



# THE ABARA HOUSE PROJECT

AN EL PASO TREASURE WITH AN INTERNATIONAL SCOPE | AMPLIFYING THE STORIES AND HEART OF THE BORDERLANDS

## What is it?

A multi-use Borderland Center, anchored at the historic Hacienda Restaurant sitting directly on the US-Mexico border, serving as a central hub for learning, reflection, and action.

## History & Cultural Arts

Rotating history & art exhibits, contemplative gardens, narrative pathways, and historic markers that bridge conversations in a polarizing world.

## Abara House at La Historic Hacienda

We envision this 4-acre oasis to include a café representing food & drinks from around the world, an event center & music venue, adobe desert chapel, offices, training space, a marketplace for local and global artisans, guest housing for those visiting the borderlands, and initiatives that heighten awareness of global neighbors experiencing displacement.



[ABARAHOUSE.ORG](https://ABARAHOUSE.ORG)



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# ACTION STEPS<sup>+</sup>

There are many ways to engage with Abara. We invite you to take a step.

## Border Text Updates:

Stay in touch by texting "UNIDAD" to 915-265-4449 for periodic updates from the border.

## 'Punto de Partida' at the UTEP Centennial Museum.

This compelling exhibit highlights the work of Abara and local partners. Open weekdays 10 am to 4 pm through December 2024.

## Local Border Encounter:

Join a day of local learning on either side of the border. This includes a time of reflection and action. Open to families to engage together. Dates and details will be sent in advance. Sign-up today by writing to [hospitality@abara.org](mailto:hospitality@abara.org)

## Historic Deep Dive:

Consider returning for a personal tour of the Hacienda for a closer look at the many histories that converge here. This location is one of the most historically significant places in this part of the Americas.

## Personal Talk & Tour:

Invite your friends to a private cocktail or dinner at the Historic Hacienda. Dates and details can be coordinated with you at your convenience. Learn more by writing to [RSVP@abara.org](mailto:RSVP@abara.org)



## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"Our world needs this kind of space. Why not El Paso? I am here to support the work required to bring this peace-space to reality."  
- Dr. Alisia N. Muir, Abara Board Member

"Abara is holding space for a more complete narrative of the American story."  
- Abara House Event Participant

"At the Hacienda we all get to stand in solidarity on the path where hundreds of thousands have passed before us, and have the privilege of being part of this dynamic, caring and wonderful group.  
Gracias ABARA!" - Michael Debruhl

"Es amor, de este lado, del otro lado, love from this side, that side, de todos lados, from all sides."  
- Prof Adrián Aragonés, Abara Wisdom Council

# WALKING TOGETHER

## BEYOND BORDERS



ABARA HOUSE



AMAZON WISHLIST



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# BORDER ENCOUNTERS + ABARA HOUSE

Inviting proximity and amplifying diverse perspectives from the Borderlands

## **Abara Border Encounters:**

Abara's Border Encounter Program provides community leaders with a three-day immersive experience on the U.S.-Mexico Border. Through proximity to global neighbors and asylum seekers, powerful storytelling, discussions examining immigration law, current realities, and the history of forced displacement, as well as powerful times of reflection and circle processing, Abara Border Encounters offer participants a transformative space that challenges perceived beliefs, deepens faith, strengthens values, and clarifies next steps. Abara House will be the future home for Border Encounters. Sitting directly along the southern border fence with onsite apartments and reflective spaces to process, Border Encounters will serve as one of several income-generating initiatives that collectively sustain over 60% of Abara House operations.



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# BORDER ENCOUNTER PROGRAM



## Sample Curriculum:

- Dignified Storytelling and Ethical Volunteerism
- Theology of Migration: exploring ancient themes of hospitality and forced displacement
- Root Causes Driving Central American and Global Migration
- U.S. Immigration Law and Policies
- Border History and Current Realities
- Re-humanizing conversations outside the news cycle focused on narrative, systems, and personal change

## Experiences

- Visiting an El Paso and Juárez Migrant Shelter
- Q+A with Border Patrol Officers
- Authentic Mexican meals prepared by neighbors from the Río Grande neighborhood
- Border Fence and the Historic Hacienda
- Circle Processing

## What participants are saying:



"I am convicted to examine how I make decisions based on fear and self-preservation."

"The experience humanized migrants on a level I did not anticipate."

"I experienced a strengthening of my faith and values during this trip to a degree that I did not expect."

# LEARNING TOGETHER

## BEYOND BORDERS



BORDER ENCOUNTER  
INTRO VIDEO



BOOK A BORDER  
ENCOUNTER

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# BORDER RESPONSE + ABARA HOUSE

Amplifying the heartbeat of the borderlands through mutual hospitality on both sides of the Río Grande

## Abara Border Response:

El Paso and Ciudad Juárez collectively serve as a global hub welcoming tens of thousands of forcibly displaced neighbors to the region each year. This binational hospitality effort is fueled by a network of faith communities, government initiatives, and non-profits who together operate over 30 migrant shelters on both sides of the Río Grande. Abara partners with this network by facilitating connections, support and the flow of resources, coming alongside frontline leaders and shelters to strengthen the hand of these welcoming communities. Border Response has been a central focus of Abara since its inception. As the dream of Abara House becomes a reality, this Borderland Center will serve as a central hub supporting Abara's Border Response initiatives.



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# STANDING TOGETHER

## BEYOND BORDERS



MIGRANT  
ASSISTANCE FUND



AMAZON  
WISHLIST

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# BORDER + RESPONSE PROGRAMS

## Shelter Resourcing

Collecting, warehousing, and distributing supplies including meals, hygiene and cleaning products; repairing shelter infrastructure and appliances; mobilizing funding and volunteers

## Huellas Microenterprise

A structured course offering life skills and leadership equipping; opportunities for shelter guests to earn income through soap and jewelry making

## Leader Care

Hosting fellowship events for migrant leaders to share a meal and receive an encouraging word from a local speaker; respite care through sponsored get aways for shelter leaders and their spouses and providing coverage of responsibilities in their absence

## Accompaniment

Hospital visits, bereavement support, communal action; health education and gynecological care

## Youth + Children

Art therapy and recreation classes for unaccompanied minors; field trips to museums and cultural sites for teens

## Asylum Narrative Translation Project

Trauma-informed translation and transcription services to capture shelter guests story of forced displacement that is required throughout the asylum legal process