



Eastern Idaho Public Health

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 10, 2018

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Free Childhood Immunization Clinic to be Held in Idaho Falls on April 17

(Eastern Idaho) - Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) in partnership with the Eastern Idaho Immunization Coalition will be holding a **FREE** (no out-of-pocket cost) immunization clinic on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. The free immunization clinic is open to all children **ages 18 years and younger** who are in need of immunizations.

- What:** Free Immunization Clinic
Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2018
Time: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Place: Eastern Idaho Public Health, 1250 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls
Who: All children ages 18 years and younger in need of immunizations
Appointments: Appointments are required – call (208) 533-3235 to schedule

The National Immunization Survey indicates Idaho's immunization rates are among the lowest in the country. As of 2016, only 74% of 3 year olds have received the entire series of CDC recommended vaccines. Several schools in SE Idaho have average vaccination rates as low as 60%. Immunizations protect children from diseases, such as measles and whooping cough, which can cause serious and sometimes permanent health problems. Most of the diseases we vaccinate against are rare in this country due to the success of immunization programs. However, outbreaks are occurring more frequently in recent years because of falling immunization rates. Boosting Idaho's immunization rate and protecting children are top priorities of EIPH and the Eastern Idaho Immunization Coalition. E Richard Moxon, Research Professor of Child Health at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom states,

"Apart from the provision of clean water, vaccines have had a more profound effect on world health, especially of children, than any other public health measure."

Please note: Foreign travel immunizations are not included in the free clinic. EIPH will be billing insurance and Medicaid. However, there will be no out-of-pocket expense for participants. Please bring your immunization card with you to the free clinic.

There will be several opportunities for interviews with EIPH staff including the days leading up to the clinic or the day of the clinic before it begins. Please contact Mimi Taylor, PIO, to schedule the interview. Mimi can be reached by phone at (208) 533-3155 or by email at mimi_taylor@eiph.idaho.gov.

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