## MEDIA ALERT

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## Unveiling of Mural in East Oakland to Chronicle the Struggles and victories of Migrant communities

## Youth of 67 Sueños, Including community partners, and parents Who Migrated to U.S., to Unveil Mural, Perform Spoken

**July 31, 2015 (San Francisco)** — On Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 67 Sueños, Oakland chapter, will unveil a mural in East Oakland to celebrate and honor past victories of migrant communities. The mural aims to shed light on the struggles, risk, but also the hope that many undocumented communities, and their allies, endured while fighting against draconian anti-immigrant bills and advocating for bills such as AB-241, the California Bill of Rights. The mural is inspired by interviews conducted by 67 Sueños youth with parents and community activist who migrated to the U.S. with aspirations to improve their conditions. Youth, children of immigrants, painted the mural.

At 23 percent, undocumented immigrants constitute a large majority of the California population, yet their stories are often overlooked. Making up roughly 5.1 percent of the labor force in the nation, undocumented immigrants are vital to the U.S. economy. Despite this, executive actions to provide protection from deportation such as DAPA have come to halt; little aid is reaching to the broader 11.1 M undocumented immigrants in this country. Thus, 67 Sueños aims to shed light on these forgotten stories, spark conversations about immigrant reform, and humanize the broader immigrant debate.

The event will feature an introduction of the youth, an unveiling of the mural, an explanation of the stories depicted in the artwork, and the performance of the spoken word piece.

WHO: 67 Sueños Oakland Chapter
WHAT: Unveiling of mural and performance of spoken word piece
WHERE: 1390 66<sup>th</sup> Ave, Oakland, CA 94621
WHEN: Sunday, August 9, 2015, 12:00PM- 2:30PM

If you would like more information or are interested in covering this event, please contact Linda Sanchez at 415.565.0201 or lsanchez@afsc.org

**About 67 Sueños:** 67 Sueños, a program of the American Friends Service Committee, was born out of the recognition that the majority of migrant youth were not included in debates about our future. We aim to raise underprivileged migrant youth voices to expand the debate and legislative possibilities. Youth experience 67 Sueños as a family, creating safe spaces, including healing circles and building deep relationships with peers, adults and community leaders. Youth learn organizing and advocacy skills, leading campaigns, community actions, and hosting public events that aim to impact local and national immigration policies. Youth study local movements and community issues, giving voice to migrant perspectives and becoming the community ambassadors and advocates. Visit <a href="http://67suenos.org">http://67suenos.org</a> and <a href="http://www.facebook.com/67suenosss">http://www.facebook.com/67suenosss</a> for more information.