

Guatemala

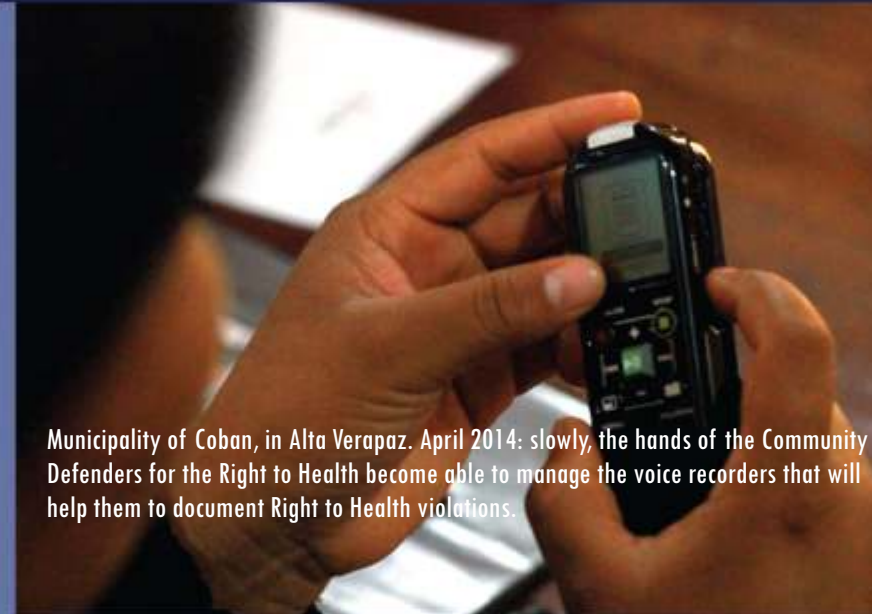
WALTER FLORES
Centre for the Study of Equity and
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(CEGSS)
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Community Defenders of Health Rights

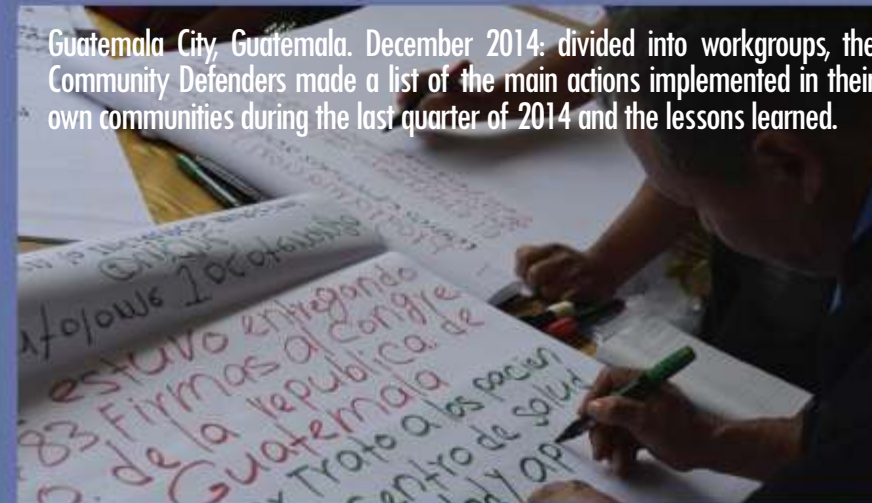




Municipality of Coban, in Alta Verapaz. April 2014: a Community Defender for the Right to Health begins the training for using the digital camera that will enable her to gather evidence.



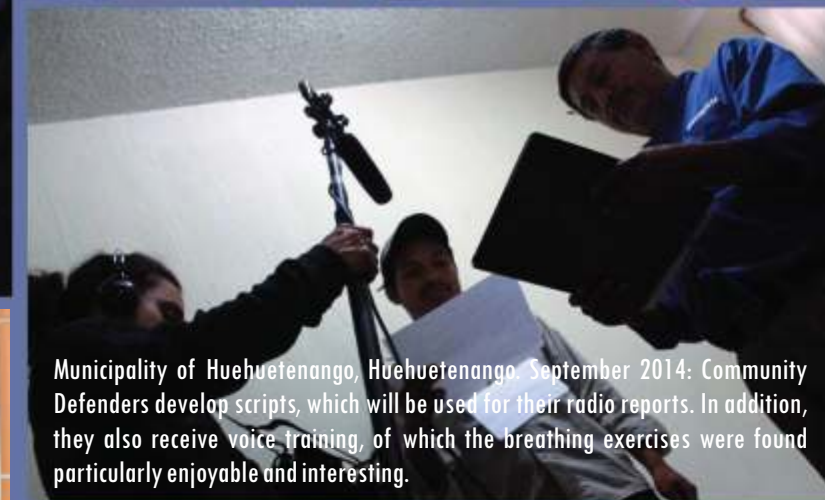
Municipality of Coban, in Alta Verapaz. April 2014: slowly, the hands of the Community Defenders for the Right to Health become able to manage the voice recorders that will help them to document Right to Health violations.



Guatemala City, Guatemala. December 2014: divided into workgroups, the Community Defenders made a list of the main actions implemented in their own communities during the last quarter of 2014 and the lessons learned.



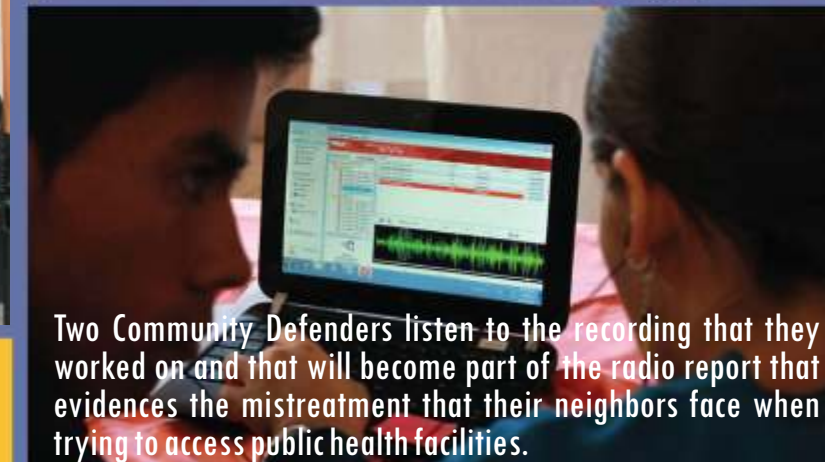
Guatemala City, Guatemala. December 2014: Domingo Gómez Zambrano addresses his fellow Community Defenders and welcomes them to this First National Meeting.



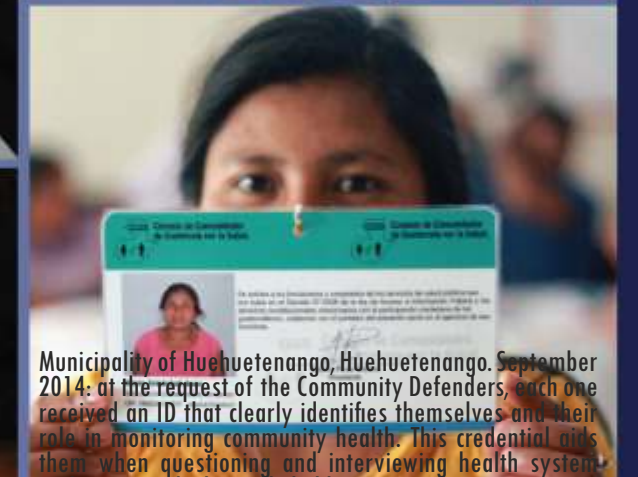
Municipality of Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango. September 2014: Community Defenders develop scripts, which will be used for their radio reports. In addition, they also receive voice training, of which the breathing exercises were found particularly enjoyable and interesting.



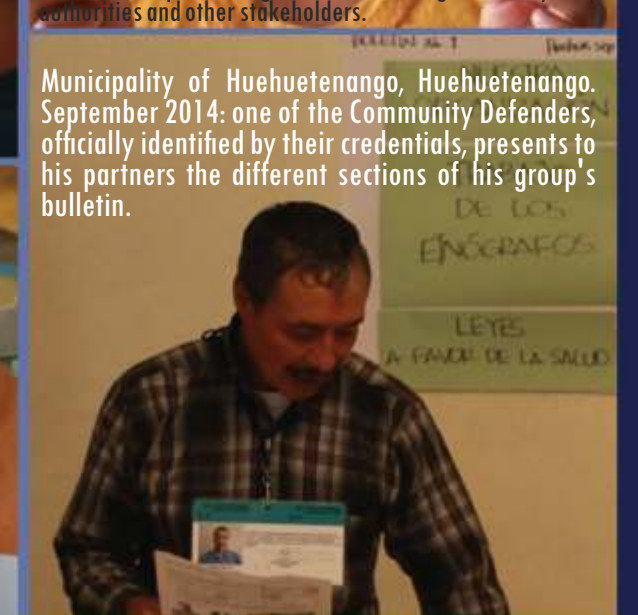
Guatemala City, Guatemala. December 2014: the defenders use their equipment effortlessly, and document the First Meeting-National Meeting of Community Defenders of the Right to Health.



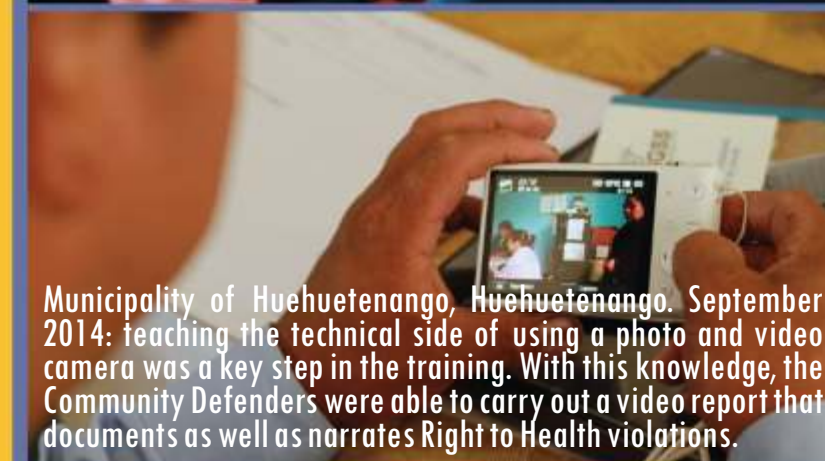
Two Community Defenders listen to the recording that they worked on and that will become part of the radio report that evidences the mistreatment that their neighbors face when trying to access public health facilities.



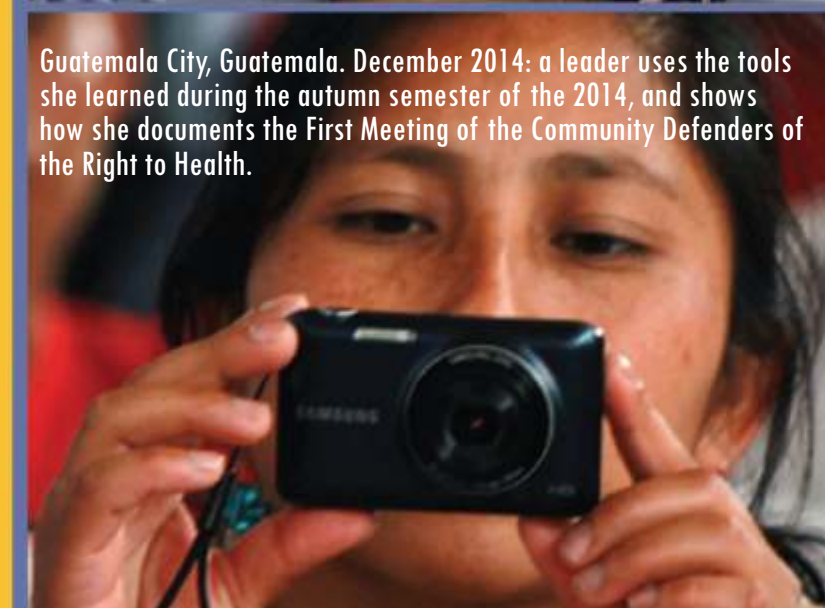
Municipality of Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango. September 2014: at the request of the Community Defenders, each one received an ID that clearly identifies themselves and their role in monitoring community health. This credential aids them when questioning and interviewing health system authorities and other stakeholders.



Municipality of Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango. September 2014: one of the Community Defenders, officially identified by their credentials, presents to his partners the different sections of his group's bulletin.



Municipality of Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango. September 2014: teaching the technical side of using a photo and video camera was a key step in the training. With this knowledge, the Community Defenders were able to carry out a video report that documents as well as narrates Right to Health violations.



Guatemala City, Guatemala. December 2014: a leader uses the tools she learned during the autumn semester of the 2014, and shows how she documents the First Meeting of the Community Defenders of the Right to Health.

The Centro de Estudios para la Equidad y Gobernanza en los Sistemas de Salud-CEGSS (Center for the Study of Equity and Governance in Health Systems) accompanied the work of the Consejo de Comunidades de Guatemala por la Salud-CCGS (Guatemalan Council of Communities for Health) from the very first moment that Community Defenders of the Right to Health expressed their interest in researching, documenting and publishing about the obstacles that families must overcome to reach health care services and to receive quality services, without illegal charges and with dignity.

A total of 42 women and 23 men participated in the entire process that included learning basic ethnographic and audiovisual techniques. The result of this process was the production of several videos, radio programs, photo-essays and bulletins. All this audiovisual material contains evidence of deficits in infrastructure, lack of drugs, health personnel and emergency transport that affect rural families. The following images document a 12 months process.

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