Investing in the Future: Leveraging community networks to strengthen healthcare for Venezuelan pregnant migrants in Colombia

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Context

Maternal health is a global issue: women’s overall health, empowerment, physical, emotional, and mental well-being through pregnancy, childbirth, and childbirth. Globally, 303,000 maternal deaths occur each year with the majority occurring in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Maternal mortality (MMR) is a critical indicator of the health status of women of reproductive age and a measure of the quality of health services while delivering care (WHO, 2021). The socio-economic context of the Americas is characterized by high-fertility rates, growing urbanization, and a high prevalence of maternal health issues. In the context of COVID-19, the pandemic has impacted the delivery of healthcare services, with some reports指出 that maternal mortality has increased in some regions. In Latin America, the social determinants of health have a significant impact on maternal mortality and the healthcare system's efficiency. The primary goal of the MegaSalud Foundation is to improve the health of pregnant women and children in Colombia through community engagement strategies.

Activity Description

In 2018, the MegaSalud Clinical Foundation (Megasalud) identified potential gaps in healthcare services for pregnant women and newborns. In an effort to address these gaps, MegaSalud implemented the “Expecting Lives, Harvesting a Future” intervention in two localities: Suba and Ciudad Bolívar. The intervention aims to improve maternal and child health outcomes by engaging local communities in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of healthcare services. The intervention’s objectives include improving maternal and child health outcomes, increasing access to preventive care, and strengthening the capacity of local health systems.

Activity Impact

The “Expecting Lives, Harvesting a Future” intervention had a significant impact on improving maternal and child health outcomes. The intervention was able to achieve its objectives by engaging local communities in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of healthcare services. The intervention’s objectives included improving maternal and child health outcomes, increasing access to preventive care, and strengthening the capacity of local health systems. The intervention was able to achieve these objectives by creating community networks, developing interventions to address identified gaps, and conducting monitoring and evaluation activities. The intervention was able to achieve these objectives by creating community networks, developing interventions to address identified gaps, and conducting monitoring and evaluation activities.

Facilitators

The facilitators of the intervention included community leaders, health workers, and local government officials. The facilitators were able to achieve the intervention’s objectives by providing guidance, support, and resources to the intervention’s teams. The facilitators were able to achieve the intervention’s objectives by providing guidance, support, and resources to the intervention’s teams.

Challenges

The challenges faced during the implementation of the intervention included logistical barriers, resource limitations, and resistance to change. The challenges faced during the implementation of the intervention included logistical barriers, resource limitations, and resistance to change.

Lessons Learned

The lessons learned from the implementation of the intervention included the importance of community engagement, the need for sustainable solutions, and the need for strong partnerships. The lessons learned from the implementation of the intervention included the importance of community engagement, the need for sustainable solutions, and the need for strong partnerships.