Strengthening Midwifery in Mexico

Global Maternal and Neonatal Health Conference
Mexico City
October 20, 2015
Outline

- MacArthur History
- Current Initiative
- Process
MacArthur in Mexico

- Population and Reproductive Health: 30 years
- Cairo, Beijing
- Maternal Health: 2000 to date
- Capstone Phase: 2015-2018/2020
Achievements

Recognition – Policy – Improved Indicators

- Public policy
- Decline in MMR
- Adolescent unwanted pregnancy prevention = national priority (current president)
- Public policy
Capstone Phase: Professional Midwifery in Mexico

- Commitment
- Rights and equality
- Opportunity
- Challenge
Despite its stated interest, Mexico has yet to devise a clear pathway toward developing a new cadre of professional midwives and requires support from civil society. Civil society organizations can, among other things, help generate positive public opinion; represent the needs and demands of women; create, document and evaluate new models for training or deployment to generate best practices; bring in lessons from other countries; diversify leadership; engage new stakeholders; and provide technical and political support.
## Midwifery in Mexico

**Goal:** improve maternal health outcomes and quality of care by institutionalizing midwifery

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<th>Outcomes</th>
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<td>Strengthen policy and regulatory environment</td>
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<td>Increase recognition and demand</td>
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<td>Recognition of midwifery as a legitimate maternal health option</td>
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<td>Expand and build on education options</td>
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<td>Beyond the Tipping Point:</td>
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<td>Integrate models into health care systems</td>
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<td>Improved access to quality maternal and reproductive health care</td>
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### Beyond the Tipping Point:
- Improved access to quality maternal and reproductive health care
- Improved maternal health
- Reduced health care costs
Participatory Process

- Civil Society: Strategy Meetings
- Government, Multilaterals: Working Group to Promote Midwifery in Mexico
- Developmental Evaluation
Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Education

- Expand training opportunities/increase licensed midwives
- Increase recognition of midwifery as a profession, and understanding of what professional midwifery entails
- Establish core curriculum for Mexico
Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Deployment

- Increase and diversify work opportunities
- Develop strategies for integrating midwives into the system and linking autonomous midwives to system
- Clinics and hospitals should have a clear understanding of the work midwives should be doing, and both allow them to do this work, and monitor that they are doing it.
Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Policy

- National Strategy
- Legal and normative proposals
- National and state level public reports
- Earmarked funding for educating and hiring midwives
Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Leadership and Communications

- Visible, coherent and unifying messages
- Increased media coverage
- Midwives are more empowered and knowledgeable about advocacy and strategy
- Improved networking within and across sector
- Information available to women and communities
2018 vision

- Momentum
- Recognition
- Students and qualified teachers
- Midwives in work force
- Enabling policy environment
...gracias...

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