



## NMSU Library News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TO: University Communications

### **NMSU Library Receives Planning Grant for Border Health Information and Education Network**

The NMSU Library has been awarded a grant for \$10,000 from the Paso del Norte Health Foundation of El Paso for planning the Border Health Information and Education Network (BIEN!). The Library is the lead agency in BIEN!, a consortium of seventeen public and academic libraries, hospitals, and health organizations in Dona Ana, Luna, and Otero counties. BIEN!'s goal is to serve the health information and education needs of the residents of these counties. The BIEN! partners are committed to working with the Foundation to create opportunities for improving the health of people in the Border region through provision of quality health information resources in electronic and traditional formats and through health education outreach activities in Border communities. The planning grant will fund personnel and travel expenses for needs assessment activities, identifying resources, and setting up health information pilot sites in the BIEN! area.

Sylvia Ortiz, the Head of Reference in NMSU's Branson Library, is the Principal Investigator for the BIEN! project, and Norice Lee, the Director of the Dona Ana Branch Community College (DABCC) Library, is the chair of the BIEN! Executive Board. Other members of the Executive Board are Carol Brey, Director of the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library; Dr. Hugo Vilchis-Licon, Director of the Border Epidemiology and Environmental Health Center; Frances Scappaticci, Director of Case Management and Health Education at Memorial Medical Center; Dr. Paul Lang, Health Promotion Manager of the New Mexico Department of Health, Public Health Division, District III; and Molly McGetrick, Library Technology Coordinator of the DABCC Library.

BIEN! partner institutions in addition to those mentioned above are: NMSU Alamogordo Townsend Library; NMSU Health Science Department; Mimbres Memorial Hospital of Deming; La Clinica de Familia; Southern Area Health Education Center; NMSU Cooperative Extension Service; New Mexico Border Health Office; Hatch Public Library; Alamogordo Public Library; Marshall Memorial Library of Deming; and Valley Community Library of Anthony.

The NMSU Library looks forward to working with the BIEN! institutions in partnership with the Foundation during the BIEN! planning process. For more information on the BIEN! project, please contact Sylvia Ortiz of the NMSU Library at 646-7481 or [sortiz@lib.nmsu.edu](mailto:sortiz@lib.nmsu.edu).

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