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Practicum Site: Primeros Pasos

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Assessing Healthcare Needs in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala

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Introduction: The 2021 practicum was done in partnership with the Primeros Pasos clinic located in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Primeros Pasos is an independent non-profit organization that aims to provide quality and affordable health care and health education. Objectives included translating the 2021 Primeros Pasos Household Survey document into Spanish, entering the survey into REDCap, creating a REDCap instruction document in both Spanish and English, and traveling to Guatemala to administer the survey. The results of the survey will help inform their practice and ensure which services and programs are most efficient for the Quetzaltenango communities.

Methods: From May through September 2021, through a virtual practicum, the 75 questions of the household survey were translated from English to Spanish using previous Spanish knowledge, Microsoft translation technology, and the guidance of the site supervisor, Maria Jose Chajon. The survey was then manually entered into the REDCap survey tool. The instruction document that will help guide volunteers and clinic staff in editing and administering the survey on REDCap was created using REDCap instructional videos and the online user manuals.

Results: The final results included a translated and distributable survey on REDCap with 75 questions; Primeros Pasos was given complete access to the survey with all the editing, distributing, and exporting results user rights. Primeros Pasos also received a word document of the survey and instruction document for their records and use.

Conclusions: Traveling to Guatemala this summer to collect the data was not possible; future plans include assisting in data collection after graduation. Completing the household survey process by collecting the data will further educate the clinic on the common public health problems in the community. All other objectives were completed; the translation, REDCap survey, and instructions were presented to Primeros Pasos and are being utilized now.

