



Binational Health Week:

**One more year of delivering services and health information to vulnerable Latino population in the U.S. and Canada
October 1-16, 2011**

WHAT: Binational Health Week (BHW) reaches an 11 year milestone. For more than a decade federal and state government agencies, community-based organizations, and thousands of volunteers have come together annually to help improve the health and well-being of the underserved Latino population. To date, BHW is one of the largest mobilization efforts in the nation aimed to improve health access of vulnerable communities. Outreach and education workshops, health fairs, lab tests, insurance referrals, medical screenings, and other essential health services will be delivered in cities and towns in the U.S. and Canada.

This year, five national campaigns are being implemented to promote awareness among the underserved Latino community: ***Access to Health Care Services, Women's Health (Cervical, Breast Cancer and Teen Pregnancy), Infectious Diseases (HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis), Chronic Diseases (Obesity, Diabetes, Kidney Disease and Hypertension), and Mental Health (Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence)***. The campaigns' objectives are to promote awareness, prevention and response action regarding each issue.

WHO: The consular networks of Latin American countries including Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru take the lead in the organization and delivery of BHW events. Additionally, the Institute for Mexicans Abroad, the Mexican Secretariat of Health and Foreign Affairs, the California's Department of Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Council of Mexican Federations in North America (COFEM), and the University of California Berkeley School of Public Health's Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA) will coordinate and staff a multitude of events to improve the health of the Latino population in the U.S.

Last year BHW events took place in 40 U.S. States and 3 Canadian Provinces, and nearly 4,000 health activities took place, with a reach of over 700,000 people.

WHERE:

- Local and regional events in more than 200 cities and towns:
For detailed information and calendar of activities visit www.binationalhealthweek.org
- Inaugural Event: Binational Policy Forum on Migration and Global Health, **Oct. 3-4, 2011 in San Antonio Texas.**
More information about the forum, including tentative agenda, travel, lodging, and registration is available at www.regonline.com/binationalforum2011