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HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
of Northwest Michigan

www.nwhealth.org

Health Department hosts flu clinics throughout region

CHARLEVOIX – Be a hero this flu season—make an appointment for a flu vaccination. By taking this small precaution, you will protect loved ones, stop the spread of disease, and maybe even save a life. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is offering immunization clinics throughout the region to help local communities prepare for this flu season.

Dr. Joshua Meyerson, Medical Director for the Health Department of Northwest Michigan, urges everyone six (6) months of age and older to get vaccinated for the seasonal flu. He said not nearly enough people in Northern Michigan receive the vaccine. “Not only does vaccination prevent influenza and related complications, it can also save lives,” said Meyerson, who noted that young children and older adults may be more vulnerable. “Everyone should be vaccinated to prevent the spread of illness.”

The vaccine, which offers protection through the entire flu season, is available in two forms: the flu shot or nasal-spray. The shot is approved for everyone ages six (6) months and older, whereas the nasal -spray is approved for healthy individuals 2-49 years old who are not pregnant. Those interested in the vaccine should contact their physician or the Health Department. Cost for seasonal flu vaccination at the Health Department is \$30. Medicaid and Medicare are accepted, as well as private insurance, or clients may pay by cash or check.

Appointments are required to participate in any of the upcoming clinics, which include the following:

- Bellaire Senior Center, Oct. 6
- Charlevoix Senior Center, Oct. 7
- Mancelona Senior Center, Oct. 8
- Sacred Heart Church, Elk Rapids, Oct. 9
- Antrim County Building, Oct. 9
- American House, Charlevoix, Oct. 12
- American House, Petoskey, Oct. 12
- Boyne Area Senior Center, Oct. 13
- Perry Farm Village, Harbor Springs, Oct. 19
- Pellston Senior Center, Oct. 20
- St. Anthony’s, Mackinaw City, Oct. 20
- Petoskey Middle School, Oct. 21

For a complete list of clinic locations and schedules, visit www.nwhealth.org or www.facebook.com/nwhealthdepartment. The Health Department also offers additional vaccines, such as those for pertussis (whooping cough), measles, meningitis, and tetanus. Immunization clinics are held regularly at its offices in Bellaire, Mancelona, Charlevoix, Petoskey/Harbor Springs, and Gaylord.

Call the Health Department at **(800) 432-4121** to schedule an appointment. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego Counties.