

**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Melissa Propp at [nurse@swhealth.ne.gov](mailto:nurse@swhealth.ne.gov) or call 308-345-4223

## **Vaccines for Children Offered January 21st in Trenton**

**Trenton** - Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) will be offering the Vaccines for Children program at the Trenton Community Building (404 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street) on Tuesday, January 21st from 3:30-4:30 p.m. SWNPHD will be in Trenton the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month.

“We are pleased to be in Trenton on a monthly basis,” states Melissa Propp, Public Health Nurse and VFC Clinic Coordinator for SWNPHD. “We enjoy working with LeeAnn Kollmorgen, Hitchcock County school nurse and many clients in the area.”

This is a perfect opportunity to get a flu shot. SWNPHD was recently chosen to receive 100 free flu shots through the AmeriCares program and will have these available during the clinic on January 21<sup>st</sup>. “These flu shots are designated for those age 19 and over that are uninsured or their insurance company does not pay for their flu shot,” explains Propp.

To receive a free flu shot or any immunizations, contact Melissa at 308-345-4223. Walk-ins are welcome. 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. VFC also covers flu 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. As of February 1<sup>st</sup>, children and adults on Kids Connection or Medicaid must present their insurance cards to receive service.

SWNPHD also provides **adult immunizations**, such as shingles, whooping cough, tetanus and flu shots. We can bill Medicare (pneumonia & flu shots only), Midlands Choice and Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance. 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.

“If clients are planning to be in McCook, they can schedule their 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.

Kindergarten students will need: DTap (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis), IPV (Polio) MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) and VAR (Chickenpox).

7<sup>th</sup> Grade students will need: TDap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis), Optional: HPV (Human Papillomavirus), MCV4 (Meningococcal) and if they have not had their second VAR (chickenpox) that will also be required.

College freshmen requirements vary by institution but typically require: TDap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis), IPV (Polio), MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella), MCV4 (Meningococcal) and VAR (Chickenpox). Please confirm with your college on required vaccines.

More information on immunizations is available at [www.swhealth.ne.gov](http://www.swhealth.ne.gov) and you can follow us on Facebook or Twitter. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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