Speakers

• Tania Guerrero
  – Project Attorney, CLINIC

• Father Robert Mosher
  – Director Columban Mission Center, Columbans

• Celina Marquez
  – Policy Consultant, USCCB/MRS

Agenda

1. Overview—What are the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP)?

2. Stories from the Ground/MPP in Practice

3. What You Can Do to Help

4. Questions
What Are the Migrant Protection Protocols?

- On January 25, 2019, the Department of Homeland Security issued the policy, also known as Remain in Mexico, via memorandum
  - Outlines procedures under which the U.S. government will return certain asylum seekers to Mexico to wait through the duration of their cases

- Exceptions to MPP
  - Unaccompanied children
  - Mexican nationals
  - Individuals with known mental or medical health issues

- Roll out of the policy was slow, but as of the end of summer 2019, effective border-wide

- Litigation
  - Currently pending
Launched operations in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in August 2019
Estamos Unidos Services

• Individuals seeking Asylum in the U.S. who are stranded in Ciudad Juarez
• Know Your Rights Presentations, Individualized Consultations, Case Preparation, Pro-bono placement
• Work with local shelters and organizations and travel across Ciudad Juarez providing services
Challenges

• Metering of displaced Mexicans and other asylum seekers
• Migrant Protection Persecution Protocols, aka “Remain in Mexico”
• Dismantling of “due process” at border with creation of
  • Prompt Asylum Claim Review (PACR) and
  • Humanitarian Asylum Review Process (HARP)
Challenges continued

• “Transit Ban”

• Asylum Cooperative Agreements (Guatemala: GACA applied to HN & ELS)

• Insufficient access to counsel- only 2% of those in MPP have counsel
Migrant Community Concerns

• Safety:
  • Common to encounter cases of kidnapping, extortion and assault, gender based violence while traveling Mexico or waiting for their hearings.
  • Many, out of fear, do not want to leave their shelters.
• Basic Needs to Survive:
  • Where will I live? How can I provide for my family?
  • Although they are given documentation to work in Mexico, not accepted everywhere. Discrimination.
• Uncertainty
Who have we served?

• In our first operational quarter we provided
  • 39 Know Your Rights Presentations to over 1000 individuals from 8 different countries
  • 309 individualized consultations serving over 1000 individuals from 10 countries
    • 90% of consultations have been for individuals in MPP and 10% for those being metered
Gender Breakdowns

- Male: 52%
- Female: 48%
What You Can Do

- **Pray.** Find a prayer for immigrant families [here](#).
- **Learn More.** Read USCCB backgrounder [here](#), and CLINIC information [here](#).
- **Volunteer.** Consider volunteering with [Estamos Unidos](#) or [Catholic Charities Rio Grande Valley](#).
- **Visit the border and see for yourself.**
- **Share Stories.**
Questions?