

## **Recommendations that emerged from the statewide roundtables on Latinos and HIV/AIDS (2007-08)—Synthesis:**

Although each state produced its own unique set of recommendations, there were significant similarities among them. We attempted to find commonalities and group them by category.

The recommendations fell into six broad categories: Data and Research; Outreach and Recruitment; Providing Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services; Networking; Interventions; and Policy:

### (1) Data/Research Recommendations

- Improve national, state and local surveillance data on the Latino population.
- Improve knowledge of intimate relationships in Latino cultures.
- Monitor service delivery performance and satisfaction.
- Learn about HIV/AIDS prevention practices/campaigns in countries of origin.

### (2) Outreach & Recruitment Recommendations

- Identify and map community resources.
- Increase ties with Hispanic religious leaders and faith communities.
- Create training modules in Spanish.
- Explore partnerships with worksites and employers.
- Recruit Latino volunteers.
- Identify possible 'gatekeepers' among small business owners, trailer parks, apartment complexes, soccer leagues.
- Forge links with Spanish-language media in the area.
- Establish one-stop information sites for immigrants.
- Identify successful outreach programs and replicate them.

### (3) Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services Recommendations

- Adjust clinic hours to accommodate Latinos.
- Link CLAS improvements to national health disparities elimination.
- Find or create Spanish-language and limited-literacy materials.
- Research and formulate recommendations on phone interpreting services; obtain services for all commonly-used languages and dialects.
- Explore use of Americorps or Vista volunteers as interpreters.
- Find ways to increase consumers' understanding of U.S. medical systems.
- Encourage students in the healthcare/social service professions to learn Spanish.

### (4) Networking recommendations:

- Government/DoH level:
  - Create a working group within the state Planning Council.
  - Partner with other states.
  - Improve liaison with other screening programs.
- CBO/agency level:
  - Develop local resource directories with information on bilingual staff, interpreter availability and documentation requirements.
  - Compile resource guides for agencies to facilitate referrals.

(5) Intervention Recommendations:

- Research existing interventions for these populations.
- Formalize ASO participation in the process of adaptation of existing interventions for Latinos and especially Latinos in the South.
- Partner with existing Latino organizations to carry out joint interventions.
- Explore intervention trainings.
- Utilize Spanish-language media.

(6) Policy Recommendations

- Raise the need to recruit and retain bilingual staff with DoH and the state legislature.
- Improve opportunities for immigrants and children of immigrants to become healthcare/social service professionals.
- Expand Medicaid prenatal coverage to undocumented women.
- Improve benefits for HIV/AIDS social workers.
- Increase Latino representation on HIV Planning Councils or Community Planning Groups.