Abstract
The main findings of a study that investigated the psychosocial cultural factors affecting the interface between community organizations and public agencies are reported. Four types of organizations are analyzed in 2 different communities, using a qualitative methodology and a structural networks analysis. In both communities the paternalistic, client and semi-client interface type predominate. These types of relationships focus on the delivery of resources by the municipal institution as a way of addressing the immediate needs of the community. In turn, the community organizations center their efforts on short-term objectives and participation aimed at obtaining these resources.

Keywords
Empowerment, interface approach, community development.