Financial Education for Adults - Women beneficiaries of the Bolsa Família Program (PBF) and Retirees with income of up to two minimum salaries

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Abstract:

The article presents the results of the Impact Evaluation carried out in the Financial Education Program for Women Beneficiaries of the Bolsa Família Program (PBF), belonging to the Ministry of Social Development (MDS), and Retirees with income of up to two minimum salaries, belonging to the Ministry of Finance (MF), involving 3,878 women and 3,142 retirees in 49 municipalities in Brazil, in 5 regions, for 3 years. This program aims to promote the increase of financial literacy and changes in habits and behaviors, in order to develop skills and abilities that help to manage the family budget efficiently wherein for women beneficiaries the objective is to promote autonomy and for retired the objective is reduction of superendividations. The methodology used was the one of experimental experience and made possible live with beneficiaries in their houses, seeking to understand consumption habits and the decision-making. Some of the results indicated by the Impact Evaluation identified a 10% improvement in financial planning, a 6% increase in knowledge about financial planning, and a 43% increase in saving capacity, among others for women and for retirees there was a decrease of 40% of those who selfdeclared defaulters, 36% increase in spending on basic needs, 13.2% improvement in retirees who calculate their monthly balance. The change in behavior through the development of skills and abilities, as well as the acquired knowledge, demonstrated that decision making becomes more conscious, promoting autonomy and better meaningful in the quality of life of the family and the family environment.

Keywords: Women; Bolsa Familia Program; Financial education; Decision making; Retired.