# El Sol: An Interdisciplinary Center for Guatemalan Healthcare

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### Disclosure

- Terri Rocafort PhD, ANP-BC, RN
- Professor III
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- Visiting Professor; Chamberlain College of Nursing
- No commercial support was received for this presentation
- No conflict of interest is identified

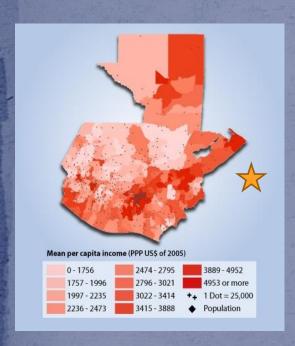
## Objectives

- The learner will critically appraise the interdisciplinary evidence based practice model in place at El Sol, MyClinic for applicability to alternate local or global settings.
- The learner will examine and apply the analysis and findings related to Life Course Theory for implementation of interdisciplinary healthcare solutions amongst vulnerable populations.
- The learner will integrate upstream solutions identified in the El Sol model.
- The learner will design and integrate into practice best practices from the LCT model.
- The learner will apply concepts of the El Sol model for implementation in practice settings worldwide.

## Life Course Theory

- A framework conceptualizing health and disease across populations. Rethinking the paradigm of healthcare in a successful medical home model involving a community
  - Whole person, family, and community approach
  - Longitudinal focus- early upstream: determinants of health
  - Multi-sector service line development- verticalhorizontal-longitudinal

# Background- Life events-social determinants



Jacaltenango a valley town located in the Guatemala state of Huehuetenango.

Focus of genocide-indigenous Maya escaped during the civil war.

150,000-200,000 estimated as murdered during the lengthy civil war.

Post conflict violence.

Poverty is extreme –income < \$2000.00 per year.

(Rural Poverty in Guatemala, 2013; World Bank, 2013, Puac-Polanco et al., 2015)

# Jacaltenango, Guatemala-Influencing Life Experiences



- Rural and remote; lack of healthcare
- Maternal-infant mortality/ malnutrition
- Lack of finances from the ministry of Health
- Extreme poverty
- Disruption of family unit
- Safety

(World Bank Indicators, 2013)

## Characteristics influencing life course

- Rural Poverty
- No way to care for family
- Lack of markets
- Maternal child disparities

Life Choices to leave

- Death and injury
- Separation
- Fracture of families

Effect of Globalization

- Awareness of disparities
- Orchestrated crossings
- Improved communication

# Brother Cities The unlikely match





Jacaltenango, Guatemala

Jupiter, Florida

## **Upstream Priorities**

- A local issue with federal, state, and local implications
- Poverty
  - Extremes in Guatemala
  - Below the poverty line in Jupiter
  - Healthcare access
  - Impact on health system
  - Safety of the people
  - Focus on social and health issues





## Upstream: Action for disparities

- An unlikely partnership developed
- Humanity and injustice recognized
- Safety of workers
- Meetings began with town leadership
  - City council & Mayor (2005)
  - St Peter's Catholic Church
  - Sol Silverstein-visionary
  - Friends of El Sol created
  - Multi-faceted Board of Directors



# Vertical Integration

- Primary healthcare
  - Voluntary, cash pay
  - Portable clinic -2014
  - Co-location of free clinic and Federally Qualified Heath Center (HQHC) April 2017
- Secondary
  - Jupiter Medical Center
  - Specialist
- Tertiary
  - Emergent, trauma
  - Project Access



## Horizontal Integration

- Whole community approach
- Open to all; uninsured, under-insured
- Multiple service line sectors
  - Financial- grants, donations, My Clinic model
  - Social- behavioral, acculturation
  - Health- mammogram, Jupiter Medical Center, Project Access
  - Education- diet, diabetes

# Longitudinal Integration

- Adult Health
  - Primary, episodic, specialists, dental
- Behavioral Health
  - Navigators, depression, adaptation stress
- Legal/Financial support
  - Citizenship, visa
- Pediatric services
  - Immunization, wellness
- Maternity care
  - Cooperative care

#### Diane Williams Health Coordinator-Visionary



Fully bilingual, excellent organizational skills

Non-medical background, oversees the budget to develop the free standing clinic for the people of Jupiter

Quantum grant, Allegany Ministry, Palm Healthcare Grants

# Strategies for Nursing: Global Focus

## Volunteer opportunities

- New clinic
  - Physicians, Nurse Practitioners
  - Specialists
  - Dental services

### Preventative Education

- Diabetes
- Psychosocial Support
- Family care
  - Nutrition
  - Domestic Violence
  - Parenting

#### Interdisciplinary

- Nursing input
- Holistic view
- Build medical and nursing teams
- Behavioral
- Education
- Legal

## Awareness and Acceptance

- Education
- Legislative efforts
- Dream Act
- Policy

## Role of the Advanced Nurse



#### Board of Directors for My Clinic

- Integrate a holistic approach
- Oversight of preventative care, horizontal development
- Consistency in volunteer opportunities



#### Primary, Preventive Care

- Ongoing access to medical home
- Nutrition, primary prevention of disease
- Parenting, domestic violence



#### Acculturation needs

- Physical and Psychosocial issues
- Separation angst, depression screening,
- Need for bilingual providers,

## My Clinic- Why it works

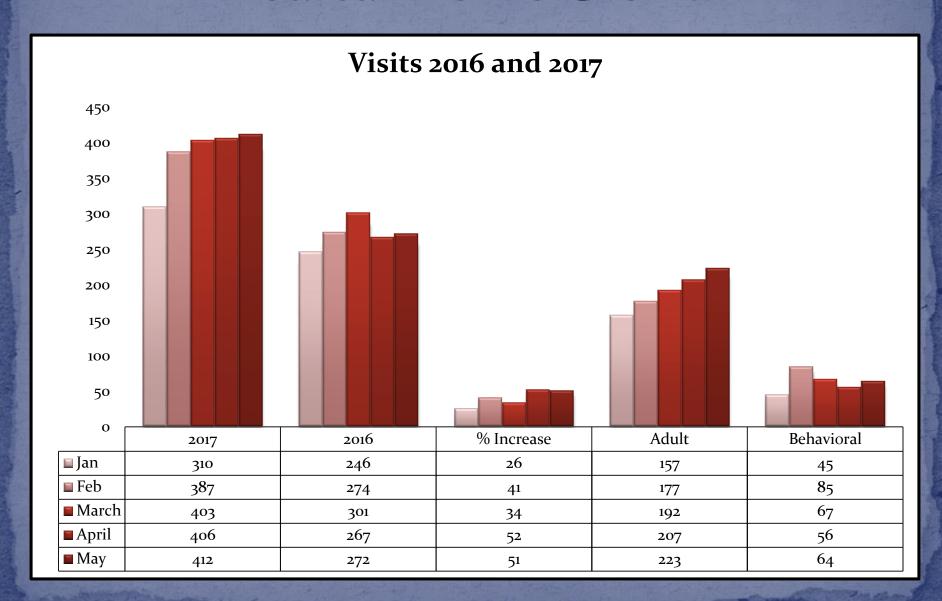
- Board plan
  - Open to all; not just Guatemalan residents
  - Palm Beach County Health Care District partnership
  - Own a building; increased hours
  - Sustainability
- Preventive care
  - El Sol's Promotores de Salud
- Consistency of ARNP and physician coverage
- Grants and Donations
- Cooperation with local facilities

#### Volunteers

- 21 physician volunteers
- 6 Nurse Practitioners
- 8 RN's
- 3 Patient Navigators
- Students- pharmacy-physician-nursing
- Dedicated behavioral health

Year to date 2017: 2067 Volunteer hours at My Clinic

## Medical Home Growth



## My Clinic-Limitations

- Need for medical specialists
- Access to medications
  - Asthma, insulin, glucose supplies
- Expansion
- Language- multiple dialects

## The Guatemalan community gives back

- Annual Art Show
- Habitat for Humanity
- Painting Palm Beaches
- Intra-organization self governance
- Church
- Leisure
- Festivals



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