

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020
MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

#TUFH2020
TUFH2020.COM



TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Post disaster community empowerment through storytelling: challenges, and lessons learned
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
Presenting Author	Roshan Khatri
Co-Authors	Rebecca Thomley
Country	United States
Abstract N°	TUFH67
Content	<p>Storytelling has been used as a socio-cultural tool to empower communities. We have been working in disaster affected communities through our children's books since 2011. Some of our books were created in response to disasters including the earthquake in Haiti, the typhoon in the Philippines, and the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. A multinational qualitative assessment of our books, addressing the refugee crisis in Jordan, human trafficking in Nepal, and the earthquake in Puerto Rico, was performed. We interviewed children, caregivers, families and local community on the impact of the intervention. Children were also assessed on the story/key message recall. The books proved to be effective in educating children and their communities about disaster and associated social problems. Interviewees responded positively to the effectiveness of the book in helping them understand normal psychological responses to abnormal traumatic events. The books provided them with tools to proactively cope with future traumatic events, thereby supporting the development of community resiliency. Working with children, who have experienced a recent trauma, is a challenge on itself. Delivering books to the communities that needed support was a challenge logistically. Local partners played a key role in gaining access to the community. Interpreters were important when working with different languages and can affect the impact. Care must be taken to ensure the precise translation of the story, themes and messages and to avoid miscommunication. Books with representative artwork and language were more relatable to the community and more effective in community engagement.</p>