

MIGRANT CARAVAN 2018: EXPERIENCE IN MEXICO

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TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- Past Caravans
- How this caravan started and evolved during its journey in Mexico
- Tijuana as a final destination



PAST CARAVANS



CENTRAL AMERICAN MOTHERS OF THE DISAPPEARED MIGRANTS

- Every year since 2015
- 4,000km through Mexico and then back to Central America

**Trans Gay Migrant Caravan April
2017 – 16 migrants**





Pueblo Sin Fronteras

Tradition of the vía crucis (since 2010)

Start in the south of Mexico

- Spring and Fall 2017
- Spring 2018 – grew to 1,500 people at max
 - 400 requested asylum
 - 125 crossed into the US otherwise



HOW DID THIS CARAVAN
START AND EVOLVE?



HOW THE 2018 MIGRANT CARAVAN WAS DIFFERENT

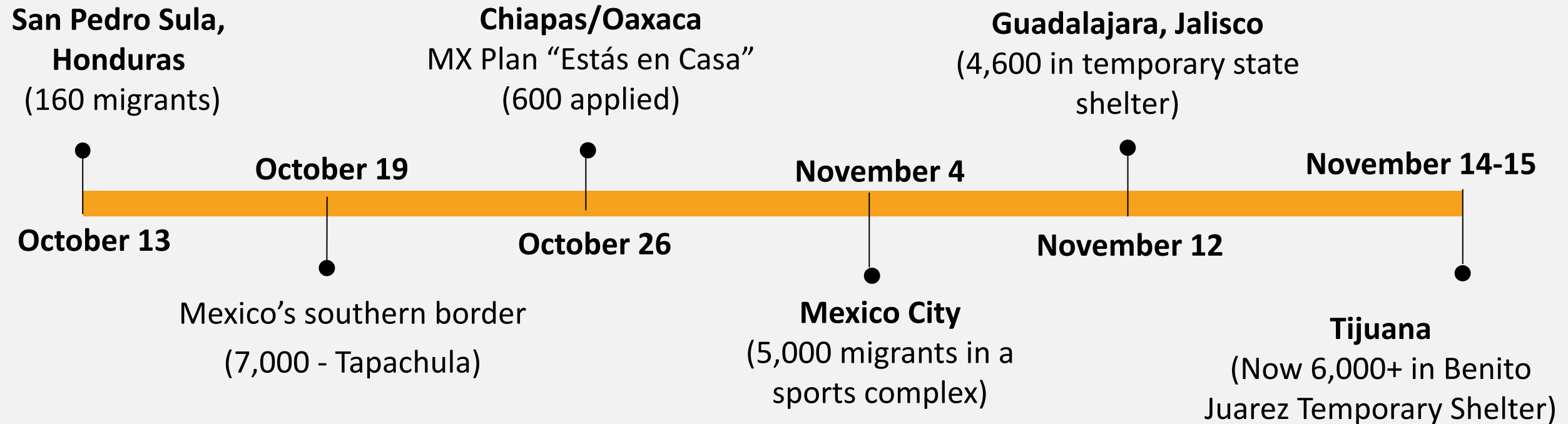
- Started as an uncoordinated effort
- Grew based on rumors and social media
- Crossed two international borders
- Size
- Portrayed as a single caravan (disparate groups)



LGBTQ GROUP WITHIN CARAVAN

- Organizations in the US and Mexico funded buses and accommodations
- 80+ arrived to Tijuana
- Weddings – gay marriage not legal in Central America

Timeline of the caravan



Tijuana as a final destination

WHY TIJUANA?

- Historical ties to migration flows and as a caravan destination
- Social networks and infrastructure
- Safest route north



Source: Central American Migrant Risk Database (CAMRD), UT Austin Strauss Center Mexico Initiative