



SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER
Rise Up AND Act for Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 27, 2018

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“What can be more tragic than an eight year old dying after fleeing thousands of miles with his father in the hopes of a new life in the land of milk and honey? Dying on Christmas morning. I can hardly believe I have just spoken these words,” said Lawrence E. Couch, director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

“Felipe Gomez Alonzo should not have died. For everyone's sake, we need to determine the cause of his death and find ways to prevent any more deaths. This is the second death this month. On December 8, Jakelin Caal also died in the custody of the U.S. Border Patrol. She was just seven years old,” said Couch.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd and the National Advocacy Center raise our voices and call for a thorough investigation of their deaths.

- What were the causes?
- How did they die?
- What were the circumstances?
- Why is medical care for migrants and asylum seekers so scarce?
- How can we improve our medical care?

“The rancor against immigrants and refugees must end. They are not our enemies. When we stop being horrified by the deaths of children who are seeking our help, we have lost our soul as a nation,” said Couch.

[The National Advocacy Center](http://www.nac4justice.org) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in over 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.

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