



Community Strategy for Comprehensive Child Development in the Batallón del Suburbio community

Estrategia Comunitaria para el Desarrollo Infantil Integral en la comunidad Batallón del Suburbio

Martha María Fernández Rodríguez

Msc., Instituto Superior Tecnológico Espíritu Santo, con condición de Universitario,
mmfernandez@tes.edu.ec, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4765-7419>

José Abreu Fernández

Msc., Instituto Superior Tecnológico Espíritu Santo, con condición de Universitario.,
jabreufernandez@tes.edu.ec <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8737-3832>

Fergie Palma Cedeño

Msc., Instituto Superior Tecnológico Espíritu Santo, con condición de Universitario.
fepalma@tes.edu.ec, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5152-9495>

Yolanda Osorio

Msc., Instituto Superior Tecnológico Espíritu Santo, con condición de Universitario.,
yosorio@tes.edu.ec, <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2883-3496>

ABSTRACT

The Community Strategy for Comprehensive Child Development was presented in the Batallón del Suburbio community, which responded to a result of the research-linkage project with society “Influence of the Batallón del Suburbio community in the South of Guayaquil, on Comprehensive Child Development of children from 0 to 5 years old”, implemented by the Comprehensive Child Development program of the Higher University Technological Institute (TES). The objective of the article was the modeling of the Strategy that considers how

external factors influence the comprehensive childhood development of children in disadvantaged community contexts. The focus of the research was the Systemic Structural Functional. The research is qualitative in nature, aided by the modeling method and the systemic-structural-functional methodological tool used to develop the strategy, specifically, in the conception of its structure and operation, which constitutes the main result of the research. Once the strategy is modeled, it will serve as support for its application in the context of the Suburbio Battalion. Theoretical methods were used such as analysis and synthesis, from the abstract to the concrete and the functional structural systemic method. In addition, the empirical method document review.

RESUMEN

Se presentó la Estrategia Comunitaria para el Desarrollo Infantil Integral en la comunidad Batallón del Suburbio, que respondió a un resultado del proyecto de investigación-vinculación con la sociedad “Influencia de la comunidad Batallón del Suburbio en el Sur de Guayaquil, en el Desarrollo Infantil Integral de los niños de 0 a 5 años”, implementado por la carrera Desarrollo Infantil Integral del Instituto Superior Tecnológico Universitario (TES). El objetivo del artículo fue la modelación de la Estrategia que considere como los factores externos influyen en el desarrollo infantil integral de los niños en contextos comunitarios desfavorecidos. El Enfoque de la investigación fue el Sistémico Estructural Funcional. La investigación es de tipo cualitativo auxiliada del método de la modelación y de la herramienta metodológica sistémico estructural funcional que se emplea para la elaboración de la estrategia, específicamente, en la concepción de su estructura y funcionamiento que constituye el principal resultado de la investigación. Una vez modelada la estrategia la misma servirá de soporte para su aplicación en el contexto de Batallón del Suburbio. Se emplearon métodos teóricos como, el análisis y síntesis, de lo abstracto a lo concreto y el método sistémico estructural funcional. Además, del método empírico revisión de documentos.

Keywords / Palabras clave

Community Strategy; Child Development; context, family, home environment

Estrategia Comunitaria; Desarrollo Infantil; contexto, familia, entorno familiar

Introduction

The article responds to the research project - link with society "Influence of the Batallón del Suburbio community in the South of Guayaquil, in the Integral Child Development of children from 0 to 5 years old", implemented by the career Integral Child Development of the Instituto Superior Tecnológico Universitario Espíritu Santo (TES). The application of a Community Strategy for the Integral Child Development in the community Batallón del Suburbio is presented. The objective of the article is the modeling of the Strategy that considers how external factors influence the integral child development of children in disadvantaged community contexts and thus contribute to the Integral Child Development of children from 0 to 5 years old in the Batallón del Suburbio community, favoring their growth in adequate family contexts from an intercultural and contextualized approach.

Every process requires an investigative approach, in this case for the community strategy the system approach will be considered, aided by modeling, in this case the stages and actions that are part of it will be considered. The methodological theoretical reference is the System Theory proposed by Fuentes, (1999) who considers the system as:

A set of objects (processes) related to each other by some form of interaction, which identifies them with certain independence and coherence, where objects or processes acquire the meaning of component elements, and their relationships determine the meaning around which these are integrated, while the component elements give meaning to the system. The determination of the system reveals the relationships between the component elements and the behavior of the whole (Fuentes González, 1999).

The Functional Structural Systemic Approach serves as a complement to work the General Theory of System, this methodological tool facilitates the modeling of objects. This article assumes the criterion contributed by Álvarez de Zayas, (1995), for whom:

A methodological orientation in science (...). When used as a method in research "(...) it is aimed at modeling the object by determining its components, as well as the relationships between them, which form a new quality as a whole. These relationships determine, on the one

hand, the structure and hierarchy of each component in the object and, on the other, its dynamics, its functioning. (Álvarez de Zayas, 1995).

From this point of view, systems are considered to have a structure and functioning. According to Fuentes 1999, the structure refers to the set of elements that can be identified by means of significance relationships within the limits established by the system; these relationships determine an organization and provide coherence to the components. (Fuentes González, 1999).

Also, from the theoretical point of view, we assume as strategy the contributions of Addine (2006) who defines it as: "...more or less extensive and complex integrating sequences of selected and organized actions and procedures that attend to all the components of the process, aiming at achieving the proposed educational goals..." (Addine Fernández, 2006, p. 87).

Considering that a strategy for Comprehensive Child Development is approached, the definition that refers to is assumed:

A process of continuous changes through which children go through from their conception that, under normal conditions, guarantee growth, maturation and the progressive acquisition of complex human functions such as speech, writing, thinking, affections, creativity. It is a multifactorial process influenced by internal (biological) and external aspects, and in which multiple actors intervene. This is why development depends on the quality of the social, economic and cultural conditions in which children are born, grow up and live, on the opportunities that the environment offers them and on the effective guarantee of rights by the State and society (MIES-INFA., 2011).

Assuming this contentment will allow to approach "Child Development from an integral conception and where the context and the influence of the family are basic to achieve it" (Fernández-Rodríguez, 2021, p. 123).

In this same order of ideas, the contributions of Fernández Rodríguez (2021) are considered as theoretical foundations of the community strategy in relation to the internal and external factors that influence Comprehensive Child Development in a community context. Among the external factors he highlights: Guarantee of State rights, Cultural development, Community social development, Opportunity of the environment and the economic situation. In relation to internal

factors, it mentions: Physical Development, Cognitive Development, Psychosocial Development, Language Development and Nutritional Biological Development (p. 123).

Materials and Methods

The research approach was the Functional Structural Systemic Approach. The research is of qualitative type aided by the modeling method and the functional structural systemic methodological tool used for the elaboration of the strategy, specifically, in the conception of its structure and operation, which constitutes the main result of the research. Once the strategy has been modeled, it will serve as a support for its application in the context of Batallón del Suburbio.

Theoretical methods were used, such as analysis and synthesis, from the abstract to the concrete and the functional structural systemic method. In addition, the empirical method of document review was used.

The modeling of the strategy is part of the research project "Influence of the Batallón del Suburbio community in the South of Guayaquil, in the Integral Child Development of children from 0 to 5 years old", implemented by the Integral Child Development career of TES.

Results

The strategy consisted of three phases

Phase 1 Diagnosis

Objective: Determine the factors that limit the development of children from 0 to 5 years of age in the Batallón del Suburbio community in southern Guayaquil.

Actions

1. Elaborate a census in the community to determine the population under study.
2. Diagnose the limiting factors in the integral child development in the context of the Batallón del Suburbio community.
3. Assemble groups of children according to age to apply the actions of the strategy.

For the development of action 1, it is suggested to elaborate a census through the survey technique and as an instrument the questionnaire containing 69 questions that will cover the categories indicated below.

Category

- Rented housing tenure
- Own housing tenure
- Borrowed or relative's housing ownership
- Wages more than \$400 per month
- Salary less than \$400 per month
- Use of sewage services
- Use of water services
- Use of electricity service
- Use of gas service
- Use of telephone service
- Use of waste collection service
- Prevailing marital status Unmarried
- Affected by 'the COVID pandemic
- Problems during pregnancy
- Lack of pediatric prevention
- Lack of evidence of immunization control
- Natural childbirth
- Cesarean birth
- Complications at birth
- Less than 6 hours of sleep
- Frequent meat consumption
- Frequent vegetable consumption
- Frequent vegetable consumption
- Children of short stature
- Underweight children
- Children with some type of disease
- Frequency of attendance at public health centers
- Frequency of attendance at private health centers
- Visits to health centers for prevention
- Attendance at health centers for urgencies or emergencies
- Children with disabilities
- Children currently studying
- Attendance at private educational institutions
- Attendance at public educational institutions
- Attendance at virtual educational institutions
- Attendance at educational institutions in person

- Attendance at virtual educational institutions with phone, tablet devices
- Frequently involved in their child's learning
- The mother is responsible for the educational activities of her children.
- Would be a participant in a school accompaniment course
- Knows what early stimulation is
- Her child has received early stimulation
- Develops sports activities
- Develops artistic activity
- Develops musical activity
- Games as a recreational activity
- Use of telephones
- Use of computers
- Mothers as head of household
- Sufficient time of attention to children
- Share more than 3 hours of quality time
- Use of controlled substances (drugs).
- Marijuana use
- Cocaine use
- Alcohol use
- Cigarette use
- Some type of domestic violence

For action 2 the diagnosis, it is suggested to apply the census in the community context where the population is chosen intentionally according to the purposes and objectives of the diagnosis and according to the age of the children.

After applying the survey and obtaining the results, it is suggested to proceed to organize it by categories in order to present it in an organized and summarized way, to show the various characteristics that make it up; which after compiling them, allows the discovery of patterns and certain propensities within the community under investigation. This will help to determine the relationships between the data obtained, and provide the conclusive aspects or results and the possibility of putting together groups of children according to age to apply the actions of the community strategy, which constitutes action 3 of this phase.

Phase 2 Application of the Community Strategy for Comprehensive Child Development in the Batallón del Suburbio community.

Objective: To contribute to the Integral Child Development of children from 0 to 5 years old in the Batallón del Suburbio community, favoring their growth in adequate family contexts from an intercultural and contextualized approach.

Actions

1. Implementation of the Community Project contemplating internal and external factors.

- Development of recreational cultural activities.
- Learning activities through educational strengthening workshops.
- Training activities for parents.

Once the diagnosis has been carried out, it is suggested to establish the intervention guidelines and set up the Community Project, which corresponds to phase 2. With the results of the census, the groups that will participate in the research will be put together, establishing them intentionally based on the ages of the children, which in turn were formed by three subgroups:

- Group 1 children from 0 to 1 years old
- Group 2 children from 1 to 3 years old
- Group 3 children from 3 to 5 years old

With the sample and the selected groups, the intervention of the students of the Integral Child Development career of the TES will begin. As part of their hours of Linkage with Society and good community practices, they will apply the actions corresponding to Phase 2 Application of the Community Strategy for Integral Child Development in the Batallón del Suburbio community.

In relation to the Community project, external factors will be considered, among which the following stand out:

Cultural Development and Community Social Development: for the fulfillment of these factors a community project will be assembled with the participation of the group under investigation and the direction of the students of the career that will include as activities:

Cultural recreational activities

- Cultural recreational activities for Christmas.
- Puppet festival.
- Reading corner of children's stories.
- Activity for children's day.
- Recreational activities.

Learning activities

- Early stimulation program for children from 0 to 2 years old.
- Workshops for educational strengthening based on the development of skills of the Early Education curriculum sub-level 1 with groups of children from 2 to 3 years old.

26

Training activities for parents

- Cycle of educational talks to parents on topics related to Comprehensive Child Development.

In the development of the recreational cultural activities, the observation guide was applied, which measured the following aspects that are part of the internal factors:

- Social, psychological and emotional well-being.
- Improvement of the children's quality of life.
- Social integration.

Phase 3 Validation of the application of the strategy.

Objective: To validate the effectiveness of the application of the strategy.

Actions

1. Application of instruments in experimental group 1 and control group 2.
2. Contrast the results.

For the validation of the strategy, it is suggested to apply a survey and an interview to parents. As well as tests of knowledge to the children who participated in the application of the strategy to verify the effectiveness of the application of the strategy.

Conclusions

The design of the Community Strategy for Comprehensive Child Development in the Batallón del Suburbio community, from the Functional Structural Systemic approach allowed to determine the structure of its functioning.

The modeling of a Community Strategy for Comprehensive Child Development in the Batallón del Suburbio community will allow its application in this context, helping the growth of children influenced by internal and external factors.

References

- Addine Fernández, F. (2006). *Estrategia didáctica para potenciar la cultura científica desde la enseñanza de la química en el preuniversitario cubano. Tesis presentada en opción al grado científico de Doctor en Ciencias Pedagógicas. Instituto Superior Pedagógico Enrique José Varona. La Habana.*
- Álvarez de Zayas, C. (1995). *Metodología de la Investigación Científica*. Santiago de Cuba, Cuba : Centro de Estudios de Educación Superior "Manuel F. Gran" Santiago De Cuba.
- Fernández Rodríguez, M., Abreu Fernández, J. P., & Marrero Batista, C. (2022). Factores limitantes del Desarrollo Infantil de los niños hasta 5 años en la Comunidad Batallón del suburbio de Guayaquil. *Sinergias Educativas*, 1–24. doi:<https://doi.org/10.37954/s>
- Fernández-Rodríguez, M. M. (2021). Sustentos teóricos que fundamentan la influencia del contexto comunitario en el Desarrollo Infantil Integral de los niños de 0-5 años. *INNOVA Research Journal*, 6(3.1). doi:<https://doi.org/10.33890/innova.v6.n3.1.2>
- Fuentes González, H. (1999). *Modelo Holístico Configuracional de la Didáctica de la Educación Superior*. Santiago de Cuba, Cuba.
- MIES-INFA. (2011). *Desarrollo Infantil Integral; Conceptualización*. Quito: Sistema de Formación Tejiendo el Buen Vivir.