

Presentation of Family Manual

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Family Enrichment Program

The need and demand for the Family Enrichment Program (FEP) & manuals has been widely acknowledged.

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A structured, well organized, weekly family gathering has demonstrated success in improving family communication and solidarity.




Because of great demand, the Manual and Curriculum materials, demonstrating how to implement these weekly meetings, have been translated into the Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, & Arabic Languages.

The Family Enrichment Program has been used by very wealthy and very humble families.



There have been over 62,000 manuals printed, of which 25,500 already have been distributed.



There continues to be a demand for the program because many agencies and governments recognize the critical need to help families.

For instance, according to the Ministry of the Family, 35% of all teenage girls in Nicaragua will deliver out of wedlock



However, even though the program materials were being widely distributed, we felt the need to ask important questions:



- for instance, “Are families using the manuals that we are distributing?”

Some agencies, said, “No” and asked for training on how to help their families use the manual.

- A train-the-trainer conference was therefore developed and piloted in four different locations.



The FEP Training Program Was Presented at Four Locations



FIRST OUTCOME OBJECTIVE

How Effective Were The Train-the-Trainer Conferences?

A combination of quantitative measures, focus group discussions, and qualitative training observations were used.



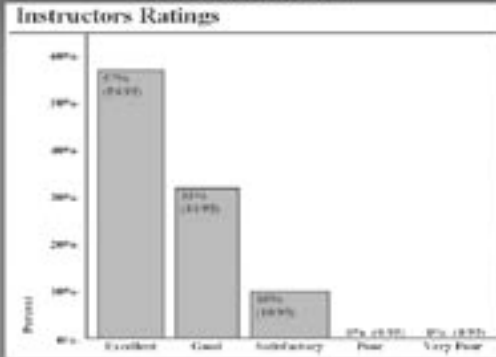
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QUANTITATIVE OUTCOMES

Conference Rating Using All Evaluations



Instructor Rating Using All Evaluations



Program and Materials Rating Using All Evaluations



Applicability to Work With Families Ratings Using All Evaluations



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FOCUS GROUP FINDINGS

What Participants Liked

- Quality of presentation
- General goals of the program
- Structure and organization that the program offers
 - Most people stated they were already trying to do something like this with their families, but this program gave the method necessary to teach the process
- Flexibility
- Recognition that this is a unique program



Suggested Additions Or Changes To Program

- #1- More video examples of working with families (including an emphasis on how to aid difficult families)
- #2- More participatory activities during presentation
- #3- Make manual more culturally appropriate
 - Add stories that reflect culture specific values



Suggested Additions Or Changes To Program (Continued)

- #4- Make manual more developmentally diverse
 - More activities for teenagers
- #5- Follow-up-- set-up evaluation process



Participants suggested themes for additional lessons

- Communication
- Self-esteem
- Tolerance
- Values
- How to properly express emotions
- Accident prevention
- Healthy sexuality
- Respect



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QUALITATIVE OBSERVATIONS of the TRAINING

There was never a challenge to the premise that the family was under attack

Consensus was easily reached



New Skills Were Learned Through Training Challenges



Enthusiasm Was High



We need to stress this is a skill for families to learn and not a therapeutic technique.

- Although there was a desire for a better understanding of how it could be used therapeutically.



We need to be more sensitive to have the materials, especially the stories, fit the culture and values of the country in which we train.



We Are Currently Working to Answer the Following Questions

- How many families received the manuals?
- What is the structure of the family (single parent, traditional, or other)?
- How many children are in the family?
- What is the social-economic class of the family?
- What is the education level of the parents?

We Are Currently Working to Answer the Following Questions

- Does the family create their own lessons?
- How would "family communication" have been rated before participating in this program?
- How would "family communication" be currently rated?
- What does the family like most about the program and the manual?
- What does the family like least about the program and manual?

We Are Currently Working to Answer the Following Questions

- How many of the families given the manual are currently using it regularly?
- If families are not participating in the Family Enrichment Program, why not?
- Does this program assist the agency in meeting its goals of helping families?
- What additional resources are needed in working with families?
- Are there any recommended changes to the manual or other training materials?

The Family Enrichment Program provides a structure to encourage & assist families throughout the world, as they organize and conduct their own weekly family gatherings.

