



CALL TO ACTION

Tacoma, WA – Over 30 detainees and 4 solidarity activists are currently on hunger strike in protest of human rights abuses at the Northwest Detention Center (NWDC), the immigration prison that cages over 1,500 people every day. Resistance organizers have confirmed that at least one woman inside has been on hunger strike since Thursday last week. June 23rd marks the 27th day since April that someone is on hunger strike at the NWDC.

ICE and GEO Group are not providing safe living conditions and ensuring basic human rights at the NWDC. Already terrible immigration conditions have gotten worse under the Trump administration, leaving people detained with little choice but to put their bodies on the line to fight for dignity. So far this year, NWDC Resistance organizers have heard disturbing reports of health issues: failure to provide medical treatment to people with serious health conditions (from malignant tumors to probable schizophrenia); failing to take people to the hospital during emergencies (in one case resulting in a lost pregnancy); giving people incorrect medications, causing them to be taken to the hospital. The facility itself is not adequately maintained to house people – not only is the food practically inedible and occasionally rotten, but the private company that owns the facility is also refusing to fix broken air conditioning units as summer temperatures approach.

Join Us at the Encampment

We will be camping in front of the Northwest Detention Center (1623 E J Street, Tacoma, WA 98421) 24 hours a day through the end of the week. Bring yourself and whatever you need to be comfortable – chairs, food, water, music – and join us in calling attention to the immigration system we all share responsibility for.

Call on Tacoma City to Shut Down the Detention Center

The Northwest Detention Center is terrorizing immigrant communities and communities of color – not just in Tacoma, but also in Seattle, Bellingham and even Boise. The City of Tacoma can and should shut down this center. There are many legal avenues: revoke the business license due to GEO's failure to comply with health standards; conduct unannounced inspections inspect the facility's kitchen and laundry facilities (rather than notify GEO in advance); and/or revise the municipal code to make all detention facilities meet residential zoning standards. GEO would have to comply or shut down the facility.

Please sign and share the petition at <https://action.mijente.net/petitions/close-the-northwest-detention-center-release-immigrants-on-bond>, which we'll have up until Tacoma City's Emergency Ordinance to prevent the NWDC's expansion expires on September 9, 2017.

Use your hunger in solidarity

If you're not local but you want to support us, you can fast for one day, or even just one meal. Please write a note, draw a picture, or take a selfie and tag #NWDCResistance on Facebook – tell folks on the inside why you stand with them!