

## Current TB Grants from USAID's Child Survival Health Grants Program

### **Title of Project:**

SOLUCION TB Baja California (Strengthening Observed therapy Linking Up Community-based Integrated Outreach Networks for TB control)

**Prime Implementing Agency:** Project Concern International

**Project Partners:** ISESALUD –Instituto de Servicios de Salud for Baja California , Mexico (MOU at the state level)

**Project start date:** October 2004

**Project end date:** September 2008

### **Project description:**

- The SOLUCION TB project worked in close collaboration with ISESALUD to improve case detection and cure rates in the 2 major municipalities of Baja California. The project provided DOTS staff to improve adherence, and decrease treatment abandonment. The project provided training to health personnel on stigma/discrimination, HIV-TB, quality of services and other related topics. The project implemented a Voices and Images component to improve the public's awareness of key TB messages and influence decision-makers to position TB in public agendas.

### **Successes:**

- Collaborative relationships have been established with the TB Program (Ministry of Health) at the national level which has helped lead to an expansion of the SOLUCION TB model to an additional 12 states throughout Mexico.
- The model of specialized community-level TB outreach staff improves treatment success and case detection rates.
- The project was able to increase cure rates from a baseline of 48% to 85% in persons with TB served by the project, and to 70% in persons with TB served by the MOH overall in these 2 jurisdictions (2007 data).

### **Constraints:**

- After an initial close and active participation of ISESALUD at the state level, the collaboration in year 3 decreased in quality and quantity. This resulted in a lack of follow-up on mutually agreed upon commitments. For example, ISESALUD has yet to deliver on its commitment to absorb DOTS staff to improve sustainability of results, although their intention to do so continues to be reiterated.



*DOT visit by a PCI promotora, April 2006, Tijuana*

### **Lessons learned about community-based TB, or reaching marginalized people, or involving civil society:**

- Clarity of roles and signed agreements between a PVO and a governmental institution (MOH) are crucial for adequate collaboration.
- Involvement of the MOH health centers is important for long-term success. DOT personnel should become integral members of the TB health care team and system.
- A person-centered approach to TB service delivery improves treatment adherence and



Tijuana, May 2007.