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#### **San Diego**

Virginia Franco: (619) 276-6023

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The San Diego Maquiladora Workers' Solidarity Network ties together people in the nation's largest border town who want to build an alliance between working people across that border. We believe that US and other multinational corporations operating factories in Tijuana and other maquiladora cities have no right to pay poverty wages, require pregnancy tests of their workers, pollute with impunity, and repress unions. We believe that union and other workers in the US will be crippled as long as they are cut off from their co-employees abroad. And we believe that there is no better place to start solving these global problems than locally.

The Network stays in close touch with workers in Tijuana and other cities fighting for their rights. We contribute to their struggles in ways that they agree upon, using the leverage that we have as residents of the home country of many of their employers. We write letters, send emails, bring workers to San Diego to tell their stories, and we organize protests and pickets. We bring attention to abuses that corporations would prefer to keep from a US audience. We are union members, students, environmentalists, church people and others working toward alliances with all grassroots organizations that share an interest in our work.

## **Red de Tijuana de Trabajadoras y Trabajadores de la Maquila**

### **Tijuana Maquiladora Workers Network**

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#### **Tijuana**

Dolores 32-B Fracc. Dimenstein C.P. 22450, Tijuana, B.C., Mexico

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La RED DE TRABAJADORAS Y TRABAJADORES DE LA MAQUILA EN TIJUANA B.C. nació en diciembre del 2001, es un espacio de educación, análisis, discusión para que las trabajadoras y trabajadores conozcamos y aprendamos a defender nuestros derechos laborales y humanos dentro de las fábricas.

Esta Red publica el *Boletín Maquillero*, la intención es promover un espacio para que trabajadoras y trabajadores sigamos compartiendo y aprendiendo de nuestras experiencias, así mismo nos identifiquemos, organicemos y fortalezcamos nuestras luchas.

## **Voces de la Maquila**

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#### **Internet**

[www.lasvoces.org](http://www.lasvoces.org)

This project aims to create a Internet site that describes the daily lives of these female workers through images and interviews and that contributes to their fight and also to the fights of the national and international groups that seek to put an end to the abusive practices of the maquila industry.

The website will have real life picture stories of women who work in the maquila industry – how they work, how they live with their families, how they share their plights and their few pleasurable moments. The site will capture how their lives are changing as they fight for their rights. The aim is to give the visitor the opportunity to find out about and get inside the daily lives of these women. The photo stories will be accompanied with texts the sound bites of several women, telling their own stories. Each story will be built up after living alongside these women for a minimum period of two weeks.