

April 29, 2019

DOH-COLLIER RECOGNIZES NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK

Power to Protect



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Naples, Fla. — The Florida Department of Health in Collier County (DOH-Collier) recognizes April 27- May 4, 2019, as National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW). This week is observed annually to raise awareness on the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases. NIIW also brings attention to the several milestones achieved in controlling vaccine-preventable diseases among infants. During NIIW, DOH-Collier is reminding parents about the benefits of immunizing children against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Vaccines are among the most successful public health tools available to preventing disease and death. Immunizations have significantly reduced infant death and disability caused by preventable diseases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for children born between 1994-2018, routine childhood immunizations will prevent 419 million illnesses, 26.8 million hospitalizations, and 936,000 early deaths over the course of their lifetime. Vaccines not only protect vaccinated individuals, but also help protect entire communities.

NIIW is a call to action for parents, caregivers, and health care providers to ensure that all children are fully protected from vaccine preventable diseases through vaccination. Making sure babies receive their vaccines according to the recommended immunization schedule is the best way to protect them from 14 serious and deadly childhood diseases. Vaccine-preventable diseases still circulate in the US. Continued vaccination is critical to protect everyone from potential outbreaks.

DOH-Collier is committed to protecting our most vulnerable populations by increasing the rate of immunization among Collier County's children under two years of age. Free infant and child vaccines are offered at DOH-Collier clinics Monday through Friday with no appointment necessary.

- Naples: 3339 Tamiami Trail East, Naples 34112; Monday-Friday 8am-3pm
- Immokalee: 419 North First Street, Immokalee, 34142; Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

For more information, please call 239-252-8595.

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The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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