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Hunger Strike Against COVID19 Conditions Begins at Florence Detention Center as Migrant Set For Deportation

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Florence, Arizona, May 20th, 2020 – 14 Migrants at Florence Detention Center enter a hunger strike in response to the dire conditions inside the ICE detention center and fearing for their lives due to COVID19. The hunger strike may also expand to La Palma Detention Center.

“In other tanks, people want to join in but they can’t because they will be sent to solitary. We are human. We can’t take it anymore. When I was sent to solitary, that’s when I was able to see that’s where they take everyone who is sick” Detained migrant

In Arizona, there are 11 positive cases in Florence detention center, 68 at La Palma Detention Center, contributing to over [1,000 positive cases nationwide](#). There are now 2 reported deaths from migrants detained in ICE Facilities due to COVID19. This morning there was a report of [1 death by suicide](#).

“About 4-5 days ago my father’s cellmate was extremely sick. He was removed in the middle of the night and we have not received any news about what happened to him. There was also another person that is extremely sick and taken to court.” Maria Garcia

Maria Garcia’s father, who had court this morning at 10 am, is set to be deported tonight.

Complete Whole Hunger Strike Alert Phone Call Here: [On FB](#) / [On Google Drive](#)

For the past couple of months, Puente has been leading [United For Freedom Caravan](#) pressuring Governor Ducey, ADOCRR Director Shinn, Ice Field Director Lucero, Juvenile Director Hood & Sheriff Penzone to take action during this crisis inside detention centers and prisons in Arizona.



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The protest and attention focused on the unsafe conditions have forced staff to provide masks. They are still unable to access cleaning and sanitation supplies. There are still reports of sick people being transferred to different tanks/pods and others transported to attend court.