



**PRESS ADVISORY
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**BINATIONAL HEALTH WEEK 2006 WILL CLOSE AFTER HOLDING OVER 1,000
ACTIVITIES FOR THE UNDERSERVED LATINO POPULATION**

*California Closing Event to Take Place October 13
General Consulate of Mexico in L.A.
2401 West 6th St., Los Angeles CA 90057*

Preliminary information from Binational Health Week taskforces, Consulates of Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala across the US and Canada reveal that more than 1,000 activities will take place. These events include health fairs, mobile health clinics, health-education workshops, and medical-insurance outreach activities, among others.

EVENTS: The national closing event for Binational Health Week 2006 will take place in Los Angeles on October 13. A press conference will be held at the Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles at 10 a.m. followed by a reception.

A University of California report focused on the health status of Mexican and Central American immigrants in the U.S. will be released at the morning press conference.

Key speakers at the morning press conference will include:

- Rubén Beltrán, Consul General of Mexico in Los Angeles
- Fabián Núñez—Speaker, California State Assembly
- Sandra Shewry—Director, California Department of Health Services
- Martha Altolaquirre—Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, Guatemala
- Mario Gutiérrez—Director of Agricultural Worker Program, CA Endowment
- Hilda Solís—Representative, U.S. Congress
- Gilbert Cedillo—Senator, California State Senate
- Gabriel García—Secretariat of Health, Mexico.

To find information about Binational Health Week events, go to <http://www.binationalhealthweek.org> or call 888-895-0808

BACKGROUND: The California-Mexico Health Initiative (CMHI, a University of California project), in cooperation with local, state, and national agencies, will convene the SIXTH Binational Health Week from October 7 to 15. This year in the U.S., BHW expands from California to 30 other U.S. states, Washington, D.C., three Canadian provinces and the El Salvadorian and Guatemalan Consulates again with the participation of the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME).

An annual event that began in 2001, BHW has been instrumental in developing programs aimed at improving the health and well-being of migrant and immigrant workers and their families. Over 450,000 people received health interventions during the five BHWs. A large part of BHW's success is due to existing partnerships and networks, including clinics, community-based organizations, Mexican hometown associations, and the involvement of Mexico's Secretariats of Health and Foreign Affairs.

To obtain the most recent fact sheets on migration and health visit: <http://www.ucop.edu/cmhi/>

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