MIGRANT HEALTH SERVICE-LEARNING PILOT

Tucson, Arizona
May 28-June 6, 2022
PILOT IDEA

2020: First trip planned to Casa Alitas but cancelled due to COVID two days before departure!

2022: Moira visited Tucson and revived the idea & added some experiences with migrant-serving organizations
• INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM: med students/faculty, residents, public health students/faculty

• EXPLORING THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE BORDER HEALTH EXPERIENCE THROUGH:
  • Pre-departure training (expectations, PsychFirstAid, desert prep, team agreements)
  • shared living space (airbnb)
  • Service learning at migrant shelter (Casa Alitas)
  • Border exploration w/Tucson humanitarian orgs.
  • Assigned brief presentations and discussion (Policies, Gender, Desert Challenges, Children, Trauma, Language Justice)
  • Daily Guided Reflection over shared meals
  • Final Integrative Paper
VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Humanitarian Aid Is Never A Crime
no more deaths
no mas muertes
#waternotwalls
#dropthecharges
CASA ALITAS

- Casa Alitas is a program of Arizona's Catholic Community Services org
- Provide assistance to migrants who have just been granted asylum cases
  - COVID testing and vaccines, food, clothing, temporary shelter, assistance in getting to sponsor family (e.g., transport to airport)
- Supported by volunteers
TUCSON SAMARITANS

• A people of conscience and faith who render humanitarian aid to migrants in distress in the Tucson Sector of the Arizona/Mexico border.
• Thorough training
• Water runs, look for migrants in need of aid/support
• 2022: 318 migrants encountered
HUMANE BORDERS

- Mission: to save desperate people from death by dehydration and exposure and to create a just and humane environment in the borderlands.
- Almost exclusively volunteer run
- Water stations throughout the Sonoran Desert
  - 55-gallon blue plastic barrels with spigots
- Water runs, ID trips, Casa Esperanza (Sasabe, Mexico)
PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIES
UNWANTED

Members of any vigilante border militia group, including, but not limited to AZ Border Recon
Do Not Enter our establishment.

We have the right to refuse service to any person or persons we deem undesirable.
La anatomía de los idiomas indígenas en migración
Anatomy of Indigenous Languages in Migration
La Oficina de Idiomas Indígenas - Office of Indigenous Languages
Casa Alitas, Tucson, Arizona, EE.UU.
FINAL EXCURSION: ARIZONA
DESSERT MUSEUM
2023 MIGRANT HEALTH SERVICE LEARNING
PLANS

Team-taught Course: Dr. Laura Torres Villa (Gillings SPH) & Dr. Moira Rogers (OGHE)

May 26-June 4, TUCSON EXPERIENCE – Dr. Evan Ashkin to join as second OGHE/SOM faculty

Clinical Rotations & PH Practicums – 2 weeks continuing on from Tucson experience (limited number of participants)

APPLICATIONS: open Nov. 1, due Nov 15 (& course registration tba shortly)
QUESTIONS?

Thank you!
Come see us! 1002 Bondurant
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