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"RADIO EN LA MIRA", A DEVICE FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN THE FORM OF A COMMUNITY RADIO.

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ABSTRACT:

Introduction: We carried out this experience in the Psychiatric Hospital "Dr. Mira y López", in the City of Santa Fe, Province of Santa Fe, Argentina. "Radio en la Mira" is a device for mental Health; the broadcasting Studio is located inside the Hospital and is formally one of its services. In a short time, "Radio en la Mira" intends to become a community radio without losing its characteristics. **Objectives:** To promote social links and remove the obstacles that may hinder participation. To inform the community so as to change their perception of the way they consider diseases should be approached. To enhance the essential subjective operations in discourse and therefore social connections through radio activity. **Description:** This activity is intended as communication phenomenon that accounts for the intrapsychic life of those who carry it out. It constitutes a tool for coexistence; it is essential for social articulation: "...the radio seen as a point of reference in the life of subjects; an organiser of every day life." Those participating in the radio are called "would-be speakers", after being on air they become "speakers". To that end, they work in an environment that occupational therapists call "TUNNING", where the aesthetics of the self is articulated with the (artistic) occupation. Since we this is about planning and managing an action by providing a variety of resources according to the reading of the intention of the would-be speaker, the latter go through different stages: "moment of seeing", "moment of understanding" and "moment of conclusion". **Results:** The participants show subjective changes (they prepare the programs as part of their every day life) as well as inter-subjective ones (social sharings, speakers meetings, production, political debates). During the three years of existence of the device, the number of programs and participants increased. **Conclusion:** The radio activity gives the subjects the possibility to reconstruct social connections and offers a new field in Occupational Therapy. **Contribution to the Occupational Therapy Practice:** It contributes a comprehensive look of the mental sufferings, highlighting the singularity, the particularity of the subject within its community.