

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' KNOWLEDGE, LANDS & HUMAN RIGHTS Texas-Mexico Border



Co-Chaired by Eloisa García Tamez and Margo Tamez  
On the García-Tamez Lands in

## EL CALABOZ RANCHERÍA

*Ko'nitsaahii Gokiyaa, Traditional Homeland of Lipan Apache Peoples*

June 24-26, 2011

**Purpose:** To assemble communities in unity and peace, along the Texas-Mexico border, and to share our perspectives about the violent impacts of discrimination specific to our present realities and our histories. To exchange knowledge about the challenges we face in a time of harsh and violent targeting of our communities. To empower and to strengthen our strategies, knowledge, participation, decision-making, and collective analysis regarding the future directions we want to create for ourselves.

### We Invite:

- Indigenous peoples, all ages, beyond borders; Empowerment of the community—*by, with, alongside & for* Indigenous peoples.
- Community partners who support Indigenous peoples' implementation of community-led protocols, decision-making, practices, investigations, documentation, and the recovery of crucial Indigenous perspectives, ways of life and collective rights.
- Advocates who are respectful of Mother Earth and Indigenous peoples' processes, knowledge and experience relevant to the challenges we face, and our decision-making for empowerment, health and protection of our elders, women, youth, workers and our lands.

### We Will Work in Unity to:

- Voice the issues which are relevant to our communities, and build our program of actions that is relevant to our communities.
- Create positive changes for Indigenous families, communities in our lands and our territories.
- Share inter-cultural experiences relevant to our knowledge, memory, history and experience.
- Strengthen the practice of our rights, participation, and collective decision-making.
- Educate ourselves about human rights and how we can apply them according to our values, beliefs, and needs.

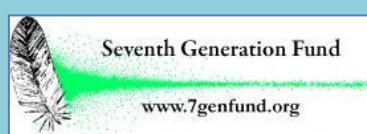
### We Seek to Strengthen:

- Indigenous cosmovision, reciprocity & exchange of relevant strategies.
- Community participation & decision making —elders, women, youth, workers and our partners.
- Grass-roots voices, oral history & knowledge that show us the challenges our foremothers and forefathers faced, the challenges experienced in the present, and the changes we can make through collective decision making.
- Community-to-community relationships of and beyond the local: binational, transborder and inland...
- Our capacity to determine our own initiatives in order to ensure our families, our lands and our relationships will thrive.

### Themes:

- the Border Wall & the Dispossession of Our Lands, Cultural & Sacred Sites
- Educating Ourselves on Human Rights and Indigenous Rights
- Protecting Our Land-Based Ways of Life & Our Ongoing Relationship with the Land
- The Militarization of our Communities
- Discrimination against our Places and our Peoples
- The Rights of Women, Youth & Families
- The Rights of Workers Along and Beyond Borders
- Indigenous Governance Beyond Borders: Burial Sites, First Foods & Proprietary Title
- Indigenous Governance Beyond Borders: Biodiversity Protection
- Still Excluded after Hurricanes Dolly & Alex: Climate Crisis along the Lower Rio Grande River.
- Youth Training & Our Responsibilities to the Next 7 Generations
- Elders are Our "books" and "libraries": Reclaiming Knowledge Within Our Communities
- Under Siege and Terror—Re-Building Community Alliances for Future Generations
- United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

**CONTACT:** Registration information, map, camping information, program, & more: [el.calaboz.2011@gmail.com](mailto:el.calaboz.2011@gmail.com)



**Indigenous Rights \* Our Knowledge & Experience \* Shared Vision \* Participation in Decision-Making**