



Mothers Groups Evaluation

Project: Bogota, Colombia

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Program background: The Bogota Project has 12 subprojects for children and 8 subprojects for elders. In 2010 they started the formation and empowerment process with mothers through the “Mothers Groups” (GMS). The purpose of GMS’s was helping people to release themselves from poverty.

Each GMS has no more than 20 participants which meet biweekly. The groups were formed based on proximity, similar interests, and time availability. These groups are an opportunity for learning about saving habits and to create new incomes initiatives.

Purpose of the evaluation: To know the different forms that GMS incentivize the process of productive initiatives and the impact on the quality of life of participants thanks to GMS.

Methods: The sample was based on 10% of people in the program with a 97.5% confidence level. This represents 350 families chosen randomly to answer one-time survey questionnaires. The sample was selected from 10 subprojects that serve children and youth.

Key Findings and Conclusions:

- 60% of survey participants had been in the Unbound program between 2 and 5 years. 30% of survey participants had been in the Unbound program for more than 5 years.
- More than 90% of respondents reported feeling that GMS contributes to their life in a variety of ways.
- The most significant program contributions recognized by survey participants were: sharing and knowing people 21%, learning about and understanding of Unbound policies 15%, to speak out in public 11%.
- 95% of survey participants stated that GMS’s meetings promote the creation of productive livelihood initiatives and skills development.
- Most of the participants consider budgeting and self-esteem as the most relevant topics for them.
- More than 70% survey participants were part of a productive activity.

Learnings and Report recommendations:

- Participants in Bogota Project program have a high level of community and participation.
- According to the survey results, emotional and productive initiatives are the most incentivizing topics in GEM’s.
- GMS are stimulating productive initiatives, but there is still room for finding new opportunities to expand on this.
- In general, evaluation shows that Bogota Project program is impacting in some way the quality of life of participants but there is still more to learn about how this is happening.