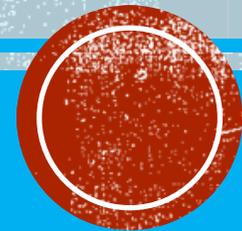


ALONG THE BORDER

Mary Ann Drake

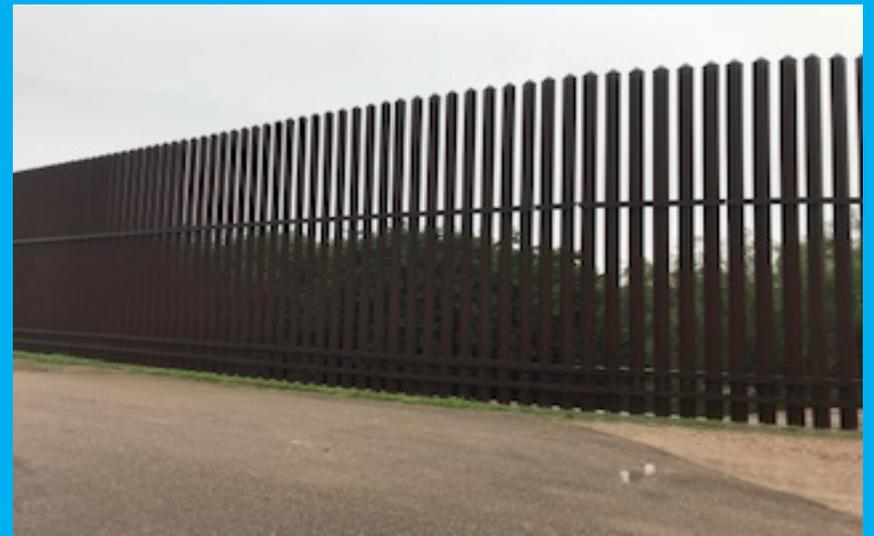
ACHNE Education Committee Plenary

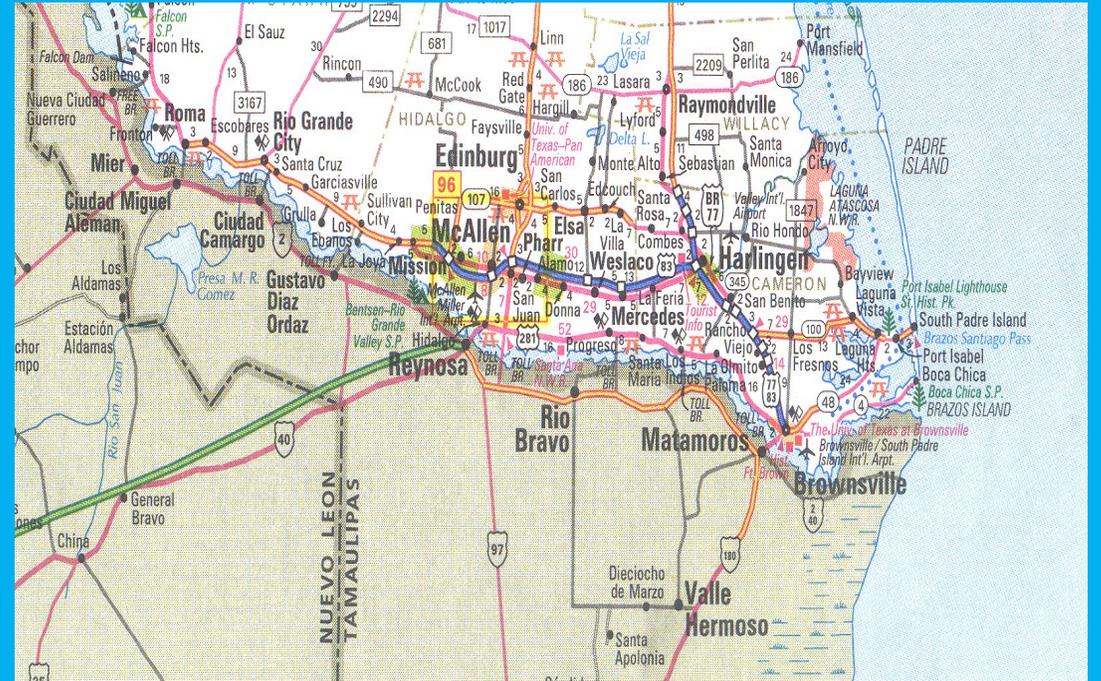
May, 2019



WHY?

- My involvement began with US family separation policy announced last summer along the US/Mexico border
- 3 trips
 - August, 2018 (by myself)
 - October, 2018 (**faculty** in Legal Studies and Spanish, **students** in Nursing and Journalism)
 - March, 2019 (**faculty** Legal Studies, Spanish, Photojournalism, **students** in Nursing and Legal Studies)





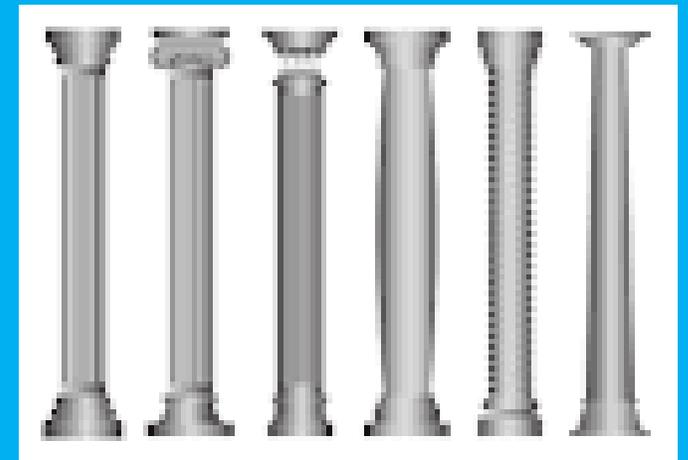
ARISE

- Began 30 years ago by a Mercy religious sister
 - Empowering women and children in the colonias along the border



COMMUNITY DRIVEN SOLUTIONS

- ARISE organizes their work within 7 social justice pillars:
 - Environment/Health
 - Immigration
 - Education
 - Housing/Infrastructure
 - Civic Engagement
 - Leadership/Spiritual Development
 - Youth Programs



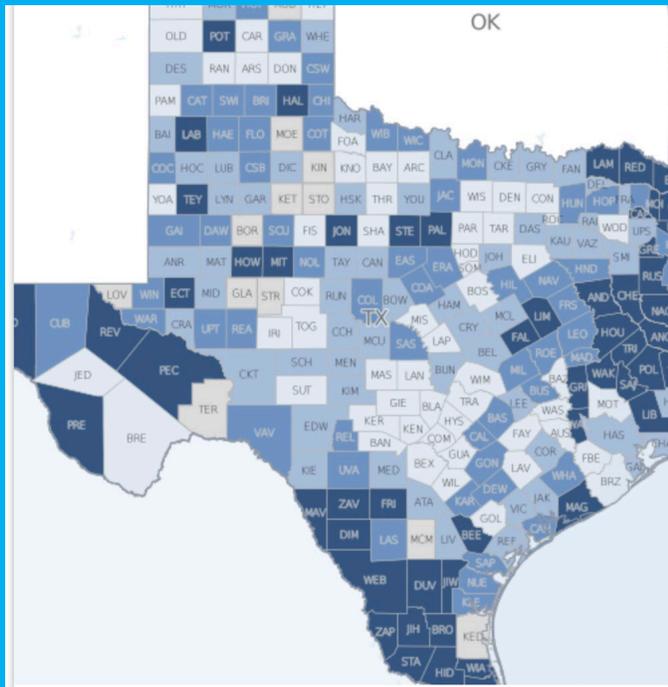
TEXAS COLONIAS

- Colonias first started in the 1950s,
- The colonias lack many critical services (sewage, lights, paved streets, emergency services)
- One-fifth of the 500,000 colonia residents in Texas are children, most of which are US citizens.
- Many families stay in the colonias for generations
 - 61 percent of residents fall below or near the poverty line
 - 55 percent of adults earned less than a high school diploma
 - 45 percent lack English proficiency, as compared to less than 10 percent of residents in the US overall.
 - <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/11/living-edges-life-colonias-texas-161103082854630.html>



COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS

Health Factors



- High teen births
- 41% of children live in poverty
- 30% uninsured
- Low numbers of PCP, dentists, and mental health providers
- High unemployment

■ Countyhealthranking.org



HUMANITARIAN RESPITE CENTER MCALLEN, TEXAS

Administered by
Catholic Charities

Served 100,000 since
opening in June, 2014

Not unusual to receive
600 – 900 people/a day

In April, U.S. Border
Patrol reports they have
apprehended 99000
crossing the border



HEALTH EQUITY

- Health equity exists when individuals have equal opportunities to be healthy.
- Health inequities caused by uneven distribution of SDOH

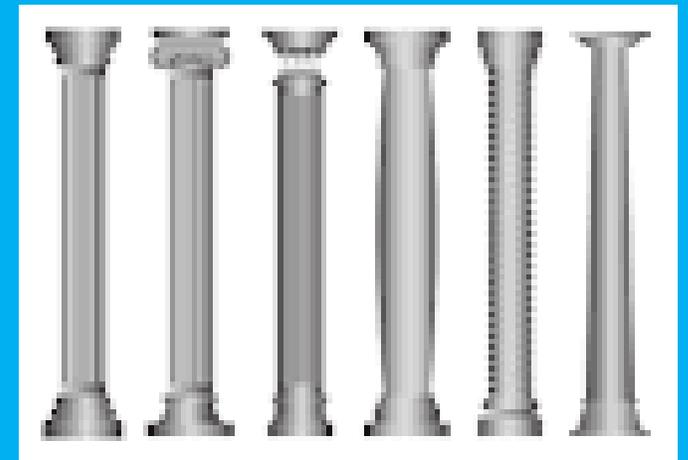


Community-Driven Solutions



COMMUNITY DRIVEN SOLUTIONS

- ARISE organizes their work within 7 social justice pillars:
 - Environment/Health
 - Immigration
 - Education
 - Housing/Infrastructure
 - Civic Engagement
 - Leadership/Spiritual Development
 - Youth Programs



CULTURE OF HEALTH



MAKING HEALTH A SHARED VALUE

- * Work along with the community
- * Focusing work on 7 pillars



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- * Work with members
- * They have the lead



GOOD HEALTH IS A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE

- Health education & screening
- Donna Lake



START BEHIND, STAY BEHIND.

- * Focus on children and adolescents in the community
- * Strong value on education



IMMIGRATION AS A SOCIAL DETERMINANT OF HEALTH

- Immigration is both a consequence of the social determinants of health and a social determinant of health its own right (Castaneda).
- One-quarter of the U.S. population consists of immigrants or the children of immigrants (Pew Research Center, 2015).
- “There is nothing natural about human displacement.”
 - National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine (2018)







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