TB Photovoice Project

Goal

- Increase awareness of the global burden of TB and assist in the eradication of TB and TB Meningitis

Objectives

- Support and mobilize TB patients to address policy makers
- Conduct formative research that can inform communication strategies and program development
- Disseminate formative research rooted in local people’s perspectives
Presentation Objectives

- Describe the TB Photovoice Efforts
- Reflect personal and community strengths and concerns
- Examine principles in photovoice common to all CBPR
Photovoice Defined

- Photovoice involves community people taking pictures of their own health realities followed by small group conscious-raising discussions and presentations to policymakers

- Photovoice method was initially developed by Caroline Wang and Mary Ann Burris
Photovoice Steps

1. Form a Guidance Committee
2. Recruit participants
3. Conduct participant orientation and ethics training
4. Have participants take photos
5. Convene participant meetings to discuss photos
6. Repeat steps 4-5 several times
7. Prepare presentations to policy-makers
Managing the Process

Distribute
New camera / film
Photo tracking forms
Consent forms

Collect:
Used camera / film
Photo tracking forms
Consent forms

Develop
2 sets of photos, sequentially number and write name on each photo, and copy photo tracking and consent forms

Convene
Group Meeting

Record
Group discussion

Complete
Meeting tracking form

Archive
One set of photos, negatives, photo tracking and consent forms, SHOWeD worksheets, audio tapes, and meeting tracking forms

Photocopy
Completed SHOWeD worksheets

Distribute
One set of photos, negatives, original photo tracking and consent forms, and blank SHOWeD worksheets to participants

Convene
Group Meeting

Return
Negatives at end of project

Participant Materials

Project Archive
Photo Examples

Photograph by Art
Community Presentation

Photograph by Yang Ke Lin
Community Presentation

Photograph by Yang Ke Lin
Ethics and Power

- Migrant Mother
- Photographer: Dorothy Lange
- Subject: Florence Owens Thompson
- 1936 / Depression
- New Deal Photography Project
Photovoice Methodology Training
Guachochi, Chihuahua
“Burning this mask was very important to me. I wore it for several months and it was very painful. My peers didn’t know what my face and smile looked like. When I burned the mask, it was like getting rid of the stigma, I felt free.”

- Rachel
Border residents’ photos give TB a voice

Daniel Collins
Staff Reporter

More than one-third of the world’s population has a latent form of tuberculosis (TB) and active TB is on the rise for the deaths of nearly two million people every year, or 6,000 people across the globe every day. These incidences of TB are particularly troubling for border cities, as they are major centers for the spread of the disease. Despite this, TB remains a neglected topic that does not get the attention its global pandemic status, leading patients (tuberculosis patients) to suffer, in many cases, untreated.

The U.S. - Mexico Border Health Association (USMEXHA), in its Photovoice project, hopes to more effectively combat TB at local and national levels. Through a display of infected people’s images and stories, the project aims to bring TB to the attention of health care providers and politicians, leading to better policies and programs to combat the disease.

"It’s a global epidemic. Between TB, HIV and malaria, the three leading causes of death globally, we are often the forgotten people," says Roxanna, who was infected with TB.

A sample of the artwork displayed at the Photovoice project.

Photo project provides voice for TB victims

Daniel Collins
Staff Reporter

"Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease that gets much media attention, but TB is a disease that many people in the United States probably fear they have a small chance of contracting. However, over one-third of the world’s population, including the United States, have a latent form of TB and incidents of TB cases in border cities are major sources of concern for health professionals. The US-Mexico Border Health Association, through their Border TB Photovoice Project, hopes to bring more attention to the disease and promote a better understanding of the people affected by it.

There are a number of support groups in El Paso for people who have been affected," said Project Coordinator Roxanna. "Some are doctors, students, and researchers. There is no one who doesn’t know someone affected by TB.

TB is spread through the air from one person to another. With active TB, the disease is highly contagious.

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See TB Photo page 5
“No more wires and borders. We need to invest in Tuberculosis”

“We need to put an end to ignorance and educate the public about the disease. We need to stop building more fences and walls. Remember that the disease does not recognize borders and it goes back and forth.”

- Brenda
World TB Day Commemoration in Mexico City
In Conjunction with the Mexican Secretariat of Health
Photovoice Principles Common to CBPR

- Enables people to record and reflect upon their personal and community strengths and challenges
- Promotes critical dialogue and knowledge about personal and community issues through group discussion
- Reaches policy makers to create positive change in partnership with communities
Photovoice Principles Common to CBPR

- Community self reflection and discussion to examine root causes of community conditions.
- Participatory approach recognizes and honors community members’ subjective experience as researchers, advocates, not only participants.
- Used as a mechanism for social reform.