



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ALERT**

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**Binational Health Week Delivers Culturally-Competent Health Education and
Services to Vulnerable Populations
October 2017**

WHAT: **Binational Health Week** (BHW) is celebrating its 17th anniversary. Federal and state government agencies, community-based organizations and thousands of volunteers have come together during the month of October to help improve the health and well-being of the underserved Latino population. Activities include workshops, insurance referrals, health fairs and medical screenings.

WHEN: BHW will take place in **October 2017** in the U.S. and Canada. This year BHW will focus on: **Infectious Diseases including HIV/AIDS; Chronic Diseases including Diabetes; Influenza; Occupational Health; and Access to Health Insurance.**

BHW's inaugural event and the **Binational Policy Forum on Migration and Global Health** will be held on **October** in Mexico. The Forum convenes key stakeholders from government, academia and non-profit organizations to foster dialogue about the health opportunities of migrant populations. Forum participants explore collaborative opportunities and inform policymakers on reducing health disparities and improving the quality of life of Latinos in the U.S.

WHO: BHW main partners include the Secretariats of Health and Foreign Affairs of Mexico, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, and the Institute for Mexicans Abroad, the Mexican Social Security Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Council of Mexican Federations in North America (COFEM), and the Health Initiative of the Americas. Local public health departments also serve as BHW partners.

IMPACT: Based on prior years, it is estimated that over **250,000** people will be reached in 2017 through BHW events. This is thanks to the hard work of over **4,600** agencies led by **133** consulates and **178** planning committees that collaborate together to plan and organize BHW events. Over **3,000** events will be conducted; health fairs and events in clinics and hospitals are expected.

WHERE: **Inaugural Event:** Binational Policy Forum on Migration and Global Health, Oct. 2017 in Mexico.

Local and Regional Events: in more than 300 cities and towns in 40 U.S. states and 3 provinces in Canada. For more information, please visit: <http://www.binationalhealthweek.org>