Call for Abstracts
for the next issue of Practice Insights
“Community Development Approaches to the COVID-19 Crisis”

First identified in December 2019, the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), has transformed our world. As of July 2020, more than 16.2 million cases have been reported across 188 countries and territories, resulting in more than 649,000 deaths. As communities have struggled with the unprecedented death and illness related to the disease, they are also shaken by the threat of economic collapse, political upheaval, and social unrest.

The next issue of the IACD magazine Practice Insights (http://www.iacdglobal.org/practice-insights-magazine/) will focus on community development approaches to the COVID-19 crisis, presenting articles on the rights of community members, the positive transformative changes taking place, community resilience, and stories of reimagining the future. We believe that this issue can focus on how communities respond, adapt, and strive for positive change – focusing on resilience and growth over that of recovery and normalization. Consistent with IACD’s vision for community development as a necessary and important strategy for positive strengthening of individuals and systems, we seek an issue that reflects how the challenges and heartbreak of the COVID-19 crisis are compelling innovation, encouragement, and resilience. Suggested topics may include:

- Local responses to supporting families impacted by COVID due to illness, loss of income, or other special needs
- Re-thinking of public services and community needs as it relates to system weaknesses illustrated by COVID
- The role of children as caretakers, community organizers, and advocates in COVID
- Innovations in technology for the purposes of community development
- Creative innovations to protection, social connection, and communication
- Coordination with public health and/or medical health responses

We are asking IACD members and other interested contributors to respond to this “Call for Abstracts” describing their articles in 500 words or less by September 1, 2020. Guest Editors Anna Ortiz and Holly Scheib (with assistance from Anastasia Matvievskaia and Paul Lachapelle) will coordinate this Special Issue. Editors will respond to all proposed Abstracts by Sept. 15; invited authors will then have until Oct. 31 to submit their 1500 word article (and photos). The articles will undergo a peer review process and authors will then have two weeks to address any suggested edits. Please help us market our Call by sharing with your networks. We look forward to receiving your Abstracts!

Please direct your questions / submit your Abstracts by Sept. 15 2020 to Anna Ortiz at: anna@esperanca.org