



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	A COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT FOR REDUCING THE CARBON FOOTPRINT IN A SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN CHIA, COLOMBIA
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Presenting Author	Rafael Salazar Reggeti
Co-Authors	Martha Caicedo Gutierrez, Camila Cadena Gaviria, Karol Toro Agudelo, Claudia Jaimes Penuela
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Content

-Background Diseases are closely related to the habits of life; it is therefore the responsibility of universities to provide everybody with the means to commit to self-care and control of social determinants of health. -Methods A Community Health Project (CHP) was conducted during the second semester of 2019, to reduce the carbon footprint in a population of sixth-year medical students from the University of La Sabana in Chia, Colombia. The project followed the phases of the community health cycle: development of relationships among participants; health and health determinants' assessment; defining project goals and objectives; devising a project; activity plan; implementing and gathering results; disseminating project achievements; and building sustainability of program activities. Activities were planned to inform about the health effects of air pollution as a way to increase awareness and share strategies for reducing red meat consumption, electricity and car use. Facebook was used as the main platform to share information. An electronic survey called CO2CERO Carbon Footprint was applied to the students before and after the intervention, to know the quantity, measured in tons of emission, of annual CO2 produced by each individual. - Outcomes and Conclusions The individual carbon footprint decreased by 9.7%, mainly by the decrease in electrical energy consumption of 14.6 kilowatts (kWh). Increased awareness about environmental health, 150 interactions and 80 "likes" were quantified. It was not possible to measure the red meat consumption and car use.