



BINATIONAL HEALTH WEEK

HEALTH INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAS

CANADA | UNITED STATES | MÉXICO | GUATEMALA | EL SALVADOR | HONDURAS | NICARAGUA | ECUADOR | COLOMBIA

MEDIA ALERT

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Binational Health Week 2008 *Healthy Communities for All* October 6-15, 2008

WHAT: A massive mobilization of Latino communities in the United States to receive health service and education. Now in its eighth year, *Binational Health Week (BHW)* continues to grow from a grassroots initiative with its roots in California to a multinational campaign involving 9 countries: United States, Mexico, Canada, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador and Colombia.

- Binational Health Week organizers expect **over 500,000** people to receive health services at **2,300 events** that include more than **5,000 activities** this year.
- Four specific health campaigns will take place during Binational Health Week 2008 and will focus on: **Diabetes, Emergency Preparedness, HIV/AIDS and Autism.**
- **400** researchers, community organizers, representatives from the media, students, and policymakers, among others, are expected to attend the Binational Policy Forum on Migration and Health, in Zacatecas, Mexico (October 5-7th). This event is the official inauguration of BHW.
- An international report "Migration and Health: Latinos in the United States" jointly issued by the University of California and the Mexican Population Council will be released during BHW. It describes the health risks that working in the U.S. poses for Latino immigrant workers, especially Mexicans. For example, accidents constitute the third leading cause of death among the Latino population in the United States; many of these accidents occur in the workplace.

WHO: **Binational Health Week brings together more than 9,000 organizations and 21,000 volunteers** from government agencies, community based organizations, and public health professional from all participating countries supported the yearlong effort to organize this week's events.

HOW: Binational Health Week was founded and continues to be led by the Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA), a program of the University of California at Berkeley, School of Public Health. The consular representatives from all the Latin America participating countries, as well as by key stakeholders play a big role in this effort, including the United States, U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission, The California Endowment, California HealthCare Foundation, and the Council of Mexican Federations in North America. The number and type of events are substantial.

Activities/Services Offered	Number
Access to Health Services	455
Addictions	127
Asthma	64
Autism and Other Disabilities	97
Cancer	217
Cardiovascular Health/Hypertension	314
Child Health	366
Cultural Competency	75
Emergency Preparedness	131
Environmental Health	126
HIV/AIDS/STDs	265
Health Insurance	196
Hearing/Vision	132
Infectious Disease	97
Men's Health	495
Mental Health/Domestic Violence	495
Obesity/diabetes/nutrition	408
Occupational Health & Safety	119
Oral/Dental Health	148
Physical Strength	124
Reproductive/Sexual Health	153
Social Services	288
Vaccinations	103
Women's Health	469
Total	5,464

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