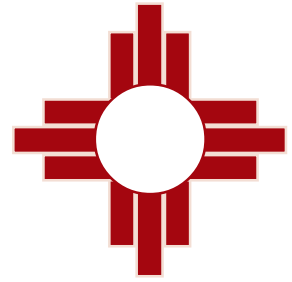


# VISION NEW MEXICO



Volume 9, Issue 2

## IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from the Chairperson ..... 2

Cultural Competence ..... 2

EH-PACE ..... 3

Welcome Ray Stewart ..... 4

UNIDOS ..... 5

Border Health Awards ..... 6

Welcome Dr. Miguel Escobedo .. 8

Substance Abuse Committee ..... 9

Border Worker Appointed ..... 10

Welcome Lucia Carrera ..... 10

2002 Schedule of Meetings ..... 11

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 31 ..... Substance Abuse  
Committee Meeting

May 31 ..... Border Health Council  
Advisory Council Meeting

June 4-7 ..... USMBHA Meeting

June 21-22 ..... Border Governors  
Conference

July 15-26 . International Practicum  
Course

*Vision New Mexico* is published by the Border Health Council and the New Mexico Outreach Office of the U.S. - Mexico Border Health Commission.

**Editor:**  
Marisol Manriquez

**Translation:**  
Josefina Martinez

## Border Health Council presents awards

*Vision staff*

The New Mexico Border Health Council presented its Border Health Lifetime Achievement Awards for 2002 to four individuals recognized for their achievements in border and community health.

The award was established to recognize those persons that have devoted a minimum of 10 years to the improvement in the health of the New Mexico and other border state border populations and whose work has significantly impacted the long-term health status improvement in the United States - Mexico border area. Nominations were received and the selections were made by the executive committee of the Border Health Council.



The awards were presented at the **Annual Awards Luncheon of the Border Health Council** held March 15 at the Best Western Mesilla Valley Inn & Conference Center in Las Cruces, N.M.

The recipients of the 2002 *Border Health Lifetime Achievement Awards* were:

- The Most Reverend Ricardo Ramirez, bishop of the Diocese of Las Cruces;
- The Honorable J. Paul Taylor, state representative, Mesilla;
- Ms. Jill Guernsey de Zapien, associate dean for community programs, University of Arizona College of Public Health, Tucson, Ariz.; and
- Dr. David P. Steffen, director of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N.C., and former district director of Public Health District III in Las Cruces.

The Border Health Council congratulates these well-deserving individuals and recognizes that they have set the highest standards of achievement in their work to affect overall health status improvement in their communities and throughout the United States - Mexico border area.

Pictures of the event are displayed on pages 6-7.



### Letter from the chairperson

Celebration! The second annual Border Health Council awards luncheon and the first Lifetime Achievement Awards ceremony was held in Las Cruces March 15, as part of a two and one-half day sequence of meetings and symposiums focusing on border health issues. Staff did an exceptional job in facilitation.

The awards luncheon, highlighting four individuals whose efforts ranged from the spiritual and academic to the political and the practical epitomized the care, respect and service needed for those improving the health of individuals, families and communities along the border. It gave us a great opportunity to thank folks who have been devoted to helping others. More details are included elsewhere in this publication, but we hope to continue this annual effort to give recognition to those whose efforts serve to inspire us in addressing the health of the populace in our midst and in our region.

Most recently our attention has been drawn to concerns around indigent health care, Medicaid funding and substance abuse prevention, along with our continuing efforts around farmworker resources and a new design for innovative issues. Coalition-building is front and center in these ventures.

- John Myers

# CMS takes leadership role in cultural competence, linguistic access

By Pilar Gandara, LBSW, CMS Social Worker

Children's Medical Services has had a Cultural Competence Committee since 1992. It began in the Albuquerque and Santa Fe areas, and later developed all over the state.

This committee has assumed a leadership role in the area of cultural competence in linguistic access to our services in health care.

The committee's main emphasis is to make sure that our clients have appropriate linguistic and cultural access to our services, seeking to provide individualized, respectful, patient-centered care within the programs of the Department of Health. The linguistic access is provided at any CMS office in District III. With linguistic access, clients will be serviced with appropriate and cultural access in their language, which in District III is predominantly English and Spanish.

We have studied cultural competence models for different areas in the United States. Some of these studies define cultural competence as a set of congruent behaviors, attitudes and policies that come together in a system, agency or among professionals in cross-cultural situations.

The word culture is used because it implies the integrated patterns of human behavior that includes thoughts, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions of racial, ethnic, religious, or social groups.

The word competence is used because it implies having the capacity to function in a particular way: the capacity to function within the context of culturally integrated patterns of human behavior defined by a group.

Cultural competence has developed to a level which has gained the support of the PHD director, Barak Wolff, which includes a Health Equity to ensure linguistic access to our services, supporting staff towards obtaining and incorporating cultural competency, and working to understand and eliminate health disparities in New Mexico.



# Local area chosen as pilot site for PACE-EH

By Jagan Butler, Assessment Services Coordinator

The New Mexico Border Health Office, through a contract with the Southern Area Health Education center, initiated a Community-based Environmental health assessment Project in Southern New Mexico.

Doña Ana and Luna counties were chosen as pilot sites for this project and will be utilizing the Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health, or PACE-EH, over the next two years.

PACE-EH is a framework designed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials to assist public health agencies in conducting an environmental health assessment. It was developed to help identify environmental health problems at the community level, identify populations at risk of environmental exposures, and strategically allocate resources to

address pressing environmental health concerns.

The process leads to the development of an action plan that reflects both an accurate assessment of the local environmental health status and an understanding of the public's values and priorities.

This is accomplished through a series of tasks that:

- Engages the public in identifying environmental health issues.
- Collects necessary and relevant information pertaining to community environmental health concerns.
- Develops environmental health issue profiles.
- Ranks and prioritizes the environmental health issues identified.
- Sets local priorities for action.
- Develops an action plan.



This process is designed to improve decision-making by taking a collaborative community-based approach, which takes the public's values and priorities into account.

In addition, it strengthens community health efforts by developing new partnerships among community stakeholders, as well as, by expanding the understanding of the relationship between human health and the state of the environment.

As communities become increasingly aware of the links between environmental degradation and human health, the need to address environmental health issues will grow.

This project is a first step in involving the community in addressing local environmental health issues and making the community a partner in improving community health.

For questions regarding this project or the PACE-EH, contact Jagan Butler at (505) 646-3259 or [jabutler@nmsu.edu](mailto:jabutler@nmsu.edu).

**Get connected  
to Border Health!**

*Visit us online at: [www.nmsu.edu/~bho](http://www.nmsu.edu/~bho)*

# District director brings plenty of experience



**Ray Stewart, MPH  
District III Director**

Ray Stewart became the Public Health director for the state of New Mexico District III in June 2001.

Ray is responsible for providing organizational and community leadership in the eight-county southwest

quadrant of the state bordering Arizona, Texas and Chihuahua, Mexico.

The district director oversees the management and performance of the following district program areas: communicable disease prevention and control, maternal and child health, women's health, public health nursing, Women, Infant and Children Nutritional Education and Supplemental Food Program, Families First perinatal case management, Children's Medical Services medical case management, Border Health Office, environmental health, epidemiology, substance abuse prevention, health promotion and community health improvement, community relations and marketing, data and information systems, and administration.

During Ray's career prior to joining the New Mexico Department of Health, he worked in federal, state, and local health department services as well as in a community health center. Ray was a public health advisor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for over 10 years with assignments in Los Angeles, Houston and Albuquerque. In these federal positions he enhanced disease prevention programs for predominantly Hispanic populations.

Ray was also the Preventive Health Services administrator at the El Paso City-County Health and Environmental District from 1989 to 1999. He managed the communicable disease programs of STD, HIV and TB as well as a primary care clinic for the homeless and a family planning program for females

and males. In the last two years of his tenure with the EPCCHED, he served as the quality coordinator for clinic and community programs.

Ray left the Health District in September 1999, and became the HIV/AIDS administrator for Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe Inc. in El Paso. At the La Fe CARE Center he was responsible for overseeing multiple grant projects related to HIV prevention and services, directing the area's only comprehensive "one-stop shop" for this special population. Ray's professional interests include diversity and disparity issues for transborder and minority clients, data management systems for performance improvement, and collaborative partnerships with community-based organizations on both sides of the border.

Ray has a bachelor of art degree in Spanish from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1971) and master's degrees in linguistics and English from the University of Arizona (1975, 1976). He has completed graduate level studies in health care management at Cal State University Los Angeles.

Ray's family includes his wife, who is a family nurse practitioner, and a daughter in high school, along with 10 turtles that roam the backyard. In his leisure time he enjoys bicycle riding along the irrigation ditches near his home, and surfing the Internet for journal research articles and grant funding opportunities.

## Calling the Border Health

**Office**

**from outside**

**Las Cruces?**



**Use our toll  
free number.**

**1-800-748-0394**

# UNIDOS 2002

Be sure to mark your calendars!!!  
November 20-22, 2002 ♦ Las Cruces, N.M.

## A partial list of speakers:

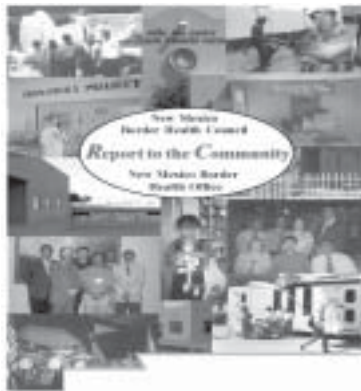
- Gov. Gary Johnson (invited)
- Secretary of Health J. Alex Valdez (invited)
- Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez
- U.S./Mexico Border Health Commissioner, Laurance Nickey, MD, FAAP
- Jo Valentine MSW, CDC National Syphilis Elimination Project Coordinator
- Dr. Mauricio Hernandez Avila, Cuernavaca, Mexico
- Dr. Gary Simpson
- Dr. Steve Jenison
- Suzanne Westman

And many others...

The registration fee will be \$100 this year.  
If you have any questions call Judy Hensley at (505) 528-5099,  
or Janet McClelland-Fortin at (505) 528-5104.

## 'Report to the Community' now available

The Border Health Office and Council "Report to the Community" is now available. In it consumers will find updates on all the border health projects since the creation of the office in 1993.



To get your copy, stop by the Border Health Office located in the Public Health Department building at 1170 N. Solano Drive, or call Lydia Chaparro at (505) 528-5144 or toll free at 1-800-784-0394.

*The report is also available online in PDF format on the Border Health Council Web site:*  
**[www.nmsu.edu/~bho](http://www.nmsu.edu/~bho)**

# Border Health 2002 Border Achievement



**Most Reverend Ricardo Ramirez**  
\* Award accepted by Carlos Corral



**The Honorable J. Paul Taylor**



(left) Benny Jaquez and Susie Cardenas visit with Dr. Jeffrey Brandon.  
(right) Awardee Dr. David P. Steffen speaks to the audience prior to receiving his award.



(below) Sen. Mary Kay Papen and Dr. Jeffrey Brandon enjoy the ceremony.  
(below, center) Joseph M. Baldi shares a comment on his experience with the awardee Dr. David P. Steffen.



(left) Dr. John Guzman speaks with "the twins," Jessie and Jenny Overby, office assistants with the BEC Office.  
(below) From left to right, BHO Director Dan Reyna, awardee J. Paul Taylor, BHC Advisory Council Chairperson John Myers, and awardee Dr. David P. Steffen pose for the camera.



# Council presents Health Lifetime Award Awards



**Jill Guernsey de Zapien**

\* Award accepted by Mike Lebowitz



**Dr. David P. Steffen**



(left) Kasandra Gandara takes the podium as master of ceremonies for the event. (right) BEC Director Dr. Hugo Vilchis and Lillian Curry watch the film "Welcome to Our World/Bienvenidos A Nuestro Mundo: the U.S.-Mexico Border through the Eyes of Children - 1998."



(above) Valecia Gavin says a few words about her experience with the awardee J. Paul Taylor. (right) PHD Director Barak Wolff makes a few comments congratulating the awardees.



(left) From left to right, awardee J. Paul Taylor visits with Mary Alice Garay and Angela Townsend, both from the Ben Archer Health Center. (below) The BHO staff pose for a group photo.



*Dr. Miguel Escobedo joins the team*

## District III welcomes new health officer

*By Ray Stewart, Director District III, Public Health Division*

Dr. Miguel Escobedo has accepted the position of District Health Officer. I am very optimistic about his potential contribution to our programs.

He comes to us with a proven track record of promoting community and public health services to indigent populations while serving in numerous leadership positions in local and state departments of health.

Miguel is a longtime resident of New Mexico. He attended New Mexico State University as an undergraduate and received a bachelor's degree in 1978. He graduated from Stanford University School of Medicine in 1983 and in the same year was awarded a master of public health from the University of California-Berkeley.

Miguel completed a Family Practice Residency at Texas Tech Health Sciences Center in June 1986. He is board certified in Family Practice and a licensed New Mexico physician. Miguel has all the academic credentials that we are looking for to direct our clinical programs.

Miguel's past and current public health experiences are most impressive. He was the Preventative Medicine Director, El Paso City-County Health and Environment District, from 1987 to 1996. During that time, Miguel worked with me and several other members of our current District III Management Team. We knew him as a team player and a client advocate. He provided patient health care and medical direction for the TB, HIV, STD and women's health programs, along with a primary care clinic for the homeless.

The Texas Department of Health recognized his work accomplishments and leadership qualities in

1997, when Miguel was selected as the director for Public Health Regions 9 and 10, which covered 36 counties in West Texas. He planned, organized and directed comprehensive public health services for a population of 1.2 million Texas residents. He worked with elected public officials about matters pertaining to public health and border health issues.

His value to Texas was recognized when he was selected to attend the Texas Governor's Executive Program in fall 1999.

What excites me about Miguel is his reputation as a public health leader and educator. He is presently the second vice president of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association. His knowledge and collaborative relationships with health officials on

both sides of the border and his ability to speak fluent Spanish have made him the ideal promoter of joint border health initiatives.

As an educator, his knowledge and expertise in communicable disease control is highly sought and valued. He has published articles in many professional journals, and he has been a guest speaker at a multitude of conferences, symposiums, and workshops.

Miguel is elated and enthusiastic about coming to PHD and District III. As a New Mexican, he wants to work with all of us to improve the health status of all residents of this state.

We are very fortunate to attract such a highly qualified public health physician and leader. I have no doubt that Miguel will be a positive force in advancing our public health agenda.

He reported to work Jan. 28.



**Dr. Miguel Escobedo**  
**District Health Officer**

# Substance Abuse Symposium is a success

By Amanda Vandagriff, Student Assistant

The Border Health Council Substance Abuse Committee hosted a Substance Abuse Symposium March 14.

Speakers for the symposium included Dr. Gustavo Martinez, who gave a presentation on "Best Practices Along the Border." David Fenn and Rose Chaboya-Balboa, both from Border CAPT, spoke about "Seven Steps to a Successful Prevention Plan." The symposium was a great success.

The committee is continuing with its work on a regional network guide. With this guide we hope to help improve coordination between agencies. The guide will also be a valuable resource for substance abuse professionals to use.

SAC is in the process of looking for a hired contract person who will work with the committee to help with this guide. This person will be responsible for going out in the different counties in the region and collecting information on substance abuse programs and agencies.

The committee is also working to identify a point

person from each county who will assist in reaching other agencies in the area. The point person will act as a liaison between the committee and their county. They will attend the committee meetings, and network with the committee's contract person.

As a regionwide committee, the SAC is trying to reach out to programs and agencies from all counties in the region which includes Catron, Doña Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, Sierra, Socorro, and Valencia counties. A brochure is available to help promote our committee and to find out more about it. Members are trying to visit the different counties and get people involved.

The SAC is working on plans for future meetings in the various counties, and to hold conference calls, so that the meetings are accessible to everyone.

If you are interested in the positions mentioned above and in participating in the SAC committee, contact Kasandra Gandara at (505) 528-5151.



Dr. Gustavo Martinez presented "Best Practices Along the Border," during the Substance Abuse Symposium March 14.



From left to right, Dawn Sanchez and Kasandra Gandara look over notes from David Fenn and Rose Chaboya-Balboa's presentation of "Seven Steps to a Successful Prevention Plan."



SAC members listen as David Fenn makes a presentation on the creation of a regional networking guide.

# Border worker and advocate receives governor's appointment

*Visión staff*

New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson announced in December 2001 the appointment of Alice Salcido, MCH Program Planner with the Border Health Office, to a seat on the New Mexico Border Authority Board. The New Mexico Senate subsequently confirmed the appointment in February 2002.

The New Mexico Border Authority is an executive branch state agency responsible for the development and promotion of New Mexico's international border region between New Mexico and Chihuahua and the Republic of Mexico and for acting as the primary liaison agency between the state of New Mexico and Mexico in matters related to international border development and transportation.

The Border Authority consists of seven voting members; six of who are appointed by the governor and the seventh member is the secretary of the economic development department.

Alice joined the Border Health Office in April 2001 soon after her retirement from federal service, having been a border affairs coordinator for 18 years with the office of U.S. Sen. Jeff Bingaman. It was during this time that Alice worked closely with Sen. Jeff Bingaman to finally gain passage of the federal legislation establishing the United States - Mexico Border Health Commission. Alice was also a charter and longtime member of the New Mexico Border Breakfast Bunch. The Border Breakfast



**Alice Salcido, BBA  
MCH Coordinator**

Bunch is a monthly breakfast meeting of border agency directors and congressional staff that has continued meeting since the forum was inaugurated in August 1994.

Congratulations Alice on this appointment. We know that you will meet the challenge and continue to do more to improve health status and economic development in the border region.

## Meet the new nurse at the Border Health Mobile Clinic

Lucia Carrera RN has been a nurse for 19 years. She began working with the Public Health Department in 1998. During her public health career, she has worked as the tuberculosis nurse coordinator and the epidemiology nurse.

Currently she has been promoted to the Border Health Clinic nurse. Lucia is a native of Las Cruces, and attended New Mexico State University for her nursing degree.



**Lucia Carrera, RN  
BH Mobile Clinic Nurse**

**Ahora usted puede  
llamar gratuitamente  
al Centro Fronterizo  
de Epidemiología y  
Salud  
Ambiental  
desde  
México o  
los Estados  
Unidos.**



**800-260-0509**



# 2002 Schedule of Meetings

## Border Health Council Advisory Council

Meetings of the BHC are open to the public and are held in various communities throughout southern New Mexico.

### Meeting Dates:

May .....	31
August .....	16
December .....	6

*Locations To Be Determined*

For More Information Contact:

- Lydia Chaparro  
(505) 528-5144  
E-Mail: lwood@doh.state.nm.us

*Meeting dates subject to change*

## Substance Abuse Committee

Mission Statement: To provide Alcohol, Tobacco, & Other Drugs agencies in the region an avenue to increase awareness of existing programs in an effort to enhance collaboration.

May .....	31
June .....	14
August .....	16
September .....	13
December .....	6

For More Information Contact:

- Kasandra Gandara  
(505) 528-5151  
E-Mail:  
kgandara@doh.state.nm.us

*Meeting dates subject to change*

## Environmental Health Committee

The EHC meets the second Tuesday of every month at **8:30 a.m.** at the **Doña Ana County Health Services Center, 1170 N. Solano Drive.**

May .....	14
June .....	11
July .....	9
August .....	13
September .....	10
October .....	8
November .....	12
December .....	10

For More Information Contact:

- Jagan Butler  
(505) 646-3259  
E-Mail: jabutler@nmsu.edu

*Meeting dates subject to change*

## Binational Health Councils

The Binational Councils – **Juarez/EI Paso/Las Cruces** and **Palomas/Columbus/Luna County** – are affiliated by Charter with the New Mexico Border Health Council.

May 24 .....	Columbus
July 10 .....	Juarez
Aug. 23 .....	Palomas
Oct. 9 .....	Las Cruces
Nov. 15 .....	Deming

For More Information Contact:

- Jenny Overby  
(505) 646-7966  
E-Mail: jeoverby@nmsu.edu

*Meeting dates subject to change*

## Visión New Mexico

1170 N. Solano Drive, Suite L  
Las Cruces, NM 88001

### ***New Mexico Border Health Council Executive Committee***

**John Myers** (505) 524-0582 Chairperson  
**John Guzman** (505) 397-2463 Vice-Chair  
**Valecia Gavin** (505) 524-3154 Secretary

### ***Council Ex-Officio Members***

**Daniel M. Reyna, MSS, MPA** Director, Border Health Office  
**Ray Stewart, MPH** District III Director  
**Albert Esparsen, MPH** District IV Director  
**Jeffrey Brandon, Ph.D.** Member, Border Health Commission  
**Catherine Torres, MD** Member, Border Health Commission

### ***Border Health Office***

**Daniel M. Reyna, MSS, MPA**

**Alice Salcido, BBA**

**Kasandra Gandara, BSW**

**Mary Kerwin, CNP**

**Lucia Carrera, RN**

**Lillian Lopez**

**Barbara Garza**

**Lydia Chaparro**

**Priscilla Holguin**

**Jose Barrera, NMSU Student Worker**

**Amanda Vandagriff, NMSU Student Worker**

**Marisol Manriquez, NMSU Student Worker**

**Penny Roethle, NMSU Student Worker**

Director  
MCH Coordinator  
CHA Coordinator  
Mobile Clinic Manager  
Mobile Clinic Nurse  
Mobile Clinic Clerk  
Administrator  
Secretary  
Clerk Specialist  
Student Assistant  
Student Assistant  
Student Assistant  
Student Assistant

### ***Border Epidemiology and Environmental Health Center***

**Hugo Vilchis-Licon, MD, MPH**

**Kathy Villa**

**Lillian Curry**

**Jessie Overby, NMSU Student Worker**

**Berenice Cerda, NMSU Student Worker**

Director  
BIDS Sentinel Site Coordinator  
Administrative Secretary  
BHC Project Assistant  
Student Assistant

### ***New Mexico Outreach Office of the U.S. - Mexico Border Health Commission***

**Hugo Vilchis-Licon, MD, MPH**

**Jenny Overby, NMSU Student Worker**

Director  
BHCOC Student Assistant

BHO: (505) 528-5156

FAX: (505) 528-6045

1-800-784-0394

[www.nmsu.edu/~bho/bhc/newsletter.html](http://www.nmsu.edu/~bho/bhc/newsletter.html)

Funding for this newsletter by the Public Health Division, N.M. Department of Health and the N.M. Outreach Office of the U.S. - Mexico Border Health Commission