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**Implementing the Census-based, Impact-Oriented Approach to Comprehensive
Primary Health Care Over Three Decades in Montero, Bolivia:**

1. Program Description

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24 **Abstract**

25 **Background:** Strengthening primary health care (PHC) is now widely accepted as essential for
26 achieving global health goals, including Universal Health Coverage. However, there are few
27 examples of innovative approaches to the provision of comprehensive PHC services that have
28 been implemented over more than a few years and that have evidence of long-term
29 effectiveness. In contrast, the evidence for effectiveness of selected PHC interventions assessed
30 over shorter periods of time is abundant.

31 **Objectives:** This study describes the implementation of the census-based, impact-oriented
32 (CBIO) approach for a program in Montero, Bolivia, managed by the *Consejo de Salud Rural*
33 *Andino* (CSRA) that has been in operation for three decades, since 1988. A second paper in the
34 series describes the effectiveness of the program, including population coverage of key
35 interventions and changes in child and maternal mortality in the program area, over this period.

36 **Methods:** We reviewed available documents, prior evaluations, and health information system
37 data. We carried out interviews with 19 key informants.

38 **Results:** The CSRA/Montero Comprehensive PHC Program provides services at clinics, but it also
39 has a program of strong community outreach and community engagement that enables it to
40 visit every household regularly, identify families with special needs, and involve the community
41 in reviewing and addressing local health priorities. The program has been in operation for three
42 decades at a current annual cost of US\$11 per year.

43 **Conclusions:** The CSRA/Montero Comprehensive PHC Program is an example of an innovative
44 approach to the provision of PHC that has worked effectively for three decades with the same

45 dedicated leadership. The Program embodies strategies that are worthy of consideration for
46 broader replication in the global pursuit of Universal Health Coverage. Evidence of the
47 Program's effectiveness is addressed in the following paper in this series.

48

49 **Keywords:** Community health; Primary health care; Universal health coverage, Maternal health;
50 Child health; Peri-urban health; Census-based, impact-oriented (CBIO) approach; Community
51 participation; Bolivia

52

53 **Introduction**

54 Evidence is needed regarding innovative and promising approaches that comprehensive
55 primary health care (PHC) programs can use to achieve the current global health goals of
56 Universal Health Coverage [1] and Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths [2]. The need
57 for accelerating progress in achieving these goals has recently been declared to be urgent by
58 the General Assembly of the United Nations, given that the goal for achieving these goals is
59 now less than a decade away [3]. While the scientific peer-reviewed literature is replete with
60 examples of selective evidence-based interventions that have improved population coverage
61 and population health for three years or less [4], there are very few examples of
62 comprehensive, long-term comprehensive PHC programs whose effectiveness has been
63 assessed, particularly in terms of population coverage of key evidence-based interventions and
64 changes in mortality, over a longer period of time [5].

65 This article is the first of a two-part series describing a comprehensive PHC program in a
66 peri-urban area of the city of Montero, Bolivia, that has implemented the census-based,
67 impact-oriented (CBIO) approach over the past three decades. The second article in this series
68 provides evidence of the program's effectiveness [6]. These two papers provide updated
69 information about the CBIO approach in Montero that supplement earlier reports [7-9].

70 The CBIO approach is based on early pioneering work in north India[10-12] and Haiti
71 [13] in the 1960s and 1970s. Many CBIO elements are also present in the pioneering work of
72 the Jamkhed Comprehensive Rural Health Project [14-16] and the Society for Education, Action
73 and Research in Community Health (SEARCH) [17-19], both in central India, and BRAC's urban

74 health program reaching more than 8 million people in Bangladesh [20]. The pioneering
75 national PHC program of Ethiopia, now reaching 110 million people, utilizes the same
76 programmatic approach of household enumeration, visitation of homes, and use of family
77 health folders stored in the health post according the house's number on the community map
78 used by CSRA in the 1980s.

79 A more complete description of the CBIO approach is available elsewhere [9, 21]. Its
80 main components, as implemented in Montero, include (1) regularly updated family censuses
81 and family health folders containing all relevant health information for the family; (2) regular
82 periodic contacts with each family through home visits with a frequency that depends on the
83 risk factors identified in each home; (3) the registration of vital events (births, deaths and
84 migrations) at the time of home visits, and; (4) periodic participatory analysis of deaths and
85 other health indicators. Its major advantage is that it provides the program with both an
86 epidemiologically based as well as a community-directed approach to improving population
87 health that is adjustable as changes occur in local conditions and in the local epidemiological
88 priorities.

89 CBIO was developed by CSRA and Curamericas Global (then called Andean Rural Health
90 Care), first on the Northern Altiplano of Bolivia (beginning in 1983) and later in the Cochabamba
91 Valley (in 1987) [21]. Early progress in expanding the population coverage of key services and
92 reducing the mortality of children younger than 5 years of age (hereafter referred to as under-5
93 children) has been reported elsewhere [8, 22].

94

95 **Study setting**

96 Montero is a small city with an approximate population at present of 135,000, having grown
97 from a population of 15,000 in 1969. It is located in the Department of Santa Cruz, one of the
98 nine departments in Bolivia, and is 50 kilometers north of the city of Santa Cruz in the tropical
99 lowlands of eastern Bolivia (Figure 1). The city is organized into nine health districts, each with a
100 health center to serve the residents of that district.

101 _____

102 Figure 1 about here

103 _____

104 This study focuses on the *Consejo de Salud Rural Andino* Comprehensive Primary Health
105 Care Program in Montero (hereafter referred to as the CSRA/Montero Program) [23]. *Consejo*
106 *de Salud Rural Andino* is a Spanish term that means Andean Rural Health Care. CSRA is a
107 Bolivian NGO with historical roots to and an ongoing partnership with Curamericas Global
108 (formerly Andean Rural Health Care), an international NGO based in Raleigh, NC, USA [24].
109 CSRA became an independent legal entity based in Bolivia in 1995. CSRA/Montero is a branch of
110 CSRA.

111 **Methods**

112 The information provided in this article was obtained from personal experience,
113 document review, key informant interviews, and observation of program activities. The first
114 two authors (DCS and MCC) have been leading this program since its inception. Some of this

115 information was obtained by one of the co-authors (HM) and two local interviewers working
116 with her in 2010.

117 Key informant interviews were conducted in 2010 using a semi-structured question guide.
118 Objectives of the interviews were to understand the history of the program as well as best practices
119 of CSRA, lessons learned, and impact of the program on the health of the target population.
120 Recruitment of key informants was conducted through maximum variation sampling, criterion
121 sampling and purposive sampling. Interviews were recorded with permission, and later transcribed
122 and translated from Spanish to English. The qualitative data from the key informant interviews did
123 not merit systematic analysis due to lack of depth. This was not due to poor data collection but
124 rather to the nature of the information collected. Data gathered from observations, informal
125 interviews and key informant interviews were synthesized into a concise history and description of
126 the CSRA Montero program. Further details have been reported elsewhere [25].

127 The qualitative data collection also included observations by one of the authors (HM) of
128 activities inside the health centers and in the program neighborhoods. Topics explored at that
129 time included the history, current program activities, health impact, and lessons learned.
130 Additional key informant interviews were conducted in 2019 with the program leadership staff
131 by two of us (HP and HM).

132

133 **History and program services**

134 In 1988, under the leadership of Dr. Dardo Chavez, the CSRA/Montero Program worked with
135 the health district of Villa Cochabamba to implement the census-based, impact-oriented (CBIO)
136 approach [9]. The health district of Villa Cochabamba in Montero had a population of 6,000

137 people in 1988. The Ministry of Health was not providing any services there at that time. In
138 1988, the CSRA/Montero Program worked with the community to create a map of the area,
139 carry out a census, and begin a process of routine systematic home visitation and registration of
140 births and deaths. Through this process, it became readily apparent that the community's
141 priority was for a clinic to provide curative PHC services.

142 The early epidemiological data in Villa Cochabamba demonstrated that 65% of all deaths
143 (of all ages) occurred among under-5 children, and 87% of deaths among under-5 children
144 occurred during the first 2 years of life, with 25% of under-5 deaths occurring between 3 and 6
145 months of age and 35% between 15-21 months of age [7]. Diarrhea was by far the leading
146 cause of death of under-5 children, present in 56% of under-5 deaths [7]. A case-control study
147 carried out at that time revealed that undernutrition was a strong predictor of mortality [7].

148 In response, and in collaboration with the community, the CSRA/Montero Program
149 established the following activities:

- 150 • Extensive educational efforts on diarrhea prevention and treatment during community
151 meetings, household visits, and patient encounters at a newly constructed clinic;
- 152 • Facilitation of connections of households in the program area to the city water system
153 to provide clean and affordable water in the homes (an extended payment plan was
154 arranged with the municipal water cooperative and a revolving loan fund was created
155 for the residents of the program area);
- 156 • Installation of point-of-use improved water supply systems (using home chlorination
157 and containers with protected tops to limit contamination) to improve the quality of

158 drinking water in homes without ready access to safe water (the CSRA/Montero
159 Program provided the site for the first demonstration of this approach, now utilized
160 throughout the world [26]);

- 161 • Construction of a small health clinic staffed by one auxiliary nurse that had a pharmacy
162 and laboratory along with an optical/eyeglasses shop; and,
- 163 • Recruitment of auxiliary nurses for routine systematic home visitation.

164

165 The CSRA/Montero Program home visitation protocol required reaching each household
166 in the program implementation area at least once a year. Families without children and without
167 women of reproductive age were visited at least once a year to verify health status, investigate
168 vital events (deaths and newborns of a relative who had arrived), and update the census
169 information; Families with a woman at reproductive age and without children were visited at
170 least every 6 months to identify any pregnancy or vital event that may have occurred. More
171 frequent visits were made to homes with pregnant women and young children. Initially, homes
172 with children younger than 24 months of age were visited by auxiliary nurses and volunteer
173 community health workers every 2 months, and children 24-59 months of age were visited
174 every 3 months. Their duties included health promotion and disease prevention by providing
175 basic community-based care and education. They also identified pregnancies, births, deaths,
176 and in-migrations. In the early 1990s, the visitation schedule for homes with children was
177 changed since the 12-59-month-old age group was no longer at high risk for mortality. Auxiliary
178 nurses began to visit homes with an infant younger than 6 months of age every month, and

179 homes with an infant 6-11 months of age received a visit every three months. Homes with older
180 children were visited every 6 months. One additional modification of the home visitation
181 program that emerged was to visit mothers who worked selling goods in the local market and
182 their children while they were in the market, since these women were rarely at home.

183 The program gradually introduced Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) to take over
184 the work of household visitation. Their responsibilities included, among other things, health
185 education, referral to the clinic of those who were ill and those who were pregnant, and follow-
186 up home visits to patients who had been seen in the clinic.

187 Beginning in 1992, the CHVs received a small salary and their name was changed to
188 *Vigilante* (literally, one who is vigilant). CHVs also received free medical care from the clinic as
189 well as a 50% discount on medicines and laboratory tests. CHVs were supervised by an auxiliary
190 nurse employed at the health clinic who was also in charge of the work in the community. In
191 this way, the CHVs and the auxiliary nurse served as unbroken links between the community
192 and the CSRA/Montero Program's clinic.

193 Auxiliary nurses immunized and weighed children and also provided them with vitamin
194 A capsules and ferrous sulfate (for the prevention and treatment of iron deficiency anemia).
195 Sick patients seen in the clinic were visited at home for follow-up. Homes that had one of the
196 following received more frequent home visits as needed: a pregnant woman, a newborn, a
197 malnourished child, a child with diarrhea or a respiratory infection, and someone with
198 symptoms of tuberculosis or who was being treated for tuberculosis. Homes with residents who
199 had just moved into the neighborhood also received more frequent visits.

200 The CSRA/Montero Program maintained a health folder for each family that had a
201 number corresponding to the number of their house on the map developed by the program in
202 collaboration with the community. This number was also placed on the front of the house. The
203 staff carried these family folders with them when they visited homes.

204

205 **Expansion of the program to the Cruz Roja District and District 2**

206 In 1996, at the request of the local Red Cross (*Cruz Roja* in Spanish) chapter and
207 community leaders, the CSRA/Montero Program implemented services in the municipal health
208 district of Montero served by this local Red Cross chapter, which had already established a
209 small clinic there. This health district had a population of 13,000 in 2010.

210 In 2002, a British organization, *Comunidad de Libertad y Esperanza de la Mujer* – CLEM
211 (literally, Community of Liberty and Hope for Women), requested the CSRA/Montero Program
212 to expand its activities to an additional health district of Montero, called *Distrito 2*. In 2010,
213 *Distrito 2* had a population of 7,000. At present, the CSRA/Montero Program continues to serve
214 the Villa Cochabamba and *Cruz Roja* health districts with the same essential program. The
215 municipal government took over management of District 2 in 2014. Villa Cochabamba and *Cruz*
216 *Roja* now have a population of 19,016 and 20,522, respectively, for a combined population of
217 39,538 people.

218 In 2010, the Villa Cochabamba District added five neighborhoods and the population
219 grew three-fold, to 19,000. In 2019, Villa Cochabamba still had a population of 19,000 because

220 one neighborhood had been assigned to an adjacent district. The number of auxiliary nurses
221 working in the program grew from 1 in 1998 to 8 in 2010.

222

223 **Further development of comprehensive primary health care services**

224 In 1989, the CSRA/Montero Program started to offer general medical consultations provided by
225 physicians and added other services in accordance with the priorities set by the Ministry of
226 Health. At present, the program provides a comprehensive set of services for newborns,
227 children, pregnant women, and adults. Table 1 provides a detailed list of the services that were
228 provided in 2010, and Table 2 presents the staffing of the program as it existed at that same
229 time. With 18 trained health workers (4 auxiliary nurses, 5 graduate nurses and 9 physicians) for
230 39,000 in 2010 (0.46 trained staff per 1,000 population), the CSRA/Montero Program has only
231 one-tenth of the minimum density of 4.45 doctors, nurses and midwives per 1,000 population
232 estimated by the World Health Organization to be required for achieving the health-related
233 Sustainable Development Goals [27].

234

235

Tables 1 and 2 about here

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237

238 *The diabetes program*

239 Beginning in 2009, the CSRA/Montero Program received funding to support a program
240 for diabetes patients with no health insurance and with no means to pay for their care. The
241 program provided training for health workers in diabetes detection and clinical treatment
242 based on international standards and protocols. The staff now gives monthly educational
243 sessions for diabetic patients on healthy behaviors and prevention of complications. Applying
244 CBIO principles, every patient receives a specific individual and family health plan, including
245 medication and dates for medical checkups and laboratory tests. The health staff provides
246 education about prevention and early detection of diabetes at the time of home visits to
247 families who have a member with diabetes and to other vulnerable families. The program also
248 includes educational sessions to schoolteachers, students and parents regarding diabetes
249 prevention and promotion of healthy behaviors. The health staff also raises awareness about
250 diabetes to the general public through various communications media such as health fairs,
251 radio, TV, banners and brochures.

252

253 *The tuberculosis program*

254 The CSRA/Montero Program began its tuberculosis program in Villa Cochabamba in 1988. It was
255 the first program in the country to implement the DOTS strategy (Directly Observed Treatment
256 – Short Course) recommended by the World Health Organization. The programs regular contact
257 with all households facilitated case detection and supervision of treatment.

258

259

260 *Medical care for children with long-term special needs*

261 Starting in 2005, the CSRA/Montero Program received funding from the Rosa Vera Foundation
262 to provide medical and social support for children and adolescents with disabilities. The fund
263 paid for medical checkups, laboratory tests, and acquisition of equipment. Since 2014, the
264 CSRA/Montero Program has managed a facility owned by the Foundation that provides speech
265 therapy, physical therapy and related services.

266

267 *Training of adolescents for peer education*

268 From 2007 to 2009, the CSRA/Montero Program trained 200 students as trainers for their peers
269 in sex education. Topics included sexuality, adolescent pregnancy and family planning,
270 detection and prevention of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, self-esteem, gender
271 equity, and communication. These trainers reached 15,000 peers with this training. Now 18
272 health staff from the CSRA/Montero Program provide this education instead of teen educators,
273 alongside teachers in the schools and the staff of another local NGO that specializes in
274 reproductive and sexual health.

275

276 *Visiting medical specialists*

277 Medical specialists from the United States began to visit the Montero municipal hospital in the
278 1960s through connections of Methodist missionaries living in Montero. As Andean Rural
279 Health Care began its involvement in Montero in 1988, it supported the continuation of these
280 visits. While some visiting specialists worked at the municipal hospital in Montero, others

281 worked with the CSRA/Montero Program. The specialists included ophthalmologists and
282 opticians, dentists, pediatricians, and internists. Patients traveled long distances to Montero to
283 obtain eye consultations and eye surgery at a reduced cost or for free, and visiting
284 ophthalmologists and opticians provided training to local providers. From 2006 to 2011, the
285 CSRA/Montero Program provided free visual screening for all students in Montero until the
286 municipal government took over the program.

287

288 **The health information system**

289 As mentioned previously, the CSRA/Montero Program has maintained from the outset a health
290 information system that is based on a health folder for each family. The health folder has an
291 identification number that is the same as the household number in the census and on the map,
292 also identifying the name of the district and neighborhood. Information from clinic visits and
293 home visits are contained in the folder, including births and deaths, immunizations, and
294 nutritional monitoring data. In 2006, the CSRA/Montero Program began to digitize the
295 information in these family folders using its locally developed software system.

296

297 **Community engagement**

298 On a monthly basis, the CSRA/Montero Program holds two types of meetings with
299 neighborhood leaders to review current activities and to plan new activities. One type of
300 meeting is that of the *Comites de Analisis de la Información* (Information Analysis Committees),
301 comprised of sub-mayors, local neighborhood authorities and local health authorities, to

302 analyze the current findings from the health information system. Specific plans are developed
303 to address the problems detected. A separate meeting is held monthly with the neighborhood's
304 Local Health Authority to specifically review deaths that occurred since the previous meeting
305 and to discuss how similar deaths might be avoided in the future. At an annual end-of-the year
306 meeting, the year's activities are evaluated, changes in health indicators are reviewed, and
307 plans are made for the following year based on health indicators and community-expressed
308 needs.

309

310 **Sources of PHC program funding**

311 The program was funded initially by Andean Rural Health Care, the Ministry of Health, and the
312 city government. Beginning in 1997, the national government started a health insurance
313 program for pregnant women and children who did not have their own health insurance. In
314 2002, this program, *Seguro Universal Materno Infantil* (Universal Maternal and Infant
315 Insurance, or SUMI), paid for prenatal care, delivery care, care for women during the 6 months
316 following a birth, and care for all children younger than 5 years of age. These services were
317 provided free of charge to mothers and their children. The CSRA/Montero Program began to
318 participate in SUMI in 2005.

319 In 2009, the Bolivian government initiated the Juana Azurduy Bonus program as part of
320 SUMI, which grants conditional cash transfers to all pregnant women and children younger than
321 2 years of age who do not have health insurance. These "mother-child bonuses" are paid as
322 follows:

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- 325 • 50 Bolivian Bolivianos (US\$7) for completion of four prenatal visits
- 326 • 120 Bolivian Bolivianos (US\$17) for giving birth in a facility and obtaining a
327 postnatal visit
- 328 • 125 Bolivian Bolivianos (US\$18) every 2 months for well-child visits (including
329 immunizations) during the first 2 years of life

330 In 2013, SUMI was expanded to include the Comprehensive Health Services Provision Program,
331 which extended payment for health care services to all women of reproductive age, to women
332 and men 60 years of age and older, and to persons with disabilities.

333 Beginning in 2000, the national Ministry of Health provided salaries for three support
334 staff of the CSRA/Montero Program: a graduate nurse, an auxiliary nurse, and a health
335 information specialist. In 2005, the municipal government of Montero began to pay for some
336 salaries. At that point, government support (both national and local) provided for about one-
337 half of the CSRA/Montero Program's budget.

338 As shown in Figure 2, 92% of the program's current funding is derived from the
339 municipal, departmental and national governments. These funds support staff salaries and
340 supplies. The remaining 8% comes from fees for services and private donations. To obtain the
341 needed political support from the community leaders and the government that was required to
342 obtain the needed government financing, the CSRA staff invested considerable time educating
343 them on the importance of the program. The current recurring cost of the entire

344 CSRA/Montero Program is US\$11 per person per year (as determined by salary costs along with
345 costs of supplies, medicines and equipment). At present, the CSRA/Montero Program is serving
346 nearly 40,000 people, comprising almost 30% of the city's population.

347

348 **Discussion**

349 For three decades the peri-urban CSRA/Montero Comprehensive Primary Health Care Program
350 in Bolivia has faithfully implemented principles of the census-based, impact-oriented (CBIO)
351 approach and has established a model comprehensive PHC program for a population of nearly
352 40,000 people. The foundation of the program is a census, mapping of all households, and
353 routine visits to all homes. The program has been able to maintain close contact with the
354 community and achieve strong community engagement in addressing priority health problems.

355 The features of the CBIO approach that are well-developed in the CSRA/Montero
356 Program are:

- 357 (1) Maintenance of an annually updated census, a map with enumeration of all households,
358 and creation of family health folders having the same number as the number of the
359 house on the map and in the census;
- 360 (2) Responsiveness to both the community's expressed health priorities as well as to the
361 local epidemiological priorities (the most frequent, serious, readily preventable or
362 treatable conditions in the program area, based on locally acquired data), which have
363 changed over time;

- 364 (3) Engagement with the community, with the community taking responsibility for its
365 health and actively participating in reviewing current health data and in planning,
366 implementing and evaluating the program;
- 367 (4) Routine systematic home visitation, thereby enabling ongoing connection between all
368 households and the program, assurance of equitable coverage of basic services, and
369 ongoing prospective vital events registration; and,
- 370 (5) Measurement of health status (mortality and coverage of key evidence-based
371 interventions).

372 In 1993, the CBIO approach underwent an external review by an international expert
373 panel convened by the Child Survival and Health Grants Program of the United States Agency
374 for International Development [28]. The review covered the three programs of Andean Rural
375 Health Care (now Curamericas Global) that were underway at that time: on the northern
376 Altiplano, in the Cochabamba Valley, and in Montero. The Expert Panel's report concluded that
377 the CBIO approach merited replication, rigorous evaluation and further development.

378 Curamericas Global implemented the CBIO approach in its child survival project in
379 Nimba Country in rural Liberia [29], in the isolated rural highlands of Huehuetenango,
380 Guatemala [30], and now in western Kenya in the sub-counties of Kitutu Chache South and
381 Kitutu Chache North in the county of Kissi in western Kenya. Elements of the CBIO approach,
382 particularly the frequent visits to all households, are embodied in the Care Group approach,
383 now being implemented by Curamericas Global in all of its programs as well as by other
384 organizations around the world [31, 32].

385 At a cost of US\$11 per person per year, the CSRA/Montero Program is highly affordable.
386 Bolivia is now a lower middle-income country with a total per capita expenditure at \$427 per
387 year [33], and the projected growth in per capita spending for health among lower middle-
388 income countries is 4.0% per year [34]. The costs of implementing a PHC program such as that
389 implemented by CSRA in Montero are certainly affordable.

390

391 **Conclusion**

392 This 30-year history of the *Consejo de Salud Rural Andino*/Montero Comprehensive Primary
393 Health Care Program in Bolivia provides an example of how community collaboration and
394 community-based service delivery can complement the traditional model of primary health
395 care services provided in facilities. The census-based, impact-oriented approach, as
396 implemented in Montero, is feasible with the proper professional leadership. A following paper
397 in this two-paper series [6] provides evidence of the program effectiveness. The CBIO approach
398 as implemented in Montero, Bolivia, merits replication with rigorous evaluation, and further
399 development. It is a valuable strategy for strengthening PHC services in Bolivia and beyond and
400 can be a valuable asset in the global quest to achieve Universal Health Coverage through PHC.

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Declarations

List of abbreviations

CBIO: census-based, impact-oriented
CSRA: *Consejo de Salud Rural Andino* (Andean Rural Health Care);
TB: tuberculosis; USAID: United States Agency for International Development

Ethics approval and consent to participate

The Emory University Institutional Review Board (IRB) determined that the results were not generalizable as defined by the Emory IRB, and that IRB approval was not required. All those interviewed gave informed verbal consent. No information about those interviewed was obtained – only information about the program itself.

Consent for publication

Not applicable

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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426 received a scholarship from the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, which
427 partially funded her field research in Bolivia in 2010. Some of the work carried out by HP for this
428 paper has been supported by the Gates Foundation, Grant OPP1197181. The funders had no
429 role in the design of the study, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data or in the writing
430 of the manuscript.

431

432 **Authors' contributions**

433 HM and HP wrote the first draft of this article. DC has provided the leadership and ongoing
434 support for the CSRA/Montero Program for the past three decades. MC has provided program
435 support for three decades. NR and RL have provided long-term support to CSRA and its
436 programs in Bolivia. All authors participated in the development of this paper and approved the
437 final manuscript.

438

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446 John Wyon for his guidance and support during the early years of this program, which left an
447 indelible impact on all the authors and the CSRA/Montero Program.

448

449 **Authors' information**

450 DC has served as the Director of the CSRA/Montero Program since 1987. MCC has been a
451 member of the staff of CSRA/Montero Program since 1991. HM is currently a member of the
452 Advisory Board of Curamericas Global. NCR served as Country Director for CSRA from 1986 to
453 2013 and currently serves on the Board of Directors of CSRA and Curamericas Global. RL has
454 worked with CSRA since 1997, and since 2013 he has been Country Director of CSRA. HBP
455 founded Curamericas Global (originally Andean Rural Health Care) in 1983 and serves on its
456 Board of Directors. In addition, he is a Senior Scientist in the Health Systems Program of the
457 Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

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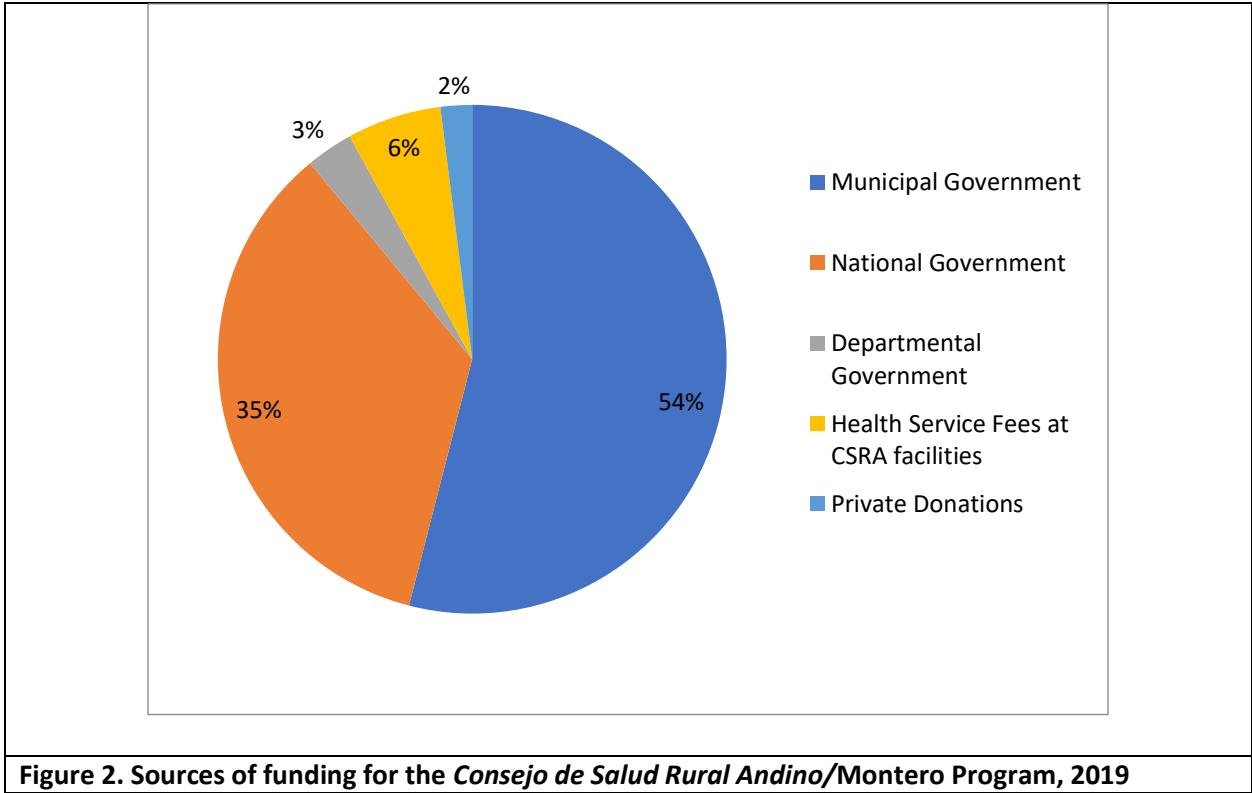
Figure 1. Location of Montero in Bolivia, South America

Source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22864132>

Note: Montero is just north of Santa Cruz de la Sierra; Carabuco is just northwest of La Paz; Mallco Rancho is just South of Cochabamba

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Table 1. Primary health care services provided by the *Consejo de Salud Rural Andino*/Montero Primary Health Care Program, 2010

Health services for children
Standard newborn care exam
Screening for hypothyroidism
Screening for Chagas disease and care for children with congenital Chagas disease
Routine monitoring of growth and development
Administration of complementary foods (<i>Nutribebe</i>) to children 6-23 months of age
Standard childhood immunizations
Administration of vitamin A, iron supplementation, and anti-parasitic medication
Inscription in conditional cash transfer program
Maternal and newborn care
Prenatal care (including tetanus toxoid immunization, screening for HIV, diabetes and hypertension, Chagas disease, and more frequent follow-up of women at high risk, and inscription in the conditional cash transfer program – <i>Bono Juana Azurduy</i>)
Delivery care and referral of patients with obstetrical complications
Postpartum care and care of the newborn (including administration of BCG immunization, screening for hypothyroidism, and preparation of formal birth certificate)
Follow up of newborns at high risk
Adult care (non-maternity)
General routine medical care
Screening and treatment for diabetes and hypertension
Screening and treatment for HIV infection and tuberculosis
Treatment of dengue, Chikungunya, Zika and influenza infections
Screening for cervical and breast cancer
Treatment of dog bites and administration of rabies vaccination program for dogs

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Table 2. Staffing of the Consejo de Salud Rural Andino/Montero Primary Health Care Program, 2010

Type	Villa Cochabamba	Cruz Roja	District No. 2	Total (full-time equivalents)
Community Health Volunteer/ <i>Vigilante</i>	8 FT	7 FT	3 FT	18 FTEs
Auxiliary nurse	1 FT	1 FT	2 FT	4 FTEs
Graduate nurse	2 FT	2 FT	1 FT	5 FTEs
Physician	3 FT	5 FT	1 FT	9 FTEs
Dentist	0	2 HT	0	1 FTE
Ophthalmologist	2 FT	0	0	2 FTEs
Laboratory technician	1 FT	1 FT	1 FT	3 FTEs
Pharmacy professional/cashier	2 FT	1 FT	1 FT	4 FTEs
Administrator	1 FT	1 FT	1 FT	3 FTEs
Accountant	1 FT	1 HT	1 HT	2 FTEs
Systems engineer	1 FT	0	0	1 FTE
Cleaning person	1 FT	1 FT	1 FT	3 FTEs
Watchman	1 FT	1 FT	1 FT	3 FTEs
Total (full-time equivalents)	24 FTEs	21.5 FTEs	12.5 FTEs	58 FTEs

594 FT: full time; HT: half time

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