Asset Accumulation Strategies in 3 New Settlement Communities

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Project’s Background

Changes in the state

University of Missouri System

Knowledge, Data, and Outreach

Research

University of Missouri

CAMBIO CENTER
Livelihood Strategies

Livelihood Outcomes
Building Assets: Economic and Social Wellbeing
Vulnerability: Mobility

Economic Capital
(Savings & Assets)

Human Capital
(Education, Skill, Language Proficiency, Nutrition Health)

Cultural Capital
(Identity & Institutions)

Social Capital
(Networks of Support Bridging and Bonding)

Community Climate
(Context of Reception)

Integration

Alienation

Framework Strengths Based Model:
Livelihoods, Capitals, and the Context of Reception
Project Design and Progress

Focus Groups
(6 groups)

Photovoice
(9 sessions)

Case Studies
(16)

Household Survey
(quant.)

• Recurring themes
• Social and cultural capital

• Public Display
• Community Forums

• Livelihood strategies
• Life stories

Findings
Products
Information

Regression & Canonical Correlation Analysis (Asset Accumulation Assets Acculturation and Climate)
Focus Groups – 7 in three sites by Gender

Acculturation
Community Climate
Social Capital

Composition: 46 Latino newcomers; 25 female, 21 male, 63% married.
Age: Average 39.93 (SD = 12.11; range = 18-63)
Years in the US: Average 12.04 years (SD = 10; range = 1-44)
Children: Average # 2.79 (SD = 2.18; range = 0-8)
Preliminary Focus Group Analyses: Acculturation

- **Individual Level**
  - Strong maintenance of ties to culture of origin
  - Change and adaptation to host culture

- **Community Level**
  - Little interaction between newcomers and receiving community
  - Perceived adjustments were occurring on both sides
Preliminary Focus Group Analyses: Community Climate

- Comparisons with other communities
- Welcome reception
- Perceived discrimination and racism
- Lukewarm, cold, or negative reception
- Fears of “La Migra”
Preliminary Focus Group Analyses: Social Capital

- **Bridging**
  - Participation in local community through work and church. Barriers include language skills, legal status, and access to resources.
  - Neighborhood connections
  - Family and Friends connections
  - Work connections

- **Bonding**
  - Proactivity in a Social Context
  - Feelings of Trust and Safety
  - Family and Friends
  - Work Connections
PHOTOVOICE & FORUMS

Community Climate

Photovoice Prompts
1. What makes it easy and hard to make a living here?
2. What makes it easy and hard to feel like I am a part of the place?

Forum Feedback Themes
1. Impressions
2. New information
3. Strategies
On Going and Next Steps

- Model testing
- Survey development
- Pilot testing – on going
- Best practices for survey administration
- Impacts
THANK YOU! QUESTIONS...

Impacts:
Awareness
Education
Involvement

Cambio Center http://cambio.missouri.edu
Project Site
http://www.cambio.missouri.edu/Assets/