The Immigration and Border Dialogues Conference is organized by Bridges Not Walls, a group of concerned community members from the South Sound area and beyond who have united in solidarity, and are building a human rights movement in order to realize a sustainable future for all.

This conference examines barriers, real or perceived, that divide our communities. Together we will examine current realities faced by migrants and refugees, amplify inclusive immigration approaches, and create space for the emergence of a more just and humane future.

Participants will leave this conference with specific bridge-building strategies to reclaim our common humanity and build multicultural alliances across age, gender, culture, ethnicity, and legal status with the keystones of mutual respect and support.

Our program includes speakers from human rights organizations working both regionally and along the US/Mexico border, panel discussions, workshops, theater, art, and seminars.

Panel discussion topics include:

§ Border News, Militarization of the Border, How Border Communities are Building Solidarity and Why Immigration is a Human Rights Issue
§ Detention Center Response, The Experiences of Detainees, Dehumanization of Detainees and Immigrants
§ Framework of the politics of faith-based groups working in migration policy, sustainability, bi-national relationships between Mexico and the USA, Border Crossers from Central America, Death in the Arizona desert, Border Art.

Workshops include:

► Collaborative Workshop with Maru Villalpando, Roslinda Guillen, Pedro Sosa: Community Organizing Intercambio - including Inmigrantes Unidos, Las Margaritas, and women from the Del Monte raids. (workshop will be presented in Spanish)

► Arab Muslim Detentions and Community Activism, Potential for Arab-Latino Alliances. Facilitated by Terese Saliba.
► Delle McCormick: Globalization, Money on the Border, Border Militarization

Performances include:

Thursday, May 15th

The Mamalogues – Local first generation stories of migration

Friday, May 16th

Pablo Peregrina – Singer/Songwriter from the Tuscon/Nogales border

Saturday, May 17th

Rodrigo Duarte Clark – campesino theater, La Victima

Some of our participants:

From the Border –

Jennifer Allen, Executive Director, Border Action Network
http://www.borderaction.org

The Border Action Network works with immigrant and border communities in southern Arizona to ensure that rights are respected, human dignity upheld, and that our communities are healthy places to live. BAN’s long-term goal is to build a national movement that calls for the fulfillment of human rights in this country.

From the Region –

Rosalinda Guillen and María Cuevas, Community to Community – Comunidad a Comunidad, Bellingham, WA
http://www.foodjustice.org

Community to Community Development is a women-led, place based, grassroots organization working for a just society and healthy communities. They are committed to systemic change and to creating strategic alliances that strengthen local and global movements towards social, economic, and environmental justice.

Please join us in the dialogue.

These issues affect us all. Each presence will contribute to both the content and outcome of this conference. We hope to see you there!

For detailed and updated information, forms,
and more about our participants, please visit our website listed below.

**Please pre-register!**

Forms can be found on our website listed below. Childcare provided with pre-registration as well.

Interpretation services will also be available during the conference.

**Contact Information** -

Email: bridgesnotwalls@riseup.net

Phone: (360) 280-6480 English

(360) 539-4825 Bilingual

Or visit our website for more details:
http://oly-wa.us/bridges/