

VOICES

of Hispanic/Latino Parents of Children with Special Health Care Needs

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PURPOSE

To understand the impact of participation in a medical clinic that provides support group services in the native language for Hispanic/Latino families.

METHODS

- ♦ Individual interviews conducted in Spanish with families of children with special health care needs
- ♦ Questions were about what they have learned from participation in information and support groups at this clinic, e.g.,
 - What have you learned from the presentations?
 - How has your participation impacted you and your family?



PARTNERS

South Main Clinic (SMC)

SMC, in Salt Lake City, provides health care services, primarily to Spanish-speaking, low income Hispanic/Latino families.

Promotoras

Partnership with Holy Cross Ministries, and liaisons between clinic and families. The Promotoras disseminate informational materials, organize presentations, arrange social activities for the families

URLEND

Trainees from the Utah Regional LEND have presented info to over 150 families at SMC on topics suggested by families.

SELECT THEMES

CAOS – CHAOS



“era como esas bolas de hilo enredadas que pues no hallan ni punta ni cola verdad, no le hallas y así ¿qué hacemos?”

“... it was like tangled balls of a yarn that have no beginning nor ending...then what can we do?”

“...no se quería levantar, no salía, no se bañaba, nada. Había otros días que estaban peores...”

“... she didn’t want to get up from bed, she didn’t want to go outside, she didn’t get a bath, nothing...”

SALUD MENTAL y EMOCIONAL - MENTAL & EMOTIONAL HEALTH

“...y a veces te cargas tanto de tanto estrés que... lleva a la depresión...”

“... and sometimes, you accumulate so much stress...it takes you to depression...”.

“para mí era triste los días... Me acuerdo que miraba la ventana y me agarraba llorando.”

“these days were sad for me... I remember to look at the window and then I started to cry.”



INFORMACIÓN y EMPODERAMIENTO – INFORMATION & EMPOWERMENT



“... y esa clase siento que... cambió mi vida.”

“... I think that class...it changed my life.”

AYUDA DE GRUPO y SOCIALIZACIÓN S – GROUP SUPPORT & SOCIALIZATION

“... compartir es como que amenora ese dolor.”

“... sharing is like lowering that pain.”

“... los padres que me apoyaban... porque yo no tenía familia aquí, ellos eran mi apoyo.”

“... the parents supported me...because I didn’t have family here, they were my support.”

“...no me han dejado.”

“... they don’t leave me out.”



OUTCOMES

- ♦ Families receive health care from providers who speak Spanish.
- ♦ Families, including children, are welcome at the clinic as well as support group and social activities.
- ♦ Families report being supported.
- ♦ Families report they feel welcomed.
- ♦ Families received information in Spanish with resources to follow up on.
- ♦ Families report being empowered to help all of their children, not just the children with special needs.