Community-Based Healthy Border Initiatives—to advance local and regional activities and events in support of world health days, including National Infant Immunization Week 2014, Border Binational Health Week 2014, and other BHC priorities.

Prevention and Health Promotion among Vulnerable Populations Initiative—to improve health outcomes among vulnerable populations living along the U.S.-México border by increasing health-seeking behavior and strengthening the delivery of health referral services and primary health care.

Border Binational Resource Coordination Symposium—to unite federal, state, and local partners with the philanthropic community to raise awareness of priority health issues existent along the U.S.-México border in support of improved collaboration and resource sharing that can lead to improved health outcomes and access to care in the U.S.-México border region.

Border Binational Reproductive Health Summit—to address reproductive health inequities and related issues impacting the U.S.-México border region and to identify potential solutions.

Healthy Border (HB) 2010-2020 Strategic Plan—to coordinate and implement Phase V of the strategic plan, to include completion of the HB 2010 Joint Closeout and the HB 2020 reports.

Leaders across Borders—to promote binational leadership development for public health and health care professionals working to improve community health across and along the border region.

United States-México Border Tuberculosis Consortium—to advance the work of previously established work groups in support of reinforced binational and borderline responses to tuberculosis issues.

Border Binational Obesity Prevention Technical Work Group—to draft and develop a five-year strategic plan that addresses recommendations and outcomes generated at the first United States-México Border Obesity Prevention Summit to reduce childhood obesity in the U.S.-México border region.

Border Binational Infectious Disease Conference—to address critical infectious diseases and related issues impacting the U.S.-México border region and to identify potential solutions.

**MISSION**

To provide international leadership to optimize health and quality of life along the U.S.-México border

**GOALS**

—Institutionalize a domestic focus on border health that can transcend political changes

—Create an effective venue for binational discussion to address public health issues and challenges affecting U.S.-México border populations

**Strategic Priorities**

- Access to care
- Strategic planning
- Research, data collection & academic alliances
- Tuberculosis
- Obesity/diabetes
- Infectious disease & public health emergencies

To learn more about the work of the United States-México Border Health Commission, visit our website at [www.borderhealth.org](http://www.borderhealth.org).
Infectious disease & public health emergencies

Convened the 3rd United States-México Border Binational Infectious Disease Conference with over 150 participants from federal, state, county, and city health departments representing all 10 U.S. and México border states and numerous other binational institutions. Participants met to review bilateral activities concerning cross-border and global partnerships, global health security, and the prevention and control of biological threats.

Obesity/diabetes

Sponsored mini-fora to identify interventions relevant to obesity-related issues affecting border communities. Participants from U.S. and México federal and state health agencies, regional academic institutions, local health departments, and other organizations met to develop greater awareness of obesity and its related effects; identify the needs and abilities of border communities to serve as recommendations for action by federal and state agencies; and improve community involvement in the planning and implementation of intervention strategies. Information gathered from these fora informed the planning of the United States-México Border Obesity Prevention Summit, scheduled for July 2013.

Research, data collection & academic alliances

Convened the 4th Border Health Research Forum to promote cross-border binational research, establish guidelines for a binational institutional review board process, and encourage resource sharing and collaborative partnerships.
Community-Based Healthy Border Initiatives—to advance local and regional activities and events in support of world health days, including National Infant Immunization Week 2014, Border Binational Health Week 2014, and other BHC priorities.

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About the United States-México Border Health Commission

The United States-México Border Health Commission (BHC) was established in 2000 when the Secretary of Health and Human Services of the United States and the Secretary of Health of México signed an agreement to optimize health and quality of life along the U.S.-México border. In 2004, an Executive Order of the President designated the BHC as a Public International Organization.

The U.S.-México border spans approximately 2,000 miles and includes four U.S. states—Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas—and six Mexican states—Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo León, and Tamaulipas.

The BHC comprises the federal secretaries of health, the chief health officers of the ten border states, and prominent community health professionals from both nations, bringing together the two countries and its border states to address border health challenges, improve the health of border residents, and reduce health disparities.