

7-11-2008

# Collective Action to Improve Quality of Life: Cross-disciplinarity and Intersectorality

G F. Wimmer

G Figueiredo

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/lasm\\_cucs\\_en](https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/lasm_cucs_en)

---

## Recommended Citation

Wimmer, G F. and G Figueiredo. "Collective Action to Improve Quality of Life: Cross-disciplinarity and Intersectorality." (2008).  
[https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/lasm\\_cucs\\_en/99](https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/lasm_cucs_en/99)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin American Social Medicine at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in English by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact [disc@unm.edu](mailto:disc@unm.edu).

**Wimmer GF, Figueiredo G. Ação coletiva para qualidade de vida: autonomia, transdisciplinaridade e intersectorialidade. [Collective Action to Improve Quality of Life: Cross-disciplinarity and Intersectorality]. Ciência & Saúde Coletiva (Rio de Janeiro, Brasil) 2006 January-March; 11(1): 145-154.**

**Objectives:** To analyze the intersectoral and cross-disciplinary practices of researchers from the Health and Family Program and the Community Health Promoters Program (PSF/PACS in Portuguese).

**Methodology:** This qualitative study is based on social sciences theory, and consists of a critical reflection on interventions undertaken at the Vila de João health clinic and the Curicica health program. The article describes the resulting experiences and discusses how collective intersectoral and cross-disciplinary actions were developed with the goal of encouraging subjects' autonomy in an exercise of political counter-hegemony, to contribute to improving their quality of life. An attempt was made to perceive representations and values in the "field of social processes" rather than in the "field of subjective individual processes."

**Results:** Due to the complexity of the health sector, these problems cannot be approached disjointedly by partial structures. Health problems in the population require collective action.

**Conclusions:** The authors claim that collective action can be developed as a set of efficient strategies to enhance the quality of life of the population if such actions are based on intersectoral and cross-disciplinary principles and the development of subjects' autonomy, exercising political counter-hegemony. This enables not only a discussion of problems affecting the community, but also the development of collective intervention strategies.