

# Beyond Translation

A Forum with Hispanic Community Leaders



*Cultivating Hispanic Community Involvement*

October 16, 2008

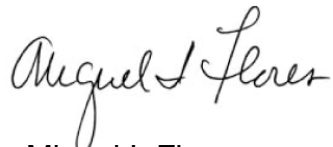


Texas A&M Health Science Center, South Texas Center  
McAllen, Texas

## ***¡Bienvenidos!***

Welcome to the 2008 Beyond Translation Forum. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 proudly sponsors this forum in partnership with the Region 6 Department of Health and Human Services, Texas A&M Health Science Center - South Texas Center, the National Organization for Mexican American Rights (NOMAR), the Border 2012 U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program, EPA's Office of Small Business Programs, Office of Public Outreach, and Office of Air and Radiation.

Our goal is to cultivate Hispanic community involvement in our effort to protect human health and the environment ***en nuestras comunidades***. We are excited that you have joined us and we welcome your views, ideas, and just as importantly, your energy! Thank you for your willingness to be part of this vital dialogue and we look forward to the discussions in which we will collaboratively seek ways to improve our natural environment and ensure healthier communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miguel I. Flores". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Miguel I. Flores  
Director  
Water Quality Protection Division

# BEYOND TRANSLATION FORUM

McAllen, Texas  
October 16, 2008

## PURPOSE

- Discuss environmental challenges and opportunities
- Explore ideas for improving services to Hispanics
- Enhance partnerships and networks

## OCTOBER 16, 2008

**8:30 – 9:00**

### **REGISTRATION & COFFEE**

(Foyer – Room 101)

**9:00 – 9:15**

### **WELCOME**

Miguel A. Zuniga, M.D., Dr.P.H.

Director

Texas A&M Health Science Center | South Texas

JD Salinas, Judge

Hidalgo County

Jeanette L. Brown, Director

Office of Small Business Programs, EPA

**9:15 – 9:30**

### **Why Are We Here?**

Miguel I. Flores, Director

Water Quality Protection Division, EPA R6

**9:30 – 9:45**

### **Health and Environmental Challenges of the Hispanic Community in the Rio Grande Valley Area**

Brian Smith, M.D., M.P.H.

Regional Medical Director

Texas Department of State Health Services

**9:45 – 9:55**

### **10 MINUTE BREAK**

9:55 – 11:00

**GENERAL SESSION PANEL: Entities Addressing Environmental Health Challenges**

**Facilitators:**

Paula Selzer (EPA) & Patrick Young (ATSDR)

**1) DHHS is Addressing Environmental Health Concerns & Disparities in Minority Communities**

Frank Cantu, B.B.A., M.P.A.  
Field Director  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
ORHP/DBH

**2) US-Mexico Border 2012 Environmental Health Priorities**

Carlos Rincon, Office Director  
Border Office  
EPA Region 6

**3) Children's Health & the Environment**

Larry Lowry M.S., Ph.D.  
Director  
Southwest Center for Pediatric Environmental  
Health of the University of Texas Health Center  
at Tyler

**4) How the City of Laredo is Addressing their Environmental Health Challenges**

Hector F. Gonzalez MD, MPH  
Director of Health  
City of Laredo Health Department

**5) Asthma Coalition in the Rio Grande Valley**

Genny Carrillo Zuniga M.D., Sc.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Texas A&M Health Science Center | South  
Texas

**Expected Outcome:** *Audience will have a better understanding of the environmental challenges of this region, and the work that is being done to address those challenges.*

**11:00 – NOON**

**FACILITATED AUDIENCE DISCUSSION: What Can Non-Governmental Community Leaders Do To Promote Healthy Green Communities? (Room 101)**

**Facilitator:**

Keta Caballero (Texas Office of the Secretary of State)

**Audience Groups:**

- A. Faith-Based
- B. Civic Groups
- C. Academia
- D. Colonia & Rural Community Representatives
- E. Others

**Expected Outcomes:** *Each group identified, will provide a list of their ideas, top action they would want to help implement, and thoughts on how they would like EPA to be part of the process.*

**NOON**

**LUNCH TALK**

(Room 101) (Colonia Meeting: Room 153 – Library)

**1) 2010 Census Overview**

Marisela Rosales, Partnership Coordinator  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Census Bureau

**2) Working with Promotores to Create Healthy Communities**

Dr. Doris Jay-Pang, Director  
Center for Excellence - Nursing and Allied Health  
South Texas College

**3) Resources - A Matter of Networking**

Leonel Vela, Regional Coordinator  
Health & Human Services Commission  
Office of Border Affairs

**OPEN MIKE**

1:00 – 2:00 PM

**GENERAL SESSION PANEL: Environmental Outreach Strategies That Get Results (Room 101)**

**Facilitators:**

Gina Posada (TCEQ)

Tony Robledo (EPA)

**1) City of Brownsville's Storm Water Management Efforts**

Joe A. Hinojosa

Environmental/Storm Water Program  
Manager

City of Brownsville

**2) "Los Dos Laredos" Nonpoint Source Pollution Awareness Campaign**

Ivan Santoyo

City of Laredo

**3) Project Clean Neighborhoods Program**

Chris Lash, Executive Director

Keep McAllen Beautiful

**4) Preserving the Natural Beauty and Environment of the Lower Rio Grande**

Laura Maxwell, Executive Director

Valley Proud Environmental Council

***Expected Outcome:*** *Presenters and session participants will be asked to identify the "must have" and "must avoid" elements when implementing successful environmental outreach programs in the Hispanic community. The lessons learned will help forum participants, sister organizations and EPA programs have a better understanding of how to better involve the Hispanic community in outreach efforts.*

**2:00 – 3:00 PM      CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**Session 1: EPA's Community-Related Grants & Contracts (Room 152)**

**Facilitator:** Debora Bradford (EPA)

**Presenters:**

EPA EJ Grants – Linda Falk (EPA)

Border 2012 Grants – Carlos Rincon (EPA)

CARE Grant – Paula Flores-Gregg (EPA)

Children's Health Related Grants – Paula Selzer (EPA)

Overall Grant & Contract Information – Debora Bradford (EPA)

**Expected Outcome:** Session participants will have greater understanding of EPA's health & community-related grants, as well as general knowledge of the federal grant and contract process.

**Session 2: Responding to Hurricanes & Other Disasters (Room 148)**

**Facilitator:**

Olivia Balandran (EPA)

Valmichael Leos (EPA)

**Presenters:**

Valmichael Leos

Remedial Project Manager EPA R6

Juan Salgado

Advance Response Officer, Texas General Land Office



George Garrett  
Emergency Manager for the City of Weslaco, TX and  
Donna, TX

A.A. "Tony" Pena, Jr.  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
Hidalgo County Judge's Office

Melinda Dunn  
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Captain Henry Delgado, Regional Minority Health  
Consultant - Department of Health and Human  
Services

***Expected Outcome:*** *Session participants will get a glimpse the work entities take on in preparation or when responding to Hurricanes and other disasters. Participants will also get tips on how to get better prepared & health and safety.*

**3:00 – 3:50 PM      REPORT OUT FROM BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Room 101)**

**1) Keta Caballero** - *What Can Non-Governmental Community Leaders Do To Promote Health & Environmental Stewardship?*

**2) Gina Posado** - *Environmental Outreach and Education Campaigns That Get Results*

**3) Olivia Balandran** - *Responding to Hurricanes & Other Disasters*

**3:50 – 4:00 PM      NEXT STEPS - Miguel I. Flores**

**4:00 PM              MEETING ADJOURNS**

## **2008 EPA Team Members**

### **Miguel I. Flores**

Director, Water Quality Protection Division

### **Paula Flores-Gregg**

Beyond Translation Coordinator

**Debora Bradford - Carlos Rincón - Christina Jackson - Elizabeth Reyez  
Hennessy Jaramillo - Janie Acevedo - John Stadelman - Julia Alderete  
Linda Falk - Lina Younes - Maria Pimentel - Minerva Rojo - Nelda Perez  
Olivia Balandran - Paula Selzer - Salvador Gardara - Tony Robledo  
Tex Gomez - Yolanda Nixon - Valmichael Leos**

### **Community Team Members:**

**Claudia Lozano** - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

**Juan Perez** - National Organization for Mexican American Rights

**Gina Posada** - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

**Genny Carrillo** - Texas A&M Health Science - South Texas Center

**Henry Delgado** - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Keta Caballero** - Texas Office of the Secretary of State

**Patrick Young** - U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

**Rose Lucio** - Texas A&M Health Science - South Texas Center

[www.epa.gov/region6/beyondtranslation](http://www.epa.gov/region6/beyondtranslation)



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