Pre-Analysis Plan

This project evaluates the effectiveness of the Show Up to Grow Up program (SUGU). SUGU is a 5-month behaviorally informed texting intervention addressed to parents of preschool children with the goal of on reducing absenteeism. We will carry out a randomized controlled trial with approximately 1400 parents from different preschools, where half of the parents will be assigned to the treatment group who will receive the SUGU program, and the other half will be in the control (business as usual) group.

We will estimate an intent-to-treat model comparing the treatment and control groups:

$$Y_{i,t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 T_i + \alpha Y_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_i$$

Where $Y_{i,t-1}$ and $Y_{i,t}$ are the outcome measure for parent i before and after the intervention period, respectively. T_i is a binary variable indicating if parent i was part of the treatment group. The treatment effect will be estimated by the coefficient β_1, which according to our hypothesis should be negative and significant for all outcomes.

We will estimate this model using two variables as outcomes:

- Number of days that the child of parent i was absent from preschool during the intervention period.
- Binary variable indicating if, during the intervention period, the absence rate of parent i's child was over 10% (which is the definition of chronic absenteeism).

We will also run the regressions separately for each month of the intervention to estimate treatment effects over time. Additionally, we will run quantile regressions for both outcomes.

Heterogeneous treatment effects will be estimated for the following baseline characteristics:

- child's gender
- whether the parent has a BA degree
- whether the parent pays for preschool
- whether the family's primary language is Spanish
- baseline absenteeism of the child (both as the number of days absent and as a binary variable indicating chronic absenteeism)