

AHMEN SIFAT Initiative

ACTIVITIES REPORT

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TO: Kathy Bryson (SIFAT) & Tom Camp (AHMEN)

COUNTRY: Honduras

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REPORT: Cusuna Community Agents Workshop I – Level II

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW

The second training year (Intermedium level) has started. On December 5th, the first workshop of the second level was developed in Cusuna with the cooperation of the local Church of God. Three more quarterly workshops are coming ahead and we expect the completion of the second year by the third week of August or during the August week of the AHMEN medical team visit.

Once the first year was concluded in August 2011, the agents have come to a new year of a very practical learning with more specific responsibilities in their communities, concentrating in focal community groups.

The learning goals for this second year include advanced knowledge and skills to prepare them in practical work with the families and community leadership. The commitment of 52 community agents continues solidly. The group from La Musquitia arrived with the same enthusiasm, assuming the costly mobilization for the three days workshop.

During the workshop the Agents have reported the successful practical work with the training they received in August from the AHMEN Medical Brigade. Since they have the instruments provided by the Brigade and the skills to work on blood pressure and eyes care, some of the local health Centers have requested they support.

This time two of the most advanced agents on the HIV issue (Jerry Batiz and Suyapa Turcios) were previously trained to support the workshop as co-facilitators. This is an educational dynamic that will be repeated with other agents that have experience managing some of the subjects during the program.

2. SUBJECTS

- 2.1. National Health Plan: with the cooperation of MAMUGA (Mancomunidad de Municipaldades Garifunas de Honduras- Garifuna Municipalities Network) the agents learned about the National Policies on public health and how their work can fit the initiatives of the State in their communities. It is important for AHMEN to count with the legal constitution in Honduras, so the medical teams plus the community agents work can be developed in agreement with MAMUGA and the State national plan.
- 2.2. HIV Prevention: with SIFAT facilitator the agents were introduced to the important subject on HIV-AIDS prevention, which is relevant since Honduras has the second place in the Latin American region of HIV incidence. A program with four modules will be taught in the next workshops.
- 2.3. Practical community task: the agents were trained and organized by community representations to develop at least one replication in their communities transferring the knowledge and dynamics to prevent HIV/AIDS working with a focal group.

3. NEXT STEPS:

3.1. Efficient Cooking Stoves

MAMUGA has committed funds to build the stoves for a pilot phase in the communities. A list of the communities represented by the agents was presented to MAMUGA and a budget for the materials cost is being worked by Pastor Nahun Flores.

3.2. Follow up to practical work

SIFAT in coordination with Pastor Nahun Flores are planning to provide regular visits to the communities. The responsibilities for SIFAT will be to accompany the replications in La Ceiba, Plan de Flores, Limon and Punta Piedra. Pastor Flores will accompany the replications at Cusuna, the communities around Cusuna and La Musquitia. All this will be previously discussed in a next meeting AHMEN-SIFAT.

3.3. Next meeting

It has been proposed for March 12-14. The HIV/AIDS subject will continue.

The idea to have the workshop in Limon was discussed with the group. The logistic will imply a bus for a round trip to Limon from Cusuna. The possibility to sleep at the Limon Clinic and the preparation of meals was proposed.

Once in Limon and in coordination with the Nutritional Center and Sewing AHMEN projects, the community agents will organize a HIV prevention public campaign at the village with the Municipality, Churches and other local actors participation.

This is an idea in discussion and to be considered and approved by AHMEN.

3.4.Life Stories

Are being sent in a separated email...