



TEXAS/OKLAHOMA AETC
U.S./Mexico Border Project
Report from the field – 3

HIV clinical and bi-national collaboration on the Texas/Mexico Border

Texas Mexico Border HIV Updates and Summits in El Paso, and South Padre Island, October 2008 - HIV clinical and bi-national health issues were presented in Border summits.

1) The 16th Annual HIV/AIDS Update Conference & Walk, “*A Disease without Borders*” for HIV clinicians was organized by Valley AIDS Council LPS (VAC), Harlingen, TX. This three-day conference included 3 US/MX Border activities and presentation: a) round table with 32 bi-national attendees presenting bi-national activities between HIV clinicians and patients taking place locally on both sides of the border; b) In a border session with 34 participants a clinical case study was presented and discussed including how providers communicate formally and informally and use agency and personal resources to ensure the continuity of care for patients moving back and forth across the border; c) Bi-national Tamaulipas/Texas Multi-sectoral work group met as a part of an on-going collaboration to plan a two day training and education activity for bi-national clinicians to be held on December 8 and 9, 2008, in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico.

2) “*HIV, A Border Challenge -The Time is now*” Border Summit and HIV Clinical Update was organized by La Fe CARE Center LPS in El Paso, TX. HIV clinical and bi-national health issues were presented. Clinical providers discussed how national and bi-national clinical management of migrant HIV-infected patients is taking place on both sides of the Texas/Mexico border to improve HIV care. Other activities include presentations addressing HIV in Latinos, Continuity of Care for HIV-infected patients returning to Mexico and Latin America, Case studies and cross-border collaboration, and bi-national collaboration in HIV. In addition, a face-to-face bilingual networking session was conducted to improve clinician and support service linkage between HIV providers on both sides of the border.