

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Binational Health Week / Health Initiative of the Americas

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INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE ON BEHALF OF IMMIGRANTS' HEALTH

WHAT: A planning meeting for the **Eighth Binational Health Week** (BHW) will initiate with an evening reception. The presence and participation of the Guatemalan Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, a representative from the Mexican Ministry of Health Affairs, and senior officials from El Salvador and Colombia are expected as well as policymakers, healthcare advocates, and community leaders who will be available for interviews.

BHW facts as well as background information will be provided during this important meeting to strengthen bilateral efforts in order to establish immigrant health as a policy priority in the United States.

WHO: Over 80 organizations including the consular network of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Colombia in the United States.

WHEN: Evening reception will be held on **Thursday, February 28th, from 5-7:00pm at the Consulate General of Mexico in San Francisco**. 532 Folsom Str, Sn Fco. 94105

Working Session will take place **February 29, 2008 at the UC Berkeley Alumni House, from 9:00am to 3:00pm** (UC Berkeley Campus see attached map).

- Last year during BHW more than 3,941 activities reached an estimated 301,661 individuals.
- Since 2001, BHW has been an essential instrument in the delivery of health related services to migrant workers and their families with the support and coordination of both public and private agencies.
- Immigrants' health is a complex issue that requires bilateral attention and resources. UC Berkeley, through its program Health Initiative of the Americas aims to bring together the co-responsibility on both ends of the migrant stream.
- The annual planning meeting will identify the major emphasis for services in health and other related human services for the migrant work force in North America and create networks.
- This will mobilize the outreach and services emphasis for strategic funders and community providers across the continental United States and Canada for 2008-2009.

Health and Dignity for All

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