

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Melissa Propp, RN – 308-345-4223

100 Flu Shots Donated to Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department

McCook – 100 influenza (flu) vaccines have been donated by the AmeriCares Program in collaboration with Sanofi-Pasteur to Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) in an effort to protect residents in this area and keep them healthy.



“We are grateful for the donation from AmeriCares and Sanofi-Pasteur,” states Melissa Propp, SWNPHD Public Health Nurse. “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.” To receive a free flu shot, contact Melissa at 308-345-4223 to make an appointment.

SWNPHD has also received free Tdap vaccines through the AmeriCares program. Tdap includes the tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis immunizations. “As many of you know, pertussis is the whooping cough”, explains Propp. “We are highly encouraging grandparents to get the Tdap vaccine to prevent exposing newborns to the whooping cough.” The same rules apply for the free Tdap vaccine: age 19 and over, uninsured or their insurance does not pay for immunizations.

Vaccination is the best protection against the flu and from flu-related complications according to the CDC. “If you are experiencing flu symptoms, please stay home for at least 24 hours after you are free of fever, without taking fever reducing medication”, shares Propp. It takes approximately two weeks to receive complete immunity from influenza after getting the vaccine.

“Do not confuse influenza with GI virus, better known as “stomach flu”. Influenza is in your lungs. GI virus attacks your stomach and/or digestive tract “states Propp. “The flu shot can protect you from getting influenza but it does not protect you from “stomach flu”. If you have questions, contact Melissa at 308-345-4223 or email: nurse@swhealth.ne.gov.

SWNPHD serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins and Red Willow counties. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th (one block north of Arby’s) in McCook. More information can also be found on Facebook or Twitter and our website at www.swhealth.ne.gov.

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