

Trabajo en Salud Comunitaria: La Escuela Pública Argentina como un nuevo campo de acción profesional

Luciana Codaro¹

¹*Universidad de San Martín, Instituto de Ciencias de Rehabilitación y Movimiento, Facultad de Terapia Ocupacional, Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina,* ²*Organización No Gubernamental Generadores de Cambio, Monte Grande, Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Introduction: Among the risk factors affecting public schools in Argentina, are principally poverty and violence that generate risks of the appearance of psycho-social and occupational dysfunctions, between another. In order to address this problem, we propose expounding theoretical and practical research to establish the repercussions of an approach that articulate elements of Community Health Work, the Ottawa Letter, and Resilience. **Objectives:** In each school we intend to develop: resilient qualities in order to prevent the appearance of pathologies, strengthen normal integral development and improve quality of life; a work in network with other schools and bodies in order to generate and strengthen resources; and develop social models which promote health, so as to act as leading references for children and the community. **Methods:** An analysis of national, community and school data are carried out. In two schools from different regions of the country, an intervention programme is established relating to the school's curriculum, through an inter-discipline and multi-sector approach, which consist in activities and artistic and recreational workshops, with a short reflections-debate at the end, as well as workshops for adults. It is recorded in videos and letters from the participants to facilitate a cultural exchange between the two schools and for a work in network. **Results:** The results are analysed on the basis of various indicators related to the proposed approach. These principally show a successful adaptation process, the development of an effective work in network and an increase in resources and opportunities. **Conclusion:** The school environment is where the relationship between the factors of a child's health and wellbeing can best be seen. For that reason an Occupational Therapy intervention, focused on strengthening normal integral development and on developing a conviction of that life has sense despite adversities, is of vital importance in this field. **Contribution to practice of occupational therapy:** To expand professional vision towards wellbeing, health, prevention, promotion of health and resilience, and to articulate these concepts with the occupation as the health agent in this new field.

Author: Luciana Codaro