



## XVII Bilingual Health Week OCTOBER 2017

### KEY MESSAGES

1. The United States is a nation of immigrants. **More than half of the growth in the total population of the United States between 2000 and 2010 was due to the increase in the Hispanic population.** In 2012, the immigrant population of Hispanic or Latino origin reached 53 million (United States Census; 2012)
2. Latinos in the U.S. are the most numerous and youngest ethnic minority in the country, yet they have the lowest rates of health insurance and the most restricted access to health care services. The insufficient social protections provided by federal and state governments for this group have given rise to social mobilizations for health such as Bilingual Health Week, that seek to improve the access to care, health promotion, and a reduction of inequities in the social determinants of health for this population.
3. **The migratory process is a social determinant of health.** From preparation for the journey to eventual acculturation in the receiving country, immigrants and their families have special health needs.
4. **The number of children with at least one immigrant parent is increasing every year in the United States.** Most of the children of immigrants are U.S.-born citizens, yet they face greater barriers to obtaining health insurance and health care than those children without immigrant parents.
5. **BHW promotes binational policy collaboration.** Immigrants contribute economically and socially to their countries of origin and their host countries. The policies of both countries ultimately have an impact on immigrants' health and wellbeing.
6. **Binational Health Week is an internationally recognized model for good practice in binational collaboration for migrant health.** It is estimated **about one million** people will be served during Bilingual Health Week, via more than **60,000 health activities, screenings or services, mobile clinics and health promotion workshops.**
7. This year the main health topics that will be addressed are **Vaccines, Diabetes, Occupational Health, and Health Services.**

**For more information on local and regional events, visit:**

[www.binationalhealthweek.org](http://www.binationalhealthweek.org) or [www.semanabinacionaldesalud.org](http://www.semanabinacionaldesalud.org)