

## Two Medical Student-Initiated Research Projects...

### McGill Medicine to Chilcapamba: A Student-led Participatory Research Project with Chilcapamba, Ecuador and McGill Family Medicine

**Andrea Evans, McGill Medicine Class of 2011**

on behalf of:

**Julie Desalliers, Ji Wei Yang, Lilyana Zhelyazkova;**

Abstract:

This presentation outlines the development and continuation of a three year ongoing participatory research project between the community of Chilcapamba, Ecuador, medical students, and the Department of Family Medicine at McGill University. The overall goals are to work in an equitable and ongoing research partnership, to undertake research projects identified by the community and to support community capacity building. Each year the community has chosen the topic of the research project and to date these have included different aspects of women's health and parasites in children. To date four medical students have been involved. This project was awarded the Chan prize for the best poster presented at the medical students research day in 2009.

### Decentralization and Civic Participation in Primary Health Care: the Case Study of a Rural Health Center in Fram, Paraguay.

**Catalina Hernandez, McGill Medicine Class of 2012**

Abstract:

Catalina Hernandez is a second year medical student at McGill. She is originally from Colombia and received her B.Sc. in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at Portland State University in Portland, OR. She has been working with immigrant communities in the USA and health initiatives for underserved elders in Central America. Catalina is interested in social determinants and health outcomes in underserved and immigrant communities and hopes to make these issues central part of her medical career.

Last summer, as a fellow from McGill Institute for Health and Social Policy, she conducted a case study on how a health center in a rural district of Paraguay has improved the quantity and quality of primary health care services by relying on community involvement and using local resources and staff; while advocating for a decentralized health care system.

**Friday June 18, 2010**

Participatory Research at McGill (PRAM)

Department of Family Medicine

517 Pine Ave. West

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**Participatory Research @ Lunch!**

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Andrea Evans with kids in Chilcapamba, 2008