



Proponte Más Honduras

Quick Facts

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Due to the proliferation of gangs, Honduras has one of the world's highest homicide rates at nearly 60 per 100,000 residents.

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Youth are assessed for vulnerability to gang involvement based on nine risk factors at the family, peer and personal levels.

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The project reaches 800 families whose 8 to 17-year-olds are at risk of joining gangs in five of Honduras' most dangerous municipalities.

In most Honduran cities, violence is a part of daily life. Youth are both perpetrators and the victims.

Due in part to the proliferation of gangs, the country's homicide rate is among the world's highest at nearly 60 per 100,000 residents, according to the National Violence Observatory at Honduras' National Public University. In some communities the actual murder rate can be more than double the national average. The Honduras Secondary Violence Prevention Activity (called Proponte Más), is working on prevention with 800 families with 8- to 17-year-olds in five of Honduras' most dangerous municipalities.

Proponete Más, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, enrolls youth based on their vulnerability to gang involvement as quantified by the Youth Service Eligibility Tool's measurement of nine risk factors at the family, peer and personal levels.

These young people and their families then receive the support, resources and tools they need to lower their risk through a seven-phase program of family counseling designed to positively influence youth behavior.

Follow-up assessments after six months and one year will measure the youth on the same risk factors, allowing for comparison of risk levels over time.

Keeping family at the core

Due to transnational migration, economic hardships and violence, families in these high-risk municipalities are not always

defined in the traditional sense.

Supporting the family, however it looks, is at the core of Proponete Más' approach. The project views the family as youths' greatest asset and support system in building resilience to violence and gangs.

In collaboration with international and local partners, the project will work to lower levels of gender-based and family-based household violence. A team of 58 trained and certified family counselors will work in close partnership with high-risk youth and their families to reduce risk factors and build resilience by improving communication and supervision, strengthening family bonds and mitigating risky behaviors.

While reaching youth on the verge of joining gangs is critical, it is equally important to support a smaller subset of youth who have already come in conflict with the law. Proponete Más is providing targeted

support to an additional 500 to 700 youth at an even higher level of risk—first-time offenders—to improve their chances of making life changes that enhance their chances of success.

Proponete Más will also help build the capacity of the government of Honduras, family courts and civil society partners to provide evidence-based and family-centered support to youth who are re-joining their communities.

A proven way to lower risk

Creative had impressive success reducing youth vulnerability through its US-AID-funded Proponete pilot: After one year, it achieved a significant reduction in youth risk factors including a 77 percent drop in the crime and substance abuse risk factor and a 78 percent drop in antisocial tendencies.

Proponete Más is replicating and building on that success. After six months of family counseling, 445 youth at the secondary risk level displayed a reduction in all nine risk factor categories. Nearly 75 percent saw significant improvements that placed them below the threshold for being considered "at risk" altogether.

Creative has supported at-risk communities across Central America in developing and implementing local violence prevention strategies. Through more than 200 US-AID-funded Outreach Centers, more than 70,000 youth have benefited from vocational training, life skills, tutoring support, and access to a safe place.



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trained and certified counselors partner with the families of high-risk youth to reduce their vulnerability.



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