

**“Enhancing Interprofessional
Collaboration and Learning for
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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Title	EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TOWARD PATIENT-CENTERED, CONTEXT-SENSITIVE CARE IN RURAL CHIAPAS, MEXICO
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Community-Based Education for Health and Social Care Students</i>
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Abstract N ^o	TUFH619
Content	<p>Chiapas is one of Mexico's most vulnerable states in terms of healthcare, with only 78.2% of its population covered by any health service and a severe shortage of health personnel, having 1.3 doctors per 1,000 inhabitants compared to 3.6 in Mexico City. To remedy this situation, the non-governmental organization Compañeros En Salud (CES) initiated a program in 2011 to attract Mexican health professions students performing their year of mandatory social service to the region's health facilities. CES internship program is aimed at medical, nursing and obstetric nursing students and is implemented through ten primary care clinics, a basic community hospital and a birthing center. The model comprises clinical supervision, education through a Diploma in Global Health and Social Medicine, and logistical and financial support to the interns or pasantes. The Diploma focuses on addressing the social determinants of health and aims to broaden the pasantes' view of the preventable poverty-related causes of health issues and barriers to health care that affect the communities they serve. Theoretical knowledge is combined with hands-on learning in the field under the tutelage of different specialists. In the ten years since the beginning of the program, 112 pasantes have carried out their year of social service in the health facilities supported by CES, including health professionals from the rural communities supported, from other areas of Chiapas, and from other states of Mexico. The organization plans to expand the program in the coming months by recruiting a whole batch of new nursing pasantes.</p>