

News Release

For Immediate Release

July 12, 2007

Contact: Melissa Propp at nurse@swhealth.ne.gov or call 308-345-4223

SWNPHD Clinic in Ogallala on July 20th

Ogallala – Have you checked your child's shot records lately? This is a perfect opportunity for you to bring your incoming Kindergarten, 7th grade and college students for their required school immunizations or to get students caught up on their shots.

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department will be offering the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program at the Superintendent's Office at the Prairie View Elementary School. VFC will be held on Thursday, July 20th from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. at 801 East O Street in Ogallala. Please schedule an appointment by calling 308-345-4223. Walk-ins are welcome.

"We encourage parents to make sure their children have their required shots for school," states Melissa Propp, Public Health Nurse and VFC Clinic Coordinator for SWNPHD. "We also welcome those going on mission trips or travelling abroad for their recommended shots."

"Vaccines for Children" 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.

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), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough), Hepatitis B and MMR (measles, mumps, rubella).

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 our website at www.swhealth.ne.gov . 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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