

# ARISE

## (A Resource In Serving Equality)



CONGREGATION of the  
**Sisters of Charity**  
 of the INCARNATE WORD  
 HOUSTON, TEXAS



### **Mission Statement**

*ARISE is an organization that promotes the personal development and empowerment of the immigrant community, especially women, children, and youth of the Rio Grande Valley through educational programs that strengthen their organized community and civic participation.*

ARISE, founded initially in 1987 by Sister Gerrie Naughton RSM. R.I.P. is a co-sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, Houston and the Sisters of Mercy. As a co-sponsoring Congregation of ARISE, our Sisters have served in the ministry, on the board, and as Corporate Member. ARISE serves the Colonia Las Milpas area where there was no pavement, flooding was a recurrent problem, and there were no basic services. Few of the women worked, spoke English or had a high school diploma. The ministry began by identifying the needs and responding with grassroots programming. Today ARISE community employs 35 women, in 5 community centers, serving more than 2500 families in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas, which borders Mexico. The ARISE Support Center focuses on the mobilization of community members and development of leaders and community organizers who advocate for systemic change.

### **ARISE has Seven Pillars and offers a number of programs throughout the year.**



#### **EDUCATION**

Improving early childhood and youth education quality through parent/student/school engagement.

##### **Programs**

- Active Parents
- Tutoring
- Education & Culture
- Early Childhood
- Summer Program



#### **ENVIRONMENT/ HEALTH**

Creating a healthy and balanced life in the community.

##### **Programs**

- Health Support
- Relaxation
- Alternative Medicine
- Skills for Psychological Recovery



#### **HOUSING/ INFRASTRUCTURE**

Ensuring a safe & decent home for all and contributing to a community led system.

##### **Programs**

- Drainage & Light Campaign
- Small Home Repairs



## **IMMIGRATION**

**Advocating for an immigration system that respects human dignity.**

### **Programs**

- **ESL**
- **Citizenship Classes**
- **Know Your Rights**
- **Immigration Processes**



## **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

**Conscious action to giving voice in communities.**

### **Programs**

- **Get Out the Vote**
- **Voter Registration**
- **Census 2020 involvement**



## **LEADERSHIP/ SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Building capacity to empower leaders and organizers.**

### **Programs**

- **Formation**
- **Women of Mercy**
- **Retreat**



## **YOUTH**

**Guide and build capacity in ARISE youth especially with education opportunities.**

### **Programs**

- **Road to Success**
- **Project Based Learning**
- **Summer Leadership Retreat**

The overall strategy for capacity building within each pillar is education and organization which expresses community leadership through organizing, advocacy and service.