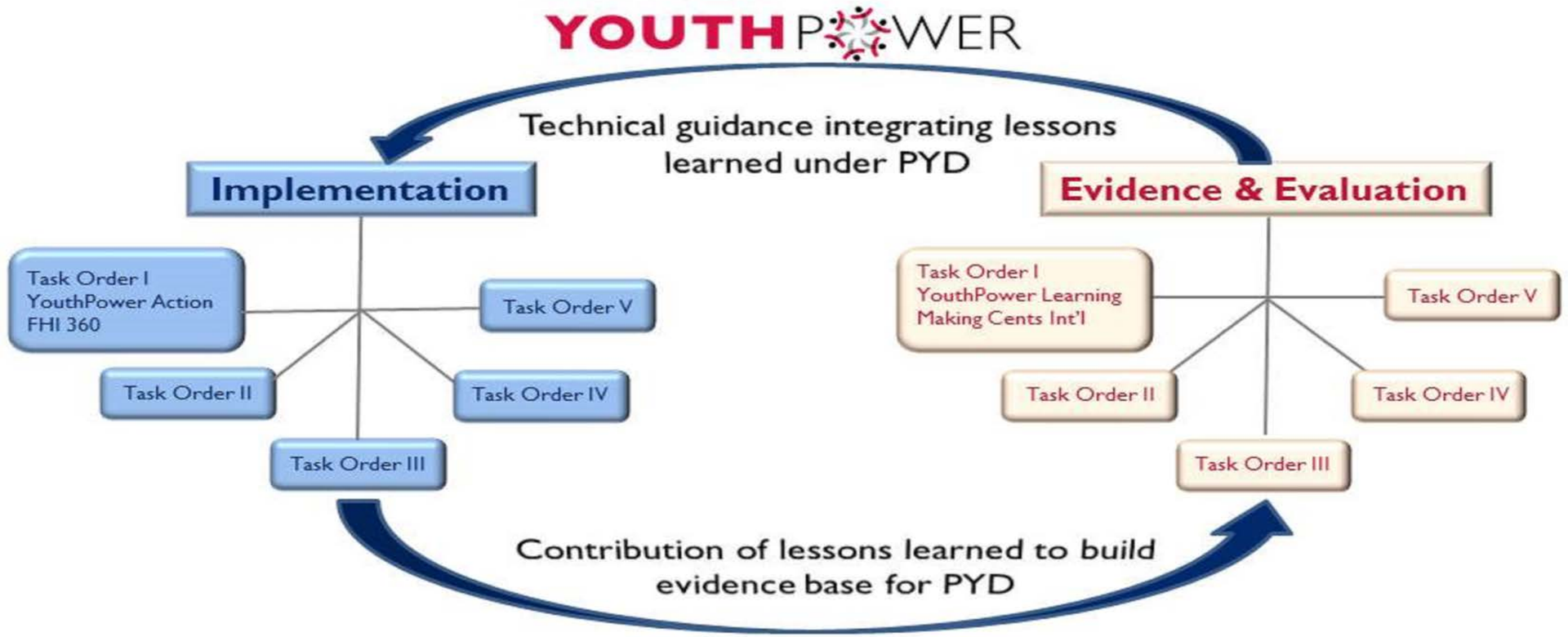
YouthPower Projects' Learnings-to-Date
What Are We Learning About Positive Youth Development (PYD)?

Webinar organized by YouthPower Learning

August 24, 2017

Advancing solutions to transform the lives of young people


YOUTHPOWER
Technical guidance integrating lessons learned under PYD
Implementation
Task Order I
YouthPower Action
FHI 360
Task Order II
Task Order III
Task Order IV
Task Order V
Evidence & Evaluation
Task Order I
YouthPower Learning
Making Cents Int'l
Task Order II
Task Order III
Task Order IV
Task Order V
Contribution of lessons learned to build evidence base for PYD

YouthPower Learning
Advancing Solutions to Improve Young Lives

- **YouthPower Learning** advances solutions through integrated research and development programs to improve the capacity of youth-led and youth-serving institutions.

- By engaging youth, their families, communities, and governments in innovative programs, we **build** young people's skills, assets, and competencies; **foster** healthy relationships; **strengthen** the enabling environment; and **transform** systems.

What is Positive Youth Development (PYD)?

PYD programs recognize youth's inherent rights and result in youth who have **assets**, the ability to leverage those assets (**agency**), and the ability to **contribute** to positive change for themselves and their communities, surrounded by an **enabling environment** that supports them

http://www.youthpower.org/positive-youth-development

Project: TVET SAY
Speaker

Rose Mary Garcia, PhD

Directora, Proyecto Aprendo y Emprendo

Chief of Party, TVET SAY Project, Nicaragua

Project: Proponte Más
Speakers

Robyn Braverman
Chief of Party, Proponte Más

Guillermo Cespedes
Deputy Chief of Party

Questions for Today's Presentations and Discussion

1. How are you implementing PYD? Which positive youth development (PYD) features does your project include, and why were they selected?
2. Can you identify up to three initial benefits of using a PYD approach that you have experienced in your project?
3. What are three challenges related to implementing a PYD approach? Please identify specific challenges related to integrating PYD in a workforce development (WFD) project? Are there some features that were easier to include than others? Why?
4. What are more general challenges experienced in the implementation of the project? Do you think use of more PYD features would have helped (or could help) to address these challenges?
5. What are your three key recommendations for future implementations/implementers based on what you have learned so far?
6. What would you recommend to USAID in the implementation of future youth programs with similar target populations?

APRENDO Y EMPRENDO PROJECT

Technical Vocational Education and Training Strengthening for At-Risk Youth (TVET SAY)

Nicaragua

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OBJECTIVE

The Technical Vocational Education and Training Strengthening for At-Risk Youth (TVET SAY) project (known in Spanish as ***Aprendo y Emprendo***) main goal is to expand opportunities for technical-vocational training, entrepreneurship and job placement for youth at risk from the Caribbean Coast to improve security.

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RESULTS

Component 1: Improve collaboration between the private sector, CSOs serving at-risk youth, and TVET Centers by developing national and regional/sectoral networks.

Component 2: Strengthen eight private TVET centers to be "model" institutions, providing organizational capacity building and creating private sector alliances.

Component 3: Increase interest and perceived value of TVET programs through public awareness campaign, especially along the Caribbean Coast.

Component 4: Provide TVET scholarships for at risk youth from the Caribbean region.

HOW ARE WE IMPLEMENTING PYD?

1. ASSETS: SKILLS BUILDING

- TVET SAY provides scholarships to at-risk youth giving access to quality technical education, soft skills, job placement, self-employment opportunities.
- This includes enhancement of social, communication, self-control and higher order thinking skills.

Indicator for interpersonal skills: # of youth with increased interpersonal skills at the conclusion of training/programming/ #of youth with increased higher-order thinking

2. AGENCY: "Youth First" is our moto. Youth chose our name in Spanish. We have a Youth Advisory Council, and we enable youth to make decisions to improve their livelihood. Improved positive identity and positive beliefs about the future.

HOW ARE WE IMPLEMENTING PYD?

3. CONTRIBUTION:

- Youth are the main speakers for the communications campaign. They speak in radio shows, in short video clips announcing scholarships.
- Write a blog.
- Through a Youth Advisory Council, 12 youth represent more than 400 TVET SAY scholarship recipients.
- The Advisory Council is engaged in decision making on the implementation of the project, they advocate for their peers, provide mentorship to incoming scholarship recipients, volunteer to represent the scholarship recipients in many different events, and are becoming engaged in dialogues with the private sector.

HOW ARE WE IMPLEMENTING PYD?

4. ENABLING ENVIRONMENT:

TVET SAY is strengthening youth skills, and perception of themselves, and this building their resilience. Overall, we foster a bonding and empathy with members of family; peer group; school and community with the following actions:

- Increased involvement in youth-led events and efforts
- Belonging and membership
- Gender- sensitive services, and supporting of youth-friendly laws or policies.
- Increased access to TVETs centers
- Creation of safe spaces. Youth have a feeling of safety and feel free to express themselves in training centers

HOW ARE WE MEASURING (Indicators) PYD?

Assets: Skills Building:

- % increase of personal growth factors (COMPAS-T)
- % reduction of risk factor of At-Risk Youth (COMPAS-T)
- % of target population that views Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as less acceptable after participating in or being exposed to USGG programming
- % increase of female participation in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources
- # of scholarships awarded for At-Risk Youth (ARY)
- # of new internships, apprenticeships created by the private sector for ARY

HOW ARE WE MEASURING (Indicators) PYD?

Agency:

- Proportion of youth who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG supported program.

Contribution:

- Number of At-Risk Youth participating in USG-funded Workforce Development Programs
- Number of youth who participate in civil society activities due to training in social and leadership skills from USG assisted programs.

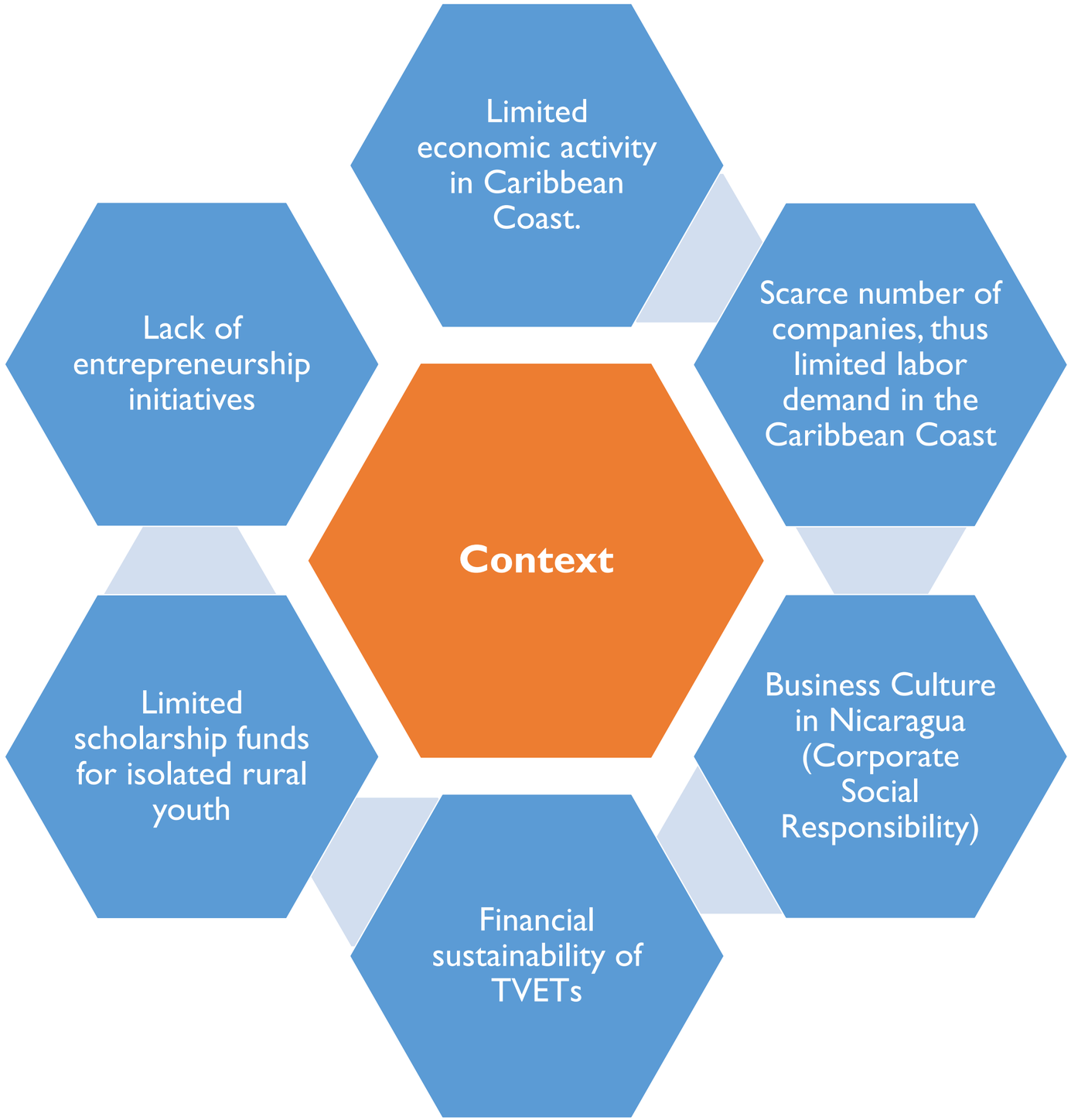
3 BENEFITS OF USING PYD

- **The right assets:** Matching skills and labor market, reducing risks and strengthen protective factors.
- **Agency:** Access to services and opportunities strengthens youth ability to avoid risks.
- **Contribution:** Youth are engaged as a source of change for themselves, their families and their communities´.

3 CHALLENGES IMPLEMENTING PYD

- **Ability to work with an ecological approach.** Foster protective factors in a young person's environment (Communities, families, training centers, policies, peers)
- **Engaging hard to reach youth:** youth with disabilities/LGBT

❑ Challenges


Limited economic activity in Caribbean Coast.
Lack of entrepreneurship initiatives
Scarce number of companies, thus limited labor demand in the Caribbean Coast
Context
Limited scholarship funds for isolated rural youth
Business Culture in Nicaragua (Corporate Social Responsibility)
Financial sustainability of TVETs

RECOMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Involve youth in design, evaluation and decision making
- PYD should be designed and implemented under an inter-projects collaborative consensus-building process
- Capacity building on PYD for key stakeholders

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PERFORMANCE

I. PROJECT SUMMARY

II. POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS

III. PERFORMANCE

IV. PYD CHALLENGES

V. DISCUSSION

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I. PROJECT SUMMARY

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW

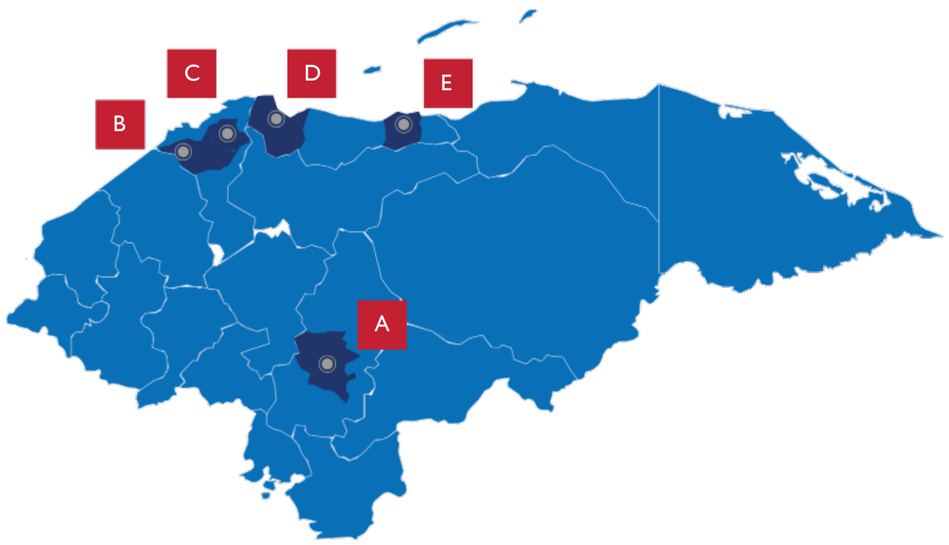
Proponte Más is an expansion of the secondary prevention pilot activity a program of USAID/Honduras. The project is focused on families with youth between ages 8-17, empirically identified at the "highest levels of risk for gang joining" and associated criminal activity.

B. PROJECT VALUE: $19,998,862

C. TIME-FRAME: January 4, 2016 - January 4, 2019

I. PROJECT SUMMARY

WHERE ARE WE LOCATED?



A

Distrito Central

Area: **1,514.72 km²**

Population: **1,207,635 people**

Young population (8-17): **240,619**

Poverty Index (NBI): **43%**

Homicide Rate(per 100,000 people): **73.3**

B

San Pedro Sula

Area: **898.60 km²**

Population: **754,061 people**

Young Population (8-17): **157,080**

Poverty Index (NBI): **40%**

Homicide Rate (per 100,000 people): **90.5**

C

Choloma

Area: **447.50 km²**

Population: **249,217 people**

Young Population (8-17): **53,842**

Poverty Index (NBI): **45%**

Homicide Rate (per 100,000 people): **90.5**

D

Tela

Area: **1,196.38 km²**

Population: **100,650 people**

Young Population(8-17): **22,817**

Poverty Index (NBI): **51%**

Homicide Rate (per 100,000 people): **57.4**

E

La Ceiba

Area **636.45 km²**

Population: **207,733 people**

Young Population (8-17): **45,978**

Poverty Index (NBI): **46%**

Homicide Rate (per 100,000 people): **104.8**

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D. PROJECT GOALS/OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of Proponte Más is to use a family intervention model to reduce the nine empirically-derived risk factors predictive of gang joining (YSET) and associated criminal activity among youth ages 8-17 in 5 municipalities across Honduras.

E. RESULTS:

Result 1. At-Risk youth receiving secondary prevention services in targeted communities.
Result 2. Support services provided for eligible youth and their families in targeted communities.
Result 3. Establish cadre of family counselors.
Result 4. Strengthen alternative justice measures.
Result 5. Establish community-based secondary prevention model.

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II. HOW DO WE IMPLEMENT PYD?

Enabling Environments, Contributions, Agency and Assets

PM facilitates positive family relationships, creating healthy environments for at risk youth.

PM communications skills which are reinforced through family celebrations

PM reinforces prosocial responses in youth that have anti social tendencies.

The PM model uses group activities to reduce impulsive and risky behaviors.

The PM family systems model is being duplicated by the Honduran government with youth who have been given alternative measures.

II. BENEFITS OF USING A PYD APPROACH

By building the capacity of families, youth are provided effective limits and discipline that mitigate risky behaviors.

The reduction of risk factors for violence increases the potential that youth will contribute positively to society.

Government sees youth and their potential instead of typifying them as potential criminals.

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III. ACHIEVEMENTS BY RESULTS

Result 1:

At-Risk youth receiving secondary prevention services in targeted communities

Percentage of risk reduction levels from YSET 1- YSET R (secondary)

Data	Quantity	%
Total YSET - R secondary cases processed	437	91%
Cases that have reduced risk factors lower than cut point (3-0)	322	73.7%
Secondary cases that maintain between 4 and 9 factors	115	26.3%

Note: these cases do not include tertiary cases that are in intervention phase

III. ACHIEVEMENTS BY RESULTS

Result 2:

Support services provided for eligible youth and their families in targeted communities

The Family Support Network (FSN) is comprised of members in each of the target communities who have an established history of community support and advocacy. The support network becomes a vehicle for increasing community cohesion, fostering collaboration, and thus reducing incidents of violence.

Proponte Más provided grants to three local NGOs (CASM. CDH and CEPROSAF) who have hired **72 family promoters in 5 municipalities**. They will:

- Accompany primary families through the process of navigating systems, and advocate for families to access the services to which they are referred;
- Support families during traumatic events such as the loss of a family member due to incidents of violence;
- Coordinate with other Proponte Más partners involved in nighttime violence reduction activities.
- Establish linkages with GoH institutions dedicated to child and family protection and will contact service providers in their communities and identify and report to PM on the needs of these organizations.

The family promoters serve a critical role in the Proponte Más referral protocol.

III. ACHIEVEMENTS BY RESULTS

Result 3:

Establish cadre of family counselors

The work of Proponte Más in this component has increased evidence-based certification programs/curricula for family counseling and has established the specific criteria of each level of certification. A Curriculum and Evaluation Advisory Committee has been formed and it is comprised by local universities, NGOs, professional associations as well as members of the Proponte Más family counseling team.

The beneficiaries of this certification program are **72 family promoters** and **55 professionals** working in family related areas in three cities in Honduras.

Proponte Más is also working with the Universidad Católica de Honduras to design and implement a refocused version of their Psychology Masters program focused on family systems.

Proponte Más has created an internship program for **12 young people** from the communities we work in and who will participate for **12** months in the three PM offices.

III. ACHIEVEMENTS BY RESULTS

Result 4:

Strengthen alternative justice measures.

Proponte Mas is committed to strengthening alternative justice measures through an evidence-based policy approach that relies on quantitative and qualitative data to inform public policy.

The target population for these activities are families with youth between **12 and 17** years of age who have been given alternative measures to detention.
Proponte Más fomented the creation of a high-level Juvenile Justice Technical Committee (JJTC), with participation of the executive branch, the judiciary, the Attorney General's Office and civil society with the goal of promoting awareness of the importance of both public and private sectors.
The JJTC's objectives include designing an intervention model and strengthening the services provided by the Special Justice System mandated under the Children and Adolescent Code (CNA).

- Establish norms and protocols for juvenile justice system
- Establish case management system
- PM awarded scholarships to **25 justice operators** and technicians from various public institutions and NGOs to the attend Honduras's first Master's program in Child Protection and Juvenile Justice, which will be taught by Spain's University of Malaga on the National Autonomous University of Honduras campus in Tegucigalpa.

III. ACHIEVEMENTS BY RESULTS

Result 5:

Establish community-based secondary prevention model.

Sub-contractor Arizona State University (ASU) has been working closely with the PM team to design the evaluation process.
The Proponte Más/ASU impact evaluation will take place in two stages: the quasi experimental stage, and the fully experimental stage.

Proponte Más has engaging local researchers in the evidence based family systems methodology, to date, PM has worked with researchers at the UNAH on the data and analysis.

Based on research, the evaluation, and fieldwork, Proponte Más will systematize the model in the last year of the program.

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IV. 3 Challenges in implementing PYD

The shift from an individual youth focus to family systems focus requires significant levels of training of partners.

Our evidence based risk factor approach is significantly different that the approach of other partners in DO1

IV. Challenges in Project Implementation

USAID implementers working in the same area (Place Based Strategy) all have different different definitions of risk factors, therefore there is not a uniformed method of evaluation.

Lack of capacity in the country on evidence based risk factor reduction and family systems approaches.

Scaled approvals of USAID approvals means that limited human resource capacity outweighs the job market.

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Q&A

Thank you!

Thank you for participating in this event organized by YouthPower Learning

The recording will be made available to all registrants.

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