

# Immersion experience

In January the Franciscan Sisters' Immigration Committee traveled to McAllen, Tex., to learn firsthand about immigration issues and the border wall. They were able to speak directly with Border Patrol agents and visited several agencies that support and advocate for immigrants, including the Catholic Charities Respite Center and Fuerza del Valle (Strength of the Valley). The organization ARISE (A Resource In Serving Equality), which is a coalition of women who advocate for personal and communal development, was their principle contact throughout their visit.

Members of the committee stand by the Rio Grande River on the Texas border near McAllen with Mexico across the river. Pictured from left: Sisters Shirley Mueller, Mary Hroschikoski, Pat Forster, Associate Garry Dahl, Sisters Jan Kilian, Gloria Haider, Carolyn Law and Associate Jeff Odendahl.

Photo by Associate Rosanne Fischer, a member of the committee who also traveled from Minnesota to take part in the immersion experience.

