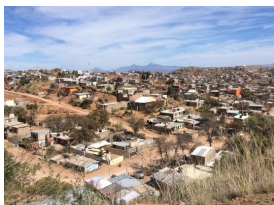


Teacher takes students for spring break to border

GO ASK OZZY Ozzy Mora, 12 News 8:56 p.m. MST April 2, 2015

Teacher takes students for spring break to border.



(Photo: Marcia Runnberg)

It can be hard at times for social workers to be recognized for their success and unfortunately, failures go public.

With March ending and it being National Social Workers Month, it is important for social workers to share their inspiring stories.

Marcia Runnberg is a 20-year faculty member at the College of St. Scholastica in Minnesota and a pioneer for innovative learning programs in social work in Arizona.

Now, St. Scholastica's B.A. in social work has offered a partnership with Mesa Community College to make that possible.



The social work students who participated in the 2015 spring break Mexican border trip. (Photo: Marcia Runnberg)

Runnberg's mission is to create the best social work in Arizona through an experiential trip to the Mexican border.

"The students are able to feel compassion and enjoy the storytelling of the migrants," said Runnberg.

On March 7th-14th, Runnberg took a group of students on a learning trip to the Mexican border to help expose them to the real-life experiences of the U.S. immigration debate.

Runnberg has been conducting this trip for about six years. Most of their time is spent in Tucson, AZ and Nogales, Sonora.

"The students definitely have a different view on immigration when they come back," said Runnberg.

For spring 2016, Runnberg is planning on taking students to the Mexican border from Mesa Community College.



Tribal land in Nogales, Sonora. (Photo: Marcia Runnberg)

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