

**For Immediate Release**

December 2, 2015

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**Flu, School & Travel Shots December 14th in Curtis**

**Curtis-** Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) will be offering the Vaccines for Children program and adult shots at Medicine Valley High School from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 14th.

“We hope to see everyone that needs their shots,” states Melissa Propp, Public Health Nurse and VFC Clinic coordinator for SWNPHD. “We encourage residents to get their flu shot before influenza sets in.” Please schedule an appointment to reserve your vaccine by calling 308-345-4223. We welcome those going on mission trips or travelling abroad for their recommended shots.

“Vaccines for Children” (VFC) is a program that provides immunizations to eligible children, 18 years old and younger. Eligibility is defined as those who are Medicaid eligible, uninsured, underinsured (health insurance does not provide coverage for childhood immunizations), and/or American Indian or Alaska Natives. A parent or guardian is required to attend the clinic with their child. If a parent is unable to attend, please contact SWNPHD for a proxy permission form. Walk-ins are welcome for the VFC program.

SWNPHD was included in the Nebraska Immunization Program Title 317 funding that expands the available adult vaccines given for free. We can provide vaccines for adults (19 years & older) who are un-insured, underinsured (health insurance does not provide coverage for preventive shots) or do not have supplemental insurance with Medicare A or B. Shots covered include: flu (influenza), Zoster (shingles), Pneumonia, Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough), MMR (mumps, measles, rubella), Hepatitis A & B, Varicella (chicken pox), HPV and Meningococcal.

“If parents are planning to be in McCook, they can schedule their student shots during office hours of Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:00 p.m. by calling 308-345-4223,” explains Propp. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, one block north of Arby’s.

SWNPHD also conducts blood draws and lab services, if you have missed your community health fair. For a listing of available tests and insurances accepted by SWNPHD, go to our website: [www.swhealth.ne.gov](http://www.swhealth.ne.gov).

Immunizations are one of the most effective and cost efficient ways to prevent disease. For every dollar spent on immunizations, it saves as much as \$29.00 in direct and indirect health costs.

More information on immunizations is available on the website. You can also follow us on Facebook.com/swnphd and Twitter@swpublichealth. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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