The MEDEX Primary Health Care Series

Clean Home and Clean Community

COMMUNITY LEARNING MATERIAL
THE MEDEX PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERIES

After completion of extensive field trials in Micronesia and in primary health care programs in Lesotho, Guyana, Pakistan, and Thailand, the methods and materials of the MEDEX technology have been published as The MEDEX Primary Health Care Series. The Series provides a systematic, practical, adaptable format for management and training in new or existing primary health care programs at all levels. The 35-volume Series is organized into three major categories of Management Systems Development Materials, Mid-Level Health Worker Training Materials, and Community Health Worker Training Materials. The Series is appropriately balanced between promotive, preventive, and curative needs in primary health care.

The methods and materials of the MEDEX technology are suitable for national scale programs as well as smaller projects, and can be used in whole or in part as circumstances demand. One of the greatest strengths of the MEDEX technology is its flexibility and sensitivity to local conditions.

To order books or to obtain further information on The MEDEX Primary Health Care Series, write: The MEDEX Group, University of Hawaii, 1833 Kalakaua Ave., #700, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815-1561, U.S.A.

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Health Manpower Development Staff
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.
INTRODUCTION

Who Is this Booklet for?

This booklet is for anyone involved in health care in the community. This is a discussion booklet to use in homes, schools, health centers, community meetings, or other places where people discuss health care in the community.

How Can You Use this Booklet?

You can use this booklet in many ways. Here are some of the ways you can use this booklet. You may think of other ways to use this booklet in your community.

Use this booklet to discuss with community members and leaders how to keep the community clean. Use this booklet to discuss how dirty homes and surroundings can make people unhealthy.

Use this booklet to discuss health in the community. Use this booklet to help people make decisions about who is responsible for the health of the community. The pictures and questions in the booklet will help you discuss situations in a community. Let community members decide which situations are true in their community. Let community members make the decisions. Let community members ask questions and find answers to the questions.
What makes a community?
The people who live in the community make the community. Grandmothers, grandfathers, parents, and children make the community. Families make the community.
The land makes the community. The homes built on the land make the community. All the homes and the people who live in them make up the community.

What else makes the community?
What can each family do to make the community a healthy place to live? What can all the families in the community do together to make the community a healthy place to live?
We will discuss these questions in this booklet.
A family stays healthy by taking care of each person in the family, the family’s home, and its surroundings. When all families are healthy the community is healthy.

If all families take care of their homes and their surroundings will the community be healthy? Are there any parts of the community that everyone has to work together to take care of? If one family does not take care of family members, the family’s home, or its surroundings, what can happen to the health of the community?
Look at the pictures of the two communities below. What differences can you see between the two communities?
Which pictures show things that can make a community unhealthy?
Which pictures show things that can make a community healthy?
Which pictures show things that you see in your community? Do these things make a community healthy or unhealthy?
A community is made up of homes. Clean homes make a clean community. What differences can you see between the homes in these two pictures?
Which pictures show things that keep the home clean and healthy?
Which pictures show things that keep the surroundings clean and healthy?
Which pictures show things that help families stay healthy?
Which things in these pictures may not be good for the health of a family?
Look at all the pictures again. Pick out all the healthy things that people do in your community. Then pick out all the unhealthy things you see in your community.
Look at the pictures. Pick out the healthy and unhealthy things you see in your community.
What are the things you can do to keep yourself and your family healthy?
What are the things you can do to make your home a healthy place to live?
What can people in your community do to make your community a healthy place to live?
In this booklet you have discussed how every person can help make the community a healthy place to live.

Every person counts.

Every home counts.

Everyone working together can help keep the community and its people healthy.