United States–México Border Health Commission (BHC) Overview

Children’s Environmental Health in the U.S.–Mexico Border Region

San Diego, California
January 27–28, 2016
Mission and Goals

Mission
To provide international leadership to optimize health and quality of life along the United States – México border

Goals
- Institutionalize a domestic focus on border health that can transcend political changes
- Create an effective venue for binational discussion to address key public health issues at the border
### Strategic Principles and Roles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principles</th>
<th>Roles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>➢ Facilitate identification, study and research</td>
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<td>Focus</td>
<td>➢ Be a catalyst to raise awareness</td>
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<td>Venue</td>
<td>➢ Promote sustainable partnerships for action</td>
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<td>➢ Serve as an information portal for community partners</td>
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Milestones:
Enabling Legislation and Major Events

- 1994: P.L. 103-400 passed by U.S. Congress
- 1997: Initial funding provided through HHS/Office of International and Refugee Health
- 2000: Binational Agreement signed establishing the BHC
- 2003: Approval of BHC Bylaws
- 2004: Designated a Public International Organization by President Bush
- 2010: Signed Joint Declaration reaffirming Binational Agreement; Approval of revised Bylaws
- 2014: First Binational Strategic Visioning Session
BHC Structure and Priorities
BHC Priorities

**STRATEGIC**
- Infectious Diseases
- Degenerative Chronic Diseases
- Maternal and Child Health
- Accidents
- Mental Health

**TRANSVERSAL**
- Access to Care
- Research
- Strategic Planning
US-Mexico Border Health Commission
Strategic Map: 2014-2017

Improve Border Health
Through Coordination and Mobilization of Resources

Revised
11/11/2014

A
Impact
Key, Common
Public Health
Challenges

1
Align Public Health
Priorities in the
Border Region to
Inform Policy

2
Identify Principal
Public Health
Priorities

3
Define Contingency
Plan for Public
Health Emergencies

4
Establish a
Unified Bi-National
Health Information
System

B
Maximize
Communication,
Coordination,
Collaboration,
and Commitment

1
Implement an
Orientation/Induction
Program for New
Members & Delegates

2
Develop Mechanisms
and Protocols to
Promote Transverse
and Vertical Linkages

3
Engage Partners and
Stakeholders to
Maximize
Collaboration

4
Leverage Training
Opportunities to
Build Skills in
Bilateral Relations

C
Mobilize
Public and
Private Funding

1
Establish
Individual Budgets
to Provide Ongoing
Stability

2
Develop Partnerships
and Alliances to
Support Commission
Priorities

3
Communicate
In-kind Contributions
to Advance
Commission Priorities

4
Leverage Pre-Existing
Federal and State
Funding to Support
Border Interventions

D
Strengthen
Commission
Infrastructure
to Achieve
Results

1
Develop an
Operational Bi-National
Business Plan
Aligned with Strategy

2
Restructure Groups
and Committees
to Support the
Business Plan

3
Develop Workforce
Competency of
Members, Delegates
OBH Directors & Federal
Representatives

4
Establish Infrastructure
Needed to Evaluate
Commission
Outcomes

5
Develop Recommendations and Communicate to Decision-Makers

E
Expand and Strengthen Collaboration, Partnerships and Relationships

F
Promote Measurement, Accountability and Results

G
Improve, Innovate, and Adapt
BHC Activities
## Proposed 2015–2016 Cooperative Agreement Work Plan Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Community-based Healthy Border Initiatives <em>(includes Border Binational Health Week 2015)</em></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Leaders across Borders</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Border Binational Reproductive Health Work Group</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>U.S.-México Border Tuberculosis Initiative</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Border Binational Obesity Prevention Workshop</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Healthy Border 2020 Community Grants</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Child and Adolescent Overweight and Obesity Prevention Initiative</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Binational Border Health Consortium of the Californias Strategic Plan</td>
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BHC Partners

- U.S. and México Federal Government
- Mexican Consulates
- 10 State Health Departments
- 4 Offices of Border Health
- 10 BHC Outreach Offices
- 90 Local Health Departments
- Binational Health Councils
- Clinics, Hospitals, and Health Service Providers

- Community-based Organizations
- Promotores Organizations
- Academic Institutions
- Pan American Health Organization
- Border Governors Conference
- National Rural Health Association
- Texas Medical Association
- U.S. and Mexico Media Outlets
BHC Challenges

- Operating along the busiest and most complex binational border in the world in support of diverse national, state, and local public health systems.

- Addressing the whole host of border health issues with limited resources and focusing resources to the border region.

- Identifying unified priorities from each government.

- Focusing the health system to address chronic diseases as well as infectious diseases that includes health prevention and promotion strategies.

- Utilizing comprehensive approaches that includes health care systems, policy makers, academia, and public health, and promoting sustainable partnerships among these various sectors.
BHC Opportunities

- Serves as a unique binational and horizontal framework that brings together two federal governments, 10 states and a multitude of other public and private partners to address border and binational health issues.

- Serves as a catalyst to identify, convene, and encourage action on key strategic binational issues that also brings focus to diverse populations.

- Serves as a focal point to assist federal and state agencies in both countries in addressing specific border health related issues.
THANK YOU

U.S.-México Border Health Commission
Comision de Salud Fronteriza Mexico-Estados Unidos

Website:
www.borderhealth.org
www.saludfronterizamx.org