Holistic Graduation Model to Enable Self-sufficiency:
Lessons from the FXBVillage Model

April 22, 2017
Who We Are

- Established in 1989, FXB is an international development organization which works to create a world where everyone has a chance not just to survive but to thrive.

- Our mission is to provide the poorest of the poor families with the tools and support they need to become self-sufficient and give their children a future.

- Through our FXBVillage Model, we don’t just hand people money. We hand them a multidimensional solution to permanently escape extreme poverty.

- In addition to health, education, and protection programs, FXB currently implements 16 FXBVillages in Colombia, Burundi, China, India, Mongolia, Rwanda and Uganda.
Holistic FXBVillage Model

- Economic Empowerment
- Nutrition
- Education
- Health
- Housing
Graduation Model

The FXBVillage Model

- **Education**: Subsidy for school uniforms, fees, and supplies
- **Health**: Healthcare Access and Health Education
- **Livelihoods**: Startup Capital provided, not loaned
- **Skills Training**: Managing the Asset
- **Safety Net**: Food Consumption Support
- **Legal Aid**: Referrals to legal services
- **Housing**: Training and support for sanitary living conditions
- **Coaching**: Life Skills & Encouragement
- **Savings Promotion**: Access to Savings Account
Definition of Graduation

- Program designed to gradually increase participant’s contribution and involvement.

  25% contribution from participants for medical and educational expenses during second year and 50% during third year.

- Self-sufficiency accomplished by the end of the third year.
Program Goals

- Strengthen economic capacities of vulnerable families,
- Improve food security among participants and eradicate malnutrition in children,
- Enhance families’ access to medical care and prevention of disease,
- Improve the living conditions of households,
- Enhance psychosocial status of participants,
- Reduce the discrimination of people living with HIV,
- Increase the number of children going to school and accessing vocational training opportunities, and
- Increase the overall knowledge of the community on various life skills.
Capacity Building

FXB builds organizational, community and individual capacities.

• Field offices, led exclusively by local staff and locally registered community based organizations.

• Community-wide training workshops on topics such as hygiene, diet, nutrition, and basic healthcare.

• Build the capacity of the ultra-poor program participants to become self-sufficient and empowered to improve their own lives.
Participant Eligibility Criteria

- Poverty and vulnerability levels
  → Assessed with vulnerability assessment tool

- Motivation or willingness shown achieve program objectives
  → Assessed through interview with family and discussion with community leaders

- Honesty and reliability: reputation of the head of household
  → Assessed through interview with family and discussion with community leaders

- Number of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in the households
  → Assessed with vulnerability assessment tool
Learning from the Data

• A detailed questionnaire is implemented in every participant household at the beginning and end of the 3-year FXBVillage Model.

• Internal Monitoring and Evaluation data: 90% of the households achieve self-sufficiency by the end of the program.
Learning from the Data

• When possible financially and operationally, follow-up evaluations are conducted by external partners in order to assess sustainability of impacts (1 year, 2 years, 3 years and/or 4 years after graduation)

• Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative Evaluation in Uganda (2014): former FXB beneficiaries were less multidimensionally poor than their peers, even three years after graduation.

• Human Sciences Research Council evaluation in Rwanda (2007): participating children enroll, remain and advance in school at higher rates than their peers, and 86% of participating families live above the poverty line four years after the program’s completion.
Learning from the Data

An assessment of the FXBVillage Program in Uganda and Rwanda

- Assessed pre/post changes, at baseline and at the culmination

- Comparative analysis in which the FXBVillage data is compared against national data collected by the Demographic and Health Surveys during the time of the FXB programs, using an asset-based wealth index

- Results in child and adult health status and access to care, household characteristics, food security, economic status, access to education, psychosocial status and well-being.
Key Findings

- **Food security:**
  - ≥3 meals/day from 5% to 88%

- **Health and HIV:**
  - Head of household has been tested for HIV from 77% to 100%
Key Findings

- Water and Sanitation:
  - Improved latrine from 67% to 99%

- Psychosocial wellbeing among adults:
  - Communal financial support if needed from 27% to 98%
Key Findings

Schooling:
- School attendance 5-17 years old from 79% to 97%
- Adequate school supplies from 7% to 97%

Household economics and durable goods:
- House Ownership from 57% to 89%
- Participating in IGAs 18% to 68%
Key Findings

A positive shift in the distribution of the wealth index from baseline to year 3

Range of asset based wealth index (lowest (left) to highest wealth)
Conclusions

- Direct support for basic needs in a graduated and time bound manner stabilizes households.
- Asset transfer, skills training and savings promotion strengthen economic capacity.
- Improved individual psychosocial well-being (coaching) and stronger community networks (collective IGAs) strengthen household’s resilience.
Conclusions

• Graduation programs such as the FXBVillage Model strengthen communities’ social and economic capacities.
• The program’s aim is to enable households to consistently provide for their basic needs and induce lasting resilience.
• The FXBVillage Model transformed Dr. Jonathan Mann’s health and human rights paradigm into an effective development intervention.
The FXBVillage Model has been recognized by **UNAIDS (2002)** and **UNICEF (2008)** as a best practice.
FXBVillage Model Toolkit and Planning Guide

Download the FXBVillage Toolkit and Planning Guide:
http://usa.fxb.org/toolkit/
Connect with FXB USA

usa.fxb.org
Contact Information

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td><strong>Health</strong></td>
<td>Basic hygiene training and education (e.g. latrines, water supply, hygiene materials and use, family planning), HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, up to 100% support for all health-related expenses during the first year, 75% during the second year and 50% the third year, referrals to health centers and clinics, and distribution of mosquito bed nets</td>
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<td><strong>Nutrition</strong></td>
<td>In-kind nutritional support for 9 to 12 months during the first year. Nutrition/diet trainings. Kitchen garden supplies distribution. In 2015, FXB Rwanda launched “Biochar – Agricultural Innovative Program,” enabling 80 families and 1,200 farmers to ensure their food security, increase their yields and productivity while simultaneously offsetting carbon emissions.</td>
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<td><strong>Housing</strong></td>
<td>FXB provides material to rehabilitate or reconstruct houses on an as-needed basis. Latrine improvement is an integral part of the FXBVillage program. Additionally, FXB trains participants on various skills including creating dish racks for drying, constructing stables for livestock, utilizing hand washing stations, improved kiln for cooking, and the benefits of maintaining a clean home.</td>
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# Program Components

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<td>Economic Empowerment</td>
<td>Each family received an in-kind grant worth $120-160 USD. In-kind grants are distributed in two or three installments during the first year of the program. All participants’ heads of household are clustered into groups of 8 to 12 people. Through these associations, members engage in collective weekly savings. Then, they establish collective IGAs in order to generate more income and to further increase group savings.</td>
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<td>Technical skills training</td>
<td>Training on topics such as financial literacy, management, microcredit, income diversification, banking, agriculture, kitchen gardening, establishing a cooperative, and Village Savings and Loans Groups.</td>
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<td>Savings</td>
<td>Once enrolled, families must open a bank account to begin saving. Participants are encouraged to save a portion of their income to cope with unexpected economic shocks. Savings are also established through beneficiary groups in which all heads of household are enrolled.</td>
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<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>The program identifies and re-enrolls all school-aged children, pays up to 100% of all school-related costs (including fees, uniforms and other materials) during the first year, 75% during the second year and 50% the third year, closely monitors the children’s academic performance, and psychosocial development. Additionally, adolescents who have dropped out, when possible, are enrolled in vocational trainings.</td>
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<td><strong>Psychosocial support</strong></td>
<td>Psychosocial support sessions are held in groups and on a one-on-one basis to encourage participants to seek assistance as required.</td>
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<td><strong>Lifeskills Coaching</strong></td>
<td>Throughout the FXBVillage program, trainings are provided on a wide range of topics ranging from balanced nutrition, health, hygiene, HIV/AIDS, children’s rights, early childhood development, water treatment, family planning, and environmental conservation.</td>
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<td><strong>Home visits</strong></td>
<td>These are conducted weekly during the first 2 years, and bi-weekly or monthly during the third year in order to monitor participants’ economic and social development.</td>
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