ADAPTING TO TURBULENT TIMES

Philanthropy in the U.S.-Mexico Border region: Myths and Realities

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Andy Carey
Executive Director
U.S.-Mexico Border Philanthropy Partnership
Mary Hilderbrand (Host)
Center for Nonprofits & Philanthropy

Founded in 2017, the Center operates with the belief that nonprofits are instrumental in creating opportunities for all. This happens through capable leadership, excellent governance, and engagement of stakeholders. We also recommit to the principles of public service and democracy and the value of diversity of thought and expression that have helped The Bush School since its inception.

Excellence ★ Respect ★ Leadership ★ Loyalty ★ Integrity ★ Selfless Service

Our Mission: The CNP supports a vibrant nonprofit and philanthropic sector in Texas and beyond, through high quality research, professional outreach and engaged learning.

Educational Opportunities
- Master of Public Service & Administration
- Executive Master of Public Service & Administration
- Certificate in Nonprofit Management
- Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership; continuing and professional education

Our Values
- Nonprofits
- Opportunity for All Board Governance
- Leadership
- Engagement
Our mission

We support a network of organizations that build prosperity through leadership, collaboration, and philanthropy in the U.S.-Mexico Border region.

Fast facts

- Founded in September 2008
- 12-member board of directors
- 6.5-staff members
- Budget US$650,000
- 336-member network (academia, business/corporate partners, government agencies, nonprofits, foundations)
- Fiscal Agent 30+ organizations
- Education and training for 16,000+ board and staff leaders
- Secured +US$5.5 million in fiscal agency contributions
- Bi-weekly newsletters in English and Spanish to 2,000+ subscribers
- Secured +US$1.5 million in response to migrant humanitarian crisis in Border
Myths

• The border is out of control
• A border wall would stem the opioid epidemic
• Border enforcement does not curtail illegal crossings
• Terrorist groups are exploiting a porous border
• Mexico’s border laws are strong, and ours are weak
• Building more wall will prevent drug trafficking
• More immigrants are illegally crossing the border
• Migrants are attracted to the United States by generous public benefits
• Undocumented immigrants don’t pay taxes
• Low-skilled immigrants steal jobs

• Five myths about the U.S.-Mexico border, Christopher Wilson, deputy director of the Wilson Center’s Mexico Institute. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/five-myths/five-myths-about-the-us-mexico-border/2018/05/03/5e8addd0-4e53-11e8-af46-b1d6dc0d9bfe_story.html?noredirect=on]
• 5 misconceptions about the U.S.-Mexico border, by Los Angeles Times Staff. [https://www.latimes.com/projects/la-na-us-mexico-border-misconceptions/]
• The truth about undocumented immigrants by Jonathan Yost. [https://www.borderangels.org/immigration-myths.html]

Realities

• +35 million Mexican Nationals reside in the U.S.A.
• +50 Mexican diplomatic posts across the U.S.A.
• +11 American diplomatic posts across Mexico
• +1 million Americans reside in Mexico
• +5 million US jobs depend on trade with Mexico
• +26 US States top trade partner is Mexico
• +1.2 million people cross border daily
• +US$1 billion in goods traded each day
• +15 million people live in the Borderlands

Everyday people cross to work, study, shop, dine, visit family, attend religious worship services, seek medical care, and tourism.
Mexico received $3.53 billion in remittances in July — most of it from the U.S. — a 7% increase over the same month in 2019, Mexico’s central bank data showed.


Farmworkers, mostly undocumented, become ‘essential’ during pandemic

• More than 1 million immigrants arrive in the U.S. each year. In 2018:
  
  ✓ China, 149,000
  ✓ India (129,000)
  ✓ Mexico (120,000)
  ✓ Philippines (46,000).

• New immigrant arrivals have fallen, due to more Mexican immigrants leaving the U.S. than coming in.

Realities

https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/20/key-findings-about-u-s-immigrants/

Philanthropy in the U.S. and Mexico

Philanthropy is alive and well in both countries, but size and scope different:

• 86,203 US grantmaking foundations
• 1.56 million US nonprofit organizations

• 313 Mexican grantmaking foundations
• 47,095 Mexican nonprofit organizations
Philanthropy responds to COVID-19 for families and communities

Foundations across the USA raise over US$1 billion
Affiliate Foundations in the U.S.-Mexico Border region raise over US$120 million

Regional Response
US centered initiatives

- Help nonprofits deliver food to the hungry
- Provide economic relief to the unemployed
- Medical equipment to first responders
- Daycare for essential workers
- Grants to small businesses in jeopardy of closure
- Many other needs identified by organizations along and across the region

Mexico centered initiatives

- The International Community Foundation granted almost $5M to support communities in Mexico and Latin America ($467,160 in Tijuana only)
- Support food security initiatives
- Medical equipment to first responders and in-kind gifts of PPE
- Public health education campaigns
- Many other needs identified by organizations along and across the region
We are assisting members with:

- Fiscal agency support
- Receiving and distributing charitable donations
- Facilitation of in-king gifts to the other side of the border.
- Information about the border, in English and Spanish (bi-weekly newsletters)
- Knowledge source about how people can engage and support
- Supporting Ventanilla de Salud program in San Diego and across the USA
- Access to health and wellness services, resources, and information
- Secure financial resources and community partners to expand outreach to migrant communities
- Secure access to affordable or free of charge COVID 19 testing at Safe Zones

The BPP secured the donation of 5,540 blankets, 7,302 bath towels, 3,386 portable cots, and 9,600 personal hygiene kits with the American Red Cross of Northern Nevada, worth US$358,660.45

The supplies were transported in 6 trailers from Reno, Nevada, to San Diego, California for storage and safekeeping and distributed to the Tijuana Red Cross.
Realities

Cross-border collaboration for effective partnerships

- US Environmental Protection Agency, City of San Diego, Local Nonprofits – Tijuana River binational clean up
- US Mexico Border Health Symposium – Executive and Legislative Branches of Government, U.S. and Mexican officials, local and regional health officials, nonprofit organizations – Access to public health services in the Binational Border region

Andy Carey
Executive Director
andy@borderpartnership.org

U.S.-Mexico Border Philanthropy Partnership
2508 Historic Decatur Road, Ste. 130
San Diego, CA  92106
(619) 814-1388 office
info@borderpartnership.org
Learn More about our Center

Our Center’s team is committed to strengthening the nonprofit sector, so please contact us to learn how we may help your organization or help you advance your nonprofit career.

For individual CNP staff contact information, please consult our directory under Faculty & Staff.

Email: bushschool.nonprofitmanagement@tamu.edu
Phone: (979) 862-3195 | Fax: (979) 845-4155
Visit our webpage: https://bush.tamu.edu/nonprofit/
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