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THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



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TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Obstetric nurses fighting for women's rights to respectful maternity care in Chiapas, Mexico.
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
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Country	Mexico
Abstract N°	TUFH70
Content	<p>Over 90% of births in Mexico are attended under a biomedical model of care that does not guarantee women's sexual and reproductive rights. Compañeros En Salud (CES), Partner in Health's affiliate in Mexico, has strengthened an intercultural model for respectful maternity care involving obstetric nurses-in-training (LEOs) in a public hospital and Casa Materna (birthing center) in the rural municipality of Ángel Albino Corzo, Chiapas. LEOs receive continuous training according to national and international guidelines regarding good practices and respectful maternity care. Communication with women about their sexual and reproductive rights is also reinforced through pedagogic techniques in order to contribute to the guarantee of such rights. With the objective of describing the experiences, advances, and challenges of the incorporation of LEOs into this model, several indicators were assessed from August 2016 to December 2019. During this period, 2204 deliveries were attended. 81.6% of deliveries have been attended directly by 28 LEOs undergoing training through CES, under the supervision of two obstetric and one perinatal nurse. 29.1% of women had a birth companion during delivery, 36.7% were permitted free ambulation during labor, and 76.5% were allowed to ingest liquids. 76.8% of births involved immediate skin-to-skin contact following delivery, 86.7% active management of the third stage of labor, 79.5% delayed umbilical cord clamping, and 97.5% exclusive breastfeeding. We demonstrate that this model incorporating obstetric nurses-in-training within the public health system in a rural area is both possible and effective, resulting in positive maternal care outcomes.</p>