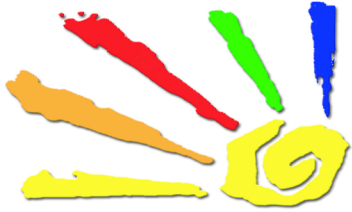


IMMUNIZE
OUR KIDS
VACUNEMOS
NUESTROS
NIÑOS



New Mexico
IMMUNIZATION
COALITION

NM Immunization Coalition *News*

Spring 2009
Volume 6, No. 1

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Annual Provider Awards Dinner

By Anna Pentler, MPH, MBA

New Mexico Immunization Coalition

Over 160 New Mexico providers and NMIC members attended this year's Provider Awards Dinner on May 1, 2009. Fifty-nine providers were recognized for having immunization rates over 90% and one provider in each Public Health Region was recognized for having the most improved immunization rate. Two providers were over 90% and most improved for their Region. In addition, three individuals were recognized as "Immunization Champions" for their outstanding efforts to improve immunization rates in New Mexico. (see box page 3 for a listing of the award winners.)

The festive event took place at the Albuquerque Hilton on Friday evening. The keynote speaker was Mr. Joe Lastinger, a parent advocate with Families Fighting Flu. Mr. Lastinger told his very personal and tragic story of his healthy happy 3-year-old daughter who became very ill with influenza in 2004 and died after several days of illness. Mr. Lastinger, like other members

of Families Fighting Flu, tells his story as a way to convey the importance of getting children immunized against the flu. When little Emily got sick with influenza, she was not in the recommended age group to routinely get vaccinated. Now CDC and AAP recommend that all children 6 months through 18 years of age receive annual vaccinations against influenza.

To help convey the message of the importance of all children's immunizations, NMIC provided all the attendees

with copies of a new book, "Vaccine Preventable Disease, The Forgotten Story" published by the Texas Children's Hospital. This book with pictures and stories gives many testimonials as to the importance of preventing these diseases.

Awardees received a framed certificate signed by the NMIC Honorary Chair, First Lady Barbara Richardson, and the two co-chairs, Gayle Kenny and Norm White. Award winners also received fifty dollars to help bring the celebration back to share with the rest of their

office staff in the form of breakfast burritos, doughnuts, lunch or some such treats.

We appreciate all your hard work to keep children and communities safe from vaccine preventable disease. We hope to be able to recognize even more providers next year. Congratulations to all the award winners!



Jack Callaghan, Director of Public Health Division at NM Dept. of Health, presenting award to ABQ Health Partners, Rio Bravo, honored for both achieving an immunization rate greater than 90%, plus for being a "most improved" provider.

NMIC members

Honorary Chair:
First Lady Barbara Richardson

Co-Chairs:
Gayle Kenny, BSN, MS
Norman White, MD

Executive Director:
Anna Pentler, MPH, MBA

- Participating Organizations:
- AARP
 - Aging and Long-Term Services Department
 - Albuquerque Public Schools
 - Blue Cross/Blue Shield of New Mexico
 - Border Health Office/BEC/NMSU
 - Centers for Disease Control
 - Doña Ana Immunization Coalition
 - GlaxoSmithKline Vaccines
 - Greater Albuquerque Immunization Network (GAIN)
 - Indian Health Service
 - La Clinica de Familia Medical Center
 - Lovelace
 - Merck Vaccine Division
 - Molina Healthcare, Inc.
 - NM Academy of Family Physicians
 - NM CYFD
 - NM Department of Health
 - NM Immunization Advisory Group
 - NM Influenza Vaccine Consortium
 - NM Human Services Department
 - NM Hospital and Health Systems
 - NM Medical Review Association
 - NM Medical Society/CPI
 - NM Nurses Association
 - NM Pediatric Society
 - NM Pharmaceutical Association
 - NM Primary Care Association
 - NM Public Health Association
 - NM School Nurses Association
 - NM State Department of Education
 - NM State PTA
 - Presbyterian Health Services
 - Rotary Clubs of New Mexico
 - sanofi pasteur
 - Santa Fe Immunization Coalition
 - Sierra County Immunization Coalition
 - University of New Mexico, Health Sciences Center
 - Villa Therese Catholic Clinic
 - Voices for Children
 - Wyeth Vaccines

Photo gallery

NMIC's Sixth Annual Provider Awards dinner was held at the Hilton Albuquerque. Jack Callaghan of NMDOH presented the awards to each clinic. Clockwest from top left: Immunization Champions Cheri Dotson, Clarissa Gallegos and Debby Hanus; staff of James E. Saltz accepting their award; staff of Roosevelt General Hospital Physicians Clinic accepting their award; staff of La Clinica de Familia Anthony accepting their award; group photo of "most improved" providers; keynote speaker, Joe Lastinger with Anna Pentler and NMIC co-chair, Gayle Kenny; group photo of Region V award winners.

their award, staff of Roosevelt General Hospital Physicians Clinic accepting their award; staff of La Clinica de Familia Anthony accepting their award; group photo of "most improved" providers; keynote speaker, Joe Lastinger with Anna Pentler and NMIC co-chair, Gayle Kenny; group photo of Region V award winners.



SHOT BRIEFS

Influenza A H1N1

By now everyone is well aware of the novel strain of Influenza A H1N1 that appeared this spring, first in Mexico, then in the US and now in 46 countries around the world. The total number of cases is 12,515. Because this strain of H1N1 is novel, few young people would have encountered it or a similar virus before, and since there is not yet a vaccine for this H1N1, public health officials worldwide were very concerned about rapid spread resulting in a pandemic.

The media response to this outbreak has been swift and at times overwhelming. Numbers grew rapidly with heightened surveillance for suspected cases. As of this writing, there are over 6,552 cases in the US with cases confirmed in 48 states. New Mexico has reported 97 cases in 14 counties.

The initial fears about the H1N1 have not been realized at this point. It appears that the virus is behaving much like regular seasonal influenza with the majority of illness resolving fairly rapidly without increased morbidity or mortality. It is still not clear why the virus caused more fatalities in Mexico than elsewhere. Fortunately, the epidemic appears to be abating.

Public Health and influenza experts will be closely tracking this new strain of influenza over the summer months to gauge whether it mutates and becomes more virulent, and to measure the severity of the influenza season in the southern hemisphere as a predictor for what we can expect next fall and winter. Stay tuned!

Award Winners

Practices with rates greater than 90%

Region I

Dzilh-Na-O-Dith-Hle I.H.S. Clinic
Dr. Phil Pediatrics
Presbyterian Medical Group, Belen
Presbyterian Rio Rancho, Pediatrics
San Felipe Health Clinic
Roland Sanchez, MD
Tohatchi Health Center

Region II

Francis Chavez, MD
Family Practice Associates, Raton
Family Practice Associates, Santa Fe
First Choice Community Healthcare, Edgewood
La Familia Medical Center
Los Alamos Children's Clinic
New Mexico MedWorks
Villa Therese Catholic Clinic

Region III

ABQ Health Partners, Coors
ABQ Health Partners, Journal Center Pediatrics
ABQ Health Partners, Rio Bravo*
First Choice Community Healthcare, Broadway
First Choice Community Healthcare, North Valley
First Choice Community Healthcare, Southwest Valley
Reginald Lord, MD
Northside Family Medicine
Parveen's Pediatric Care
Pediatric Associates
Presbyterian Medical Group, Atrisco
Presbyterian Medical Group, Isleta Pediatrics
Presbyterian Medical Group, Northside Pediatrics
Presbyterian Medical Group, San Mateo
Gwenn Robinson, MD
Joel Saland, MD
Southwest Medical Assoc., Irving Blvd.
UNM College of Nursing Family Practice Clinic
UNM Family Health Clinic Academy

UNMH Southeast Heights Family Practice
Jurgen Upplegger, MD

Region IV

BCA Medical Associates
DeBaca County Family Practice
Downtown Pediatric Clinic
Eunice Health Clinic
Salvatore La Fata, MD
Lea County Children's Clinic
McKelvy, MD Pediatrics
Johnny Moreno, MD*
Pediatric Health Services
Roosevelt General Hospital, Physicians Clinic
James E. Saltz, MD

Region V

Ben Archer Health Center, Alamogordo
Ben Archer Health Center, Hatch
Ben Archer Health Center, T or C School-Age Clinic
Journey to Wellness Family Practice
La Casa Family Health Center, Hondo
La Clinica de Familia, Anthony
La Clinica de Familia, Las Cruces-East Mesa
La Clinica de Familia, Sunland Park
Mesilla Valley Healthcare Associates
Allen Paul, MD
Presbyterian Medical Services, Tularosa Medical Center
White Mountain Medical

Most improved rates by region

Region I William Barkman, DO

Region II Anasazi Medical Associates

Region III ABQ Health Partners, Rio Bravo*

Region IV Johnny Moreno, MD*

Region V Silver Healthcare

Immunization champions

Cheri Dotson, RN, BSN, MA
Clarissa Gallegos, LPN
Debby Hanus, RN

*These providers are both "over 90% and "most improved"

Calendar of upcoming events

May

5/21 NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:00-4:00

June

6/25 NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:00-4:00

July

7/16 NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:00-4:00

August

8/10-22 Got Shots Protect Tots statewide immunization events

8/21 Full NMIC coalition meeting, 2:00-4:00

September

9/17 NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:00-4:00



Bus wrap advertising is being used throughout New Mexico to deliver our message about the importance of immunizations.

Contact us...

NM Immunization Coalition News is published quarterly. Please contact Maggie June at 505-272-3032 or via email at mjune@salud.unm.edu if you have any questions or have an item to submit for the newsletter.



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