



# Nursing On The Border



ACHNE

Mary Ann Drake PhD, RN, CNE

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## ACKNOWLEDGE MY COLLEAGUES

**Silvia Navia  
Mendez-Bonito,  
PhD**

- Professor of Spanish

**Anne Geraghty-  
Rathert, JD**

- Professor of Legal Studies

# MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

- Develop an **advocacy plan** based on a current policy.
- Build an **interprofessional** team to meet the needs/wants of a community.
- Initiate a **partnership** with a community agency working with migrants.

# SUMMER, 2018



Added a new course, Policy and Politics for Nurses, in the RN-BSN curriculum



Critical assignment is to develop an advocacy plan



The response by students to this assignment .....



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## NEXT STEPS

- I would follow along with my own advocacy project

# DEVELOPING AN ADVOCACY PLAN

- Community Tool Box
  - <https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/structure/strategic-planning/develop-action-plans/main>
- Centers for Disease Control – The purpose of the plan
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/action\\_plan/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/action_plan/index.htm)

# QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

Pick an issue you have passion.

What steps do you need to take to begin your advocacy role?

Information gathering.

How will you listen to the community?

What sites/literature did you review to document the issue?

What resources will be needed for change?

What are barriers/resistance to the issue?

Think through what you will need to prepare for your role.

Who should you contact?

Submit an action plan in writing.



# WHAT DO I HAVE PASSION FOR?

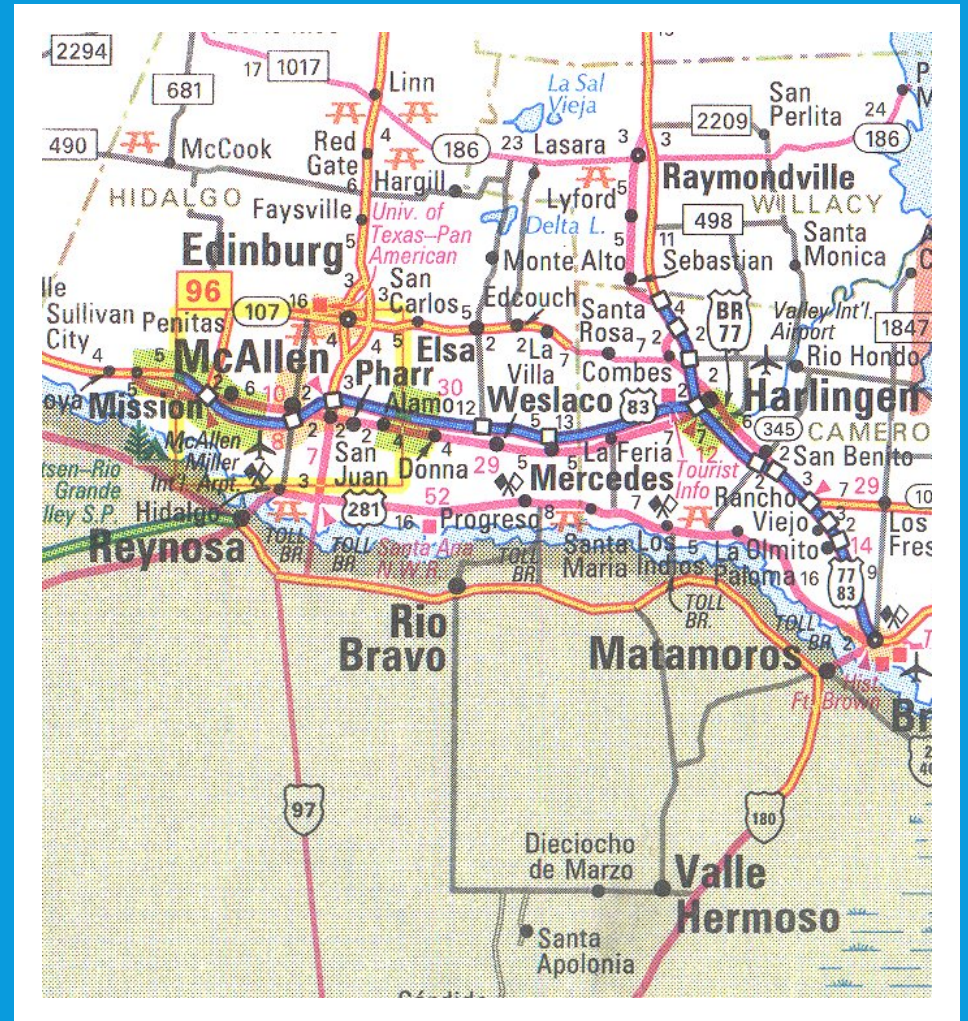
- Current immigration action at the US/Mexico border

Family separation policy



# CONNECTED

- ARISE, Donna, Tx.
  - 30+ years working with women & children in the colonias along the border
  - Founded by Sr. Gerrie Naughton, a Sister of Mercy
- Catholic Charities Humanitarian Respite Center, McAllen, TX.
  - Providing service to families in crisis (families awaiting asylum)



ARISE FOCUSES  
SERVICES  
WITHIN 7 AREAS  
IN ORDER TO  
DRIVE  
COMMUNITY  
SOLUTIONS

1. Environment/Health
2. Immigration
3. Education
4. Housing/Infrastructure
5. Civic Engagement
6. Leadership/Spiritual Development
7. Youth Programs

# INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION

Webster University, Saint Louis, MO.

- \* Small, liberal arts college founded by the Sisters of Loretto
- \* Nursing is within the School of Arts & Sciences
- \* Rich with resources



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# THREE TRIPS PLANNING FOURTH

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)

# AACN *THE ESSENTIALS OF BACCALAUREATE EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE (2008)*

- Essential VI: Interprofessional Communication and Collaboration for Improving Patient Health Outcomes
  - Communication
  - Collaboration
  - Collegial relationships
  - Teamwork, team building
  - Respect, trust
  - Improved patient outcomes

• <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/BaccEssentials08.pdf>

# OUR WORK SO FAR

- Developing relationships
- ARISE sets our direction
  - Work with the lay health workers who live within the colonias
    - “Remember you are teaching the teachers”
  - Participated in b/p, diabetic screenings
  - Offered classes in women's health, cancer, diabetes, exercises for balance and core strengthening, health effects of PCBs in Donna Lake
  - Provide consultation about their current program within the health pillar by lay health workers
  - Making medicine with available herbs, pressure point classes
- Immigration workshops



# BY END OF THIRD TRIP SOME OF OUR THOUGHTS

- Carry on. Making commitments. Building relationships.
- Feeds our souls
- Great experience to collaborate on teams with students and other faculty
- ARISE sets the course for us. Future plans include:
  - Donna Lake (Biologist/Environmentalist)
  - Working with depression within the community (Psychologist)
  - Continue with immigration workshops
  - Working on some possible grants

# ANNE GERAGHTY-RATHERT JD

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- "I grew as a lawyer, an academic, and as a person from working with this team at the Texas/Mexico border. While I had a great deal of respect for my professional colleagues prior to this trip, watching them work alongside the women in the colonias and with our students in achieving their educational goals gave me new insight into the value of teamwork. Each of us brought our own energy and our own skill sets to the project, trusting in the work ethic of everyone else. With the common goal of helping where we could, we made a difference in people's knowledge and in their everyday world. I truly believe that for all of us, it was one of the most important learning experiences of our lives."

## SILVIA NAVIA PHD

The way I have seen this interdisciplinary project at the Mexico Border come together and succeed shows how all disciplines and fields of knowledge naturally complement and need each other to generate a more complete and efficient outcome; it demonstrates that when the focus is a common goal, everybody works collaboratively applying and integrating their different fields of expertise in a seamless way. The beauty of this particular project is that it welcomes contributions from almost any field of expertise and it shows that without team work and collaboration, the same success would have been much more difficult to achieve.



# REFERENCES

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