EXPERIENCE FROM THE BORDER
Brownsville, Texas
The only children’s museum in the region
- 1 M in U.S. / 2M on the Mex
- 10K sq ft indoor / outdoor
- 50K visitors a year
UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Escaping poverty / persecution
Traveling alone / trafficking
Hoping for a better future
Apprehensions of children and their families exceed those of unaccompanied children in 2016

U.S.-Mexico border apprehensions in the first six months of each fiscal year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unaccompanied children</th>
<th>Children and their families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2014 28,579</td>
<td>FY2014 19,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2015 15,616</td>
<td>FY2015 13,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2016 27,754</td>
<td>FY2016 32,117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Apprehension numbers for children and their families include both the children and adults traveling with them. Data refer to the number of apprehensions, not the number of unique individuals apprehended.

Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection data.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
INCREASING CAPACITY

- Processing vs. Holding
- Old Wal-Mart Converted
- New Youth Center Blocks from Museum
What’s different?
- Adjust presentations
- Prepare Staff
- Prepare patrons
WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

- Not bad kids
- Unfortunate situations
- Treat them like everyone else
- Be prepared to answer “Why?”
- Make the best of it