

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



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020 MEXICO

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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Social Return on Investment from students living in the Community: Report from a homestay project in South Africa
Type	TUFH Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
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Country	South Africa
Abstract N^o	TUFH195
Content	<p>Background A project of final year medical students living in the community during their 7 week final year rural block has run successfully over 4 years. From qualitative data, the positive effects for students and host families has been documented. A more formal evaluation of the project had not been undertaken. Methodology A SROI method was used to explore and quantify the impact that the project has made. Following initial exploratory interviews, a theory of change was developed, linking the project activities to changes for the stakeholders. This formed the basis for in-depth interviews with participants. This poster presents the initial analysis of the data from the host families. Results The evaluation confirmed the project's significant social and financial impact on the lives of the host families. The impact was very heterogeneous across hosts, with different aspects of the project having greater impact. Financial impact included leveraging the additional funding to further education for children, starting new enterprises and making extensive home improvements. The social impacts included improved status in the community, increased social networking and social capital. The latter occurred within the community, of being linked into a number of new circles through links with other hosts, and outside of the community linked with the University. A significant link was the continued long-term relationship between the hosts maintained with the students. Conclusion Offering students the possibility of living in the community during their rural block has significant positive effects on the hosts and broader community.</p>