

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
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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	Social empowerment and university collaborative work
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
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Country	Mexico
Abstract N°	TUFH465
Content	<p>Background Immersed in the hegemony that postmodernism has imposed, some of us as a society have tried to make others invisible by calling them "vulnerable groups". Given this, being one of the most important higher education institutions in the Mexican southeast, the UJAT has the possibility of generating initiatives and strategies that link its community with disadvantaged sectors of society. Methods Under the action research method, a group made up of university teachers and students worked in a community in the state of Tabasco. Communication with the residents was made through visits and work meetings explaining the objective of the intervention. The community participants were 5 women and 3 men (community leaders), average of 34 years. Workshops, reflection groups and work meetings were designed and delivered, highlighting topics such as, alcoholism, drug addiction, suicide, violence, environmental contamination, unplanned pregnancies, diabetes, obesity, overpopulation, among others. With informed consent, semi-structured interviews, participant observation, and field notes were conducted. Results The 8 people participated in all the activities. They identified needs and proposed solutions, involving others from their community; They organized talks and meetings, visited authorities requesting support and improvements in public spaces, assumed responsibilities and tasks, with specific goals and monitoring of commitments. Conclusion Beyond their socioeconomic status, people have the possibility to organize, aspire and materialize community benefits. By establishing effective communication and empowering them with the support of simple tools, they assume their responsibilities, fulfill their commitments, and can identify themselves as socially and humanly responsible and committed beings.</p>