

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Special drive-through flu vaccine clinic to be held Saturday

(Lawrence, KS) – The first-ever Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department drive-through flu shot clinic is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 16.

The clinic will be held rain or shine and will serve as a public health emergency training exercise for agency staff, the Douglas County Medical Reserve Corps and other volunteers. Flu vaccine will be provided to the public at no charge for their participation in the exercise. The drive-through clinic will be held from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 16 at the Park and Ride lots at the corner of 23rd and Iowa streets.

Non-perishable food donations will be collected during the clinic for the local food pantry, Just Food. Clinic participants are asked to bring one to two items to donate to the organization. Just Food serves Douglas County residents who are at or below the federal poverty level.

Exercise participants also are encouraged to wear loose sleeves that roll up easily and fill out a vaccine consent form beforehand to expedite the process. Forms are available at the Health Department's website at www.ldchealth.org.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older receive the flu vaccine. A flu shot not only protects you, but those around you, especially those people who can't receive the vaccine – such as infants less than six months of age.

Good health habits are also an important way to prevent influenza:

- *Wash your hands.*
Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.
- *Cover coughs or sneezes.*
Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
- *Stay home if you are sick.*
Stay home from work, school and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

- *Avoid close contact.*
Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.*
Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.

For more flu information, visit www.idchealth.org.

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Healthy People Build Strong Communities
www.idchealth.org

NOTE TO EDITOR/REPORTER: To cover this event, please enter the clinic area from Iowa Street by turning onto Constant Avenue and following it to the left toward the clinic site. A media area will be clearly labeled. Follow signs for “Staff Parking” to park in the correct lot. Media will not be allowed to enter the clinic site from 23rd Street/Clinton Parkway. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Horn, Communications Coordinator at (785) 393-5600.